

Meeting of ACRA with representatives of Christchurch Hospital 3rd October 2012

Present and representing the hospital: Sue Bungey (Governor); Derek Chaffey (Governor); Richard Renault (Director)

Present from ACRA: Nigel Cook (Christchurch Citizens); Liz Evans (Christchurch Citizens); Rob Evans (Christchurch Citizens); Ken Clay (Friars Cliff); Mike Collard (SAMRA); Maureen Biggin (West Christchurch); Jim Biggin – ACRA Secretary

1. Richard Renault confirmed the following points regarding Christchurch Hospital:
 - 1.1. Nearly all GP surgeries across Christchurch are full to capacity with little room for expansion
 - 1.2. 50% of the existing buildings are empty and much of the space is not suitable for modern hospital use
 - 1.3. The suggestion of moving all local hospital services away from Christchurch has been investigated and dropped. All current services will be retained as well as the McMillan Unit. The GP surgery from The Grove will relocate to the site. A commercially run Nursing Home will be introduced as well as accommodation for the elderly
 - 1.4. Rented accommodation will be provided for public sector workers. These will not overlook the properties of local residents
 - 1.5. The lawns that run alongside Fairmile Road will be retained and greater public access encouraged
 - 1.6. Traffic access will remain as now
 - 1.7. There is an identified need to preserve some historical records
 - 1.8. The proposals for the rejigging of the site are being drawn up and finance is being sought
 - 1.9. Nothing much is likely to happen on the public front before spring 2013
2. On the proposed merger between Bournemouth and Poole, Richard Renault confirmed that:
 - 2.1. £20 million of savings need to be found across the three hospitals
 - 2.2. The benefits of merger are the usual ones: economies of scale; better investment opportunities in buildings and equipment; better out of hour's clinical services
 - 2.3. The bus service between the three sites remains a problem
 - 2.4. The eventual proposal will be vetted by the Office of Fair Trading and the NHS

Jim Biggin

October 2012