

## ACRA

Alliance of Christchurch Residents Associations

Minutes of the meeting on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2014 at 7.30pm**

1. **Present:** Rob Evans (Christchurch Citizens); Charles Clark (Friars Cliff); Ken Clay (Friars Cliff); Rachel Sowden (Grange); Sharon Pym (Grange); Debbie Stephens (SAMRA); Mike Collard (SAMRA - Chairman); David Barnett (West Christchurch) Jim Biggin (West Christchurch – Secretary);
2. **Absent:** Highcliffe, Somerford
3. **Acceptance of Minutes:** the minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> March 2014 were accepted
4. **Matters Arising:**
  - 4.1. **Update Meeting with CBC Executive (minute 4.1):** Jim Biggin outlined the meeting with CBC Executive full notes of which are on the website [www.wcresidents.co.uk](http://www.wcresidents.co.uk)
  - 4.2. **Update Meeting with DCC Finance (minute 4.3):** Jim Biggin outlined the meeting with DCC Councillor Robert Gould full notes of which are on the website [www.wcresidents.co.uk](http://www.wcresidents.co.uk)
  - 4.3. **Scrapped City Deal (minute 7.3):** Jim Biggin indicated that Central Government have amalgamated this project in with projects emanating from the Local Enterprise Partnerships and that little more than that is known.
  - 4.4. **CBC Planning Department (minute 11):** ACRA activity on this had stopped when a private citizen had requested a Judicial Enquiry. That Enquiry had subsequently been refused but concerns about planning were now to be investigated by Local Councillors. It therefore remained the position that ACRA Members should provide information to Councillors but should eschew any direct action for the moment
5. **Treasurer's Report:** ACRA funds amount to £135.63. Only Friars Cliff had yet to pay the £20 levy
6. **Delegate to Bournemouth Airport:** in the absence of John Mather no report was available
7. **Druitt Hall:** Rob Evans (Christchurch Citizens) reported on the current situation. Christchurch Citizens are to be offered a three year lease by CBC to run Druitt Hall. Some problems remain unresolved including liability for a leaking asbestos roof and sources of future funding are not entirely clear.
8. **Druitt Gardens:** Rob Evans (Christchurch Citizens) reported that access to The Gardens by the contractors is still mainly from High Street rather than via the car park despite the enabling amendments that have been made to the car park
9. **ACRA participation in local flood defences:** Jim Biggin reported upon his meeting with Councillor Margaret Phipps, The Environment Agency and CBC. A draft template is to be further discussed at the end of June when it is anticipated that a roll-out plan will be produced. ACRA Members were

asked to give consideration to their participation. It was stressed that ACRA participation is in a scheme to cope with flooding as and when it occurs by attending to vulnerable residents etc. and not with schemes to mitigate flooding in the first instance.

- 10. Closure of Christchurch Police Station:** it was noted that ACRA have written to Martyn Underhill, Police and Crime Commissioner suggesting shared use of CBC Civic Office in line with the plans being promoted by DCC Councillor Robert Gould. No reply had yet been received.
- 11. CBC Roadshows 2014-15:** it was agreed that we would ask CBC either to attend individual Member's Meetings or to hold events for groups of residents and address issues arising from the recently fully approved Strategic Plan
- 12. CBC Constitution:** the meeting expressed its displeasure at the recent events concerning the position of Leader of the Council and strongly indicated its view that anybody subject to a vote of no confidence should neither participate in the discussion of nor vote on any proposal but it was felt that no particular action was called for at this time
- 13. Navitus Bay:** WCRA outlined a discussion that had taken place at its June Management Meeting at which it had decided to oppose the proposed wind-farm because of its environmental impact. It asked ACRA to register its overall rejection of the scheme. After some discussion *it was resolved that* ACRA would register such a position whilst making it clear that a minority of residents were still in favour of the scheme
- 14. Morrisons Supermarket:** it is unclear exactly what has happened to this planning proposal. Jim Biggin undertook to make some enquiries.
- 15. Avon Beach:** Friars Cliff has been told by CBC that plans to replenish the sand lost during the winter storms are in hand to be implemented in the autumn.
- 16. Dorset Waste Partnership and Grange Road:** it is not clear what will happen next once DWP leave their Grange Road site
- 17. Restrictive Covenants in Land Deeds:** in a reply to WCRA about a planning dispute CBC had indicated that restrictive covenants in land deeds are not a planning consideration. Separate legal opinion supported this view and further suggested that such covenants are notoriously difficult to enforce through civil action by neighbours, which could in any event be very expensive.
- 18. Next Meeting:** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at The Hall on the Hill, West Christchurch at 7.30pm.

Jim Biggin, Secretary

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