



JUMPERS AND ST CATHERINE'S HILL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

www.wcresidents.co.uk

Committee Meeting Minutes

St Catherine's Hill: 1st November 2017 at 7.30 pm

In these minutes: BBC= Bournemouth Borough Council; CBC=Christchurch Borough Council; DCC=Dorset County Council; DPCC=Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner; DWP=Dorset Waste Partnership; FOSCH=Friends of St Catherine's Hill; PBC=Poole Borough Council; PC=Parish Council; RA=Residents Association; SSSI=Site of Special Scientific Interest (Town Common and St Catherine's Hill for example)

1. **Present:** Chairman Jim Biggin; David Barnett; Sue Fotheringham; Malcolm Green; Liz Oliver
2. **Apologies for absence:** Maureen Biggin; Chris Boatman; John Cooper;
3. **Minutes of last meeting:** the minutes of the meeting of October 2017 were confirmed
4. **Accounts:** David Barnett reported excess expenditure over income of £552.99 and assets of £7,640.05. He indicated that after paying for the Autumn Newsletter and meeting posters up to £500 should be transferred within HSBC from current to deposit account
5. **Membership:** Sue Fotheringham confirmed that £516 of subscriptions were received in October. She is still aiming to exceed 2016 collections. The committee congratulated her on a splendid job under difficult circumstances
6. **Autumn Public Meeting:** we have received valuable feedback from a packed meeting. The discussion led by local ward councillors on what was perceived as the difficulties created by a remote DCC based in Dorchester was of interest. Jim Biggin reported that DCC have since confirmed the price of a digital speed device as £2,225 + VAT and have also made us aware of the rules and regulations surrounding their use. He confirmed that he has thanked the DCC officers for their presentations and the question and answer session.
7. **Hall on the Hill:** Malcolm Green outlined the latest developments including efforts to improve the Marlow Drive car park. The committee felt that we should still write to the landlord's agent once the nature and extent of their involvement became clear. The planned improvements to the hall facilities were welcomed.
8. **Friends of St Catherine's Hill:** Sue Fotheringham reported the application for the latest felling licence as part of the management plan
9. **Local Authority Reorganization:** the committee discussed recent developments. Jim Biggin reported on: the actions of Christopher Chope MP; the latest developments in Dorset and Bournemouth Councils; the first BBC-CBC-PBC joint committee meeting which he had attended (his notes of which are on the website). Key developments to emerge from that are:
 - 9.1. **CBC Commitment:** CBC have given a public undertaking to participate fully in and not to disrupt the proceedings of the committee
 - 9.2. **Key Resources:** the process of identifying key resources has commenced and can now include CBC officers who have valuable experience and technical expertise to offer

- 9.3. Council Tax Harmonisation:** Central Government have moved the goalposts by cutting the maximum harmonisation period from 20 down to 10 years whilst also allowing rises in Council Tax of more than 2% without potentially triggering a referendum. It is now quite possible that Christchurch residents will see their Council Tax frozen for some years
- 9.4. Christchurch Town Council:** Central Government have decreed that if Christchurch decides to create a Town Council within the BBC-CBC-PBC unitary then Christchurch residents must not pay more in Council Tax than if the Town Council didn't exist
- 10. Constitution:** because of the lateness of the hour discussion was deferred to December.
- 11. Termination of Meeting:** the meeting closed at 9.15pm. Next meeting Wednesday 6th December 2017