

ACRA

Alliance of Christchurch Residents Associations

Minutes of the meeting on **Tuesday 9th December 2014 at 7.30pm**

- 1. Present:** Charles Clark (Friars Cliff); Debbie Stephens (SAMRA); Mike Collard (SAMRA - Chairman); David Barnett (West Christchurch); Jim Biggin (West Christchurch – Secretary);
- 2. Apologies for absence:** Christchurch Citizens; Highcliffe;
- 3. Absent:** Grange, Somerford
- 4. Resignation of Christchurch Citizens representative:** Jim Biggin reported that shortly before the meeting Liz and Rob Evans had notified him of their joint resignation from Christchurch Citizens
- 5. Acceptance of Minutes:** the minutes of September 2014 were accepted
- 6. Matters Arising:**
 - 6.1. Morrisons Supermarket (minute 5.2):** immediately after the September ACRA meeting Beagle (Morrisons) did make a last minute appeal to Bristol, the outcome of which is still awaited. The overall trend of supermarkets to opt for smaller outlets has continued and this may affect the Morrisons plan (and also, if several local reports are true, the Bailey Bridge site)
 - 6.2. Local Flood Defences (minute 9):** Jim Biggin reported that following discussions with CBC-EDDC, The Environment Agency and Councillor Margaret Phipps a scheme had been implemented in Maundeville Road and Crescent next to The Stour at Iford Bridge
 - 6.3. Matters Discussed in Camera (minute 16):** Mike Collard outlined the discussions with CBC-EDDC that had centred upon the need for privacy when dealing with commercially sensitive information balanced against a public need to know – particularly when land in public ownership was involved. SAMRA have a particular case that they are involved in which they will follow up with CBC-EDDC
 - 6.4. Representation of Highcliffe (minute 17):** Jim Biggin reported that subsequent to the September meeting John Mather had resigned from the Highcliffe Committee. He undertook to contact Highcliffe RA and to ask for a new contact to be appointed
- 7. Treasurer's Report:** ACRA funds amount to £143.03 following reimbursement of £12.60 to the Secretary for a train fare to Dorchester
- 8. Navitus Bay:** Jim Biggin confirmed that Councillor Margaret Phipps had been representing ACRA at the actual Navitus Bay hearings. The most significant development was the last minute submission by Navitus Bay of an alternative plan that had fewer turbines but still appeared to require the massive trench to link the landfall point to the Grid at Mannington. The press reports of remarks made by the EDF Chairman that he was surprised by the level of local opposition were also discussed. None of this altered the general opinion that all key decisions would be taken in Whitehall.

- 9. Autumn Meeting with CBC-EDDC Executive:** Mike Collard reported a constructive meeting, notes of which had been circulated. The implications of the Antisocial Behaviour Act were discussed with some speculation as to what might give rise to the first actual case. It was noted that CBC-EDDC did not have any additional resources available to cope with this task
- 10. Autumn Meeting with DCC Councillor Robert Gould:** Jim Biggin reported a slightly worrying meeting in which it was revealed that DCC are moving funds out of reserve in order to fund current expenditure. Notes of the meeting have been circulated. There was some discussion as to the real viability of the DCC scheme to sell or let unwanted office buildings in areas such as Bridport, Sherborne and Gillingham when Estate Agents were finding it difficult to let buildings in Bournemouth
- 11. Christchurch Town Centre Development:** the draft "plan" that had been hastily prepared with inadequate public consultation was discussed. It was strongly felt that the money spent on consultancy had not been sensibly deployed. The "plan" appeared to be a loose collection of half thought through ideas and no joined up thinking. The suggestion that the underpass at Fountain Roundabout be replaced by a traffic light controlled crossroads was greeted with derision. The next stage is a presentation to Councillors and it was decided to await the outcome of that.
- 12. Relationship with Dorset Police:** Mike Collard outlined his concerns in general and in particular the Dorset Alert System as used in practice. There was support for him from other delegates who believed that there was a lack of consistency in the use of the system that perhaps reflected a lack of proper training for the police involved. *It was resolved that* we will write to Martyn Underhill expressing our reservations and concerns
- 13. DCC Council Leader:** following a general discussion of the potential impact of Councillor Flower standing down and being replaced by Councillor Gould *it was resolved that* Jim Biggin should contact Councillor Gould in the New Year
- 14. Christchurch Railway Station Steering Committee:** Jim Biggin confirmed that we would be receiving minutes of this committee meeting
- 15. Bournemouth Airport:** the picture painted in the latest set of minutes was discussed. The Flybe news was well received as was the news that the £2.50 parking charge is to be reviewed
- 16. Dorset Waste Partnership Consultation:** this was briefly discussed and the potential increase in fly-tipping highlighted if some of the DWP proposals were implemented
- 17. Roeshot Quarry:** the leaflet issued by The Hinton Admiral Estate was discussed and in particular the 120 anticipated lorry movements per day. It was resolved that Jim Biggin will contact The Hinton Admiral Estate and ask for clarification on these lorry movements and their potential impact upon Christchurch
- 18. Next Meeting:** Tuesday 10th March 2015 at the Hall on the Hill, West Christchurch at 7.30pm.

Jim Biggin, Secretary

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