



JUMPERS AND ST CATHERINE'S HILL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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Committee Meeting Minutes

St Catherine's Hill: 1st August 2018 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; Sue Fotheringham; Malcolm Green; Eileen Lancaster; Liz Oliver
2. **Apologies for absence:** Maureen Biggin;
3. **Minutes of last meeting:** the minutes of the meeting of July 2018 were confirmed
4. **Accounts 2018:** we received £185 in subscriptions in July and spent nothing. Assets stood at £7,480.56
5. **Membership:** Sue Fotheringham reported that the heat wave continued to make collecting difficult. In addition, she has broken her foot, reducing her personal mobility. Eileen Lancaster offered to approach a member who used to collect for us and might be persuaded to do so again. It was agreed to review the situation more fully in September
6. **Local Authority Reorganization:** the committee discussed recent developments.
 - 6.1. Our letter of complaint to the CBC external auditor drawing attention to the fact that CBC had not produced a written risk assessment before asking for a Judicial Review and the attitude taken to that locally by Grant Thornton has received a reply. The committee unanimously expressed the opinion that the latest letter was a masterclass in obfuscation. After discussion it was decided that nothing could be gained in the short term by pursuing the matter further
 - 6.2. A Judge sitting in the High Court has conducted the Judicial Review. The verdict is expected before the end of August
 - 6.3. The committee noted that the Shadow Executive continues to meet and to prepare for the formation of the new Bournemouth-Christchurch-Poole Council
7. **New CBC Local Plan:** Sue Fotheringham reported on a consultative meeting she had attended on 31st July at CBC. She highlighted that:
 - 7.1. The plan is part of a rolling 5-year process sponsored by Central Government that encourages planning cooperation with other Councils under the auspices of National Planning Practice. Plans look ahead for a 15-year period.
 - 7.2. Housing plays a major part in such plans. Although severely restricted by the sea on one side and SSSI and Ramsar sights on the other, CBC must still build new homes. It is a planning requirement that all other viable options, particularly building on brown field sites, be evaluated before the use of the Green Belt is considered. There is a major local issue over the cost of "affordable housing" and average incomes of those residents likely to buy such properties. There are also a high number of second homes that remain empty for much of the time.

- 7.3.** Transport is highlighted in the Local Plan and particularly the need for Councils to cooperate with one another as well as the Local Enterprise Partnership and other similar organisations. Historically, there has been something of a disconnect between the worthy aims of the planners and the availability of funds. Today this is an acute problem, highlighted by the large number of people who have a bus pass but no local bus service on which to use it.
- 7.4.** It was agreed that committee members would write to Jim Biggin expressing their personal views and that Liz Oliver would particularly comment upon the housing issues. Jim Biggin would then produce a coordinated response
- 8. Hall on the Hill:** there still appears to be no progress in having the carpark resurfaced. It was agreed that Malcolm Green would summarise what had happened to date and that we would publish the summary in full in the August Newsletter
- 9. Friends of St Catherine's Hill:** Eileen Lancaster reported that:

 - 9.1.** Two new PCSO have been invited to join the Friend's committee
 - 9.2.** The Orientation Panel by the trig point had been recoloured at a cost of £480 which Friends had paid for. There has subsequently been some vandalism.
 - 9.3.** A Steering Group meeting to discuss the Management Plan for the Hill is to be held in August
 - 9.4.** Of the 10 dip-wells on the Hill, only 2 have water in them and then only a small quantity
 - 9.5.** Young heather is dying in the heat
 - 9.6.** A new What's App group has been formed to include CBC, the Police and the Fire Service. This facilitates the speedy sharing of information regarding any outbreak of fire
- 10. Assisting the Webmaster, Facebook and Twitter:** the committee noted the website hit rates produced by Eileen Lancaster and the very consistent level of interest shown
- 11. New proposed Café-bistro in Marlow Drive:** noted that a liquor licence has been granted
- 12. Marsh Lane School:** noted that the new school has opened
- 13. Termination of Meeting:** the meeting closed at 8.45 pm. Next meeting Wednesday 5th September 2018