

WEST CHRISTCHURCH RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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Committee Meeting Minutes

The Hall on the Hill: 2nd January 2013 at 7.30 pm

In these minutes: ACRA=Affiliation of Christchurch Residents Associations; ARC=Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (previously known as HCT=Herpetological Conservation Trust); CBC=Christchurch Borough Council; DCC=Dorset County Council; DWP=Dorset Waste Partnership; EDDC=East Dorset District Council; FOSCH=Friends of St Catherine's Hill; HENRA=Hengistbury Head RA; NE=Natural England; PC=Parish Council; RA=Residents Association; SBW=Sembcorp Bournemouth Water; SSSI=Site of Special Scientific Interest (Town Common and St Catherine's Hill for example); TPO=Tree Preservation Order; WCRA=West Christchurch RA; WW=Wessex Water

1. **Present:** Chairman Jim Biggin; Maureen Biggin; Chris Gordon; Roger Hamilton; Steve Roberts; Janet Robson
2. **Apologies for absence:** David Barnett; Eileen Lancaster;
3. **Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of 5th December 2012 were approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** on behalf of David Barnett, Jim Biggin reported that:
 - 4.1. Accounts as at 31st December showed an excess of income over expenditure of £522.57. Cash at bank is £6,766.89 (£5,500 on deposit at Teachers BS).
 - 4.2. The accounts can't be finalised until Teachers BS notify us of the amount of interest earned on our deposit with them.
 - 4.3. Our current auditor is willing to audit the 2012 accounts
5. **Delegate to ACRA (Roger Hamilton):** minutes of the December ACRA meeting have been posted to the website. Of significant interest was the discussion around the possibility of CBC and others forming a Unitary Authority and the widely held perception that DCC are both remote and inefficient
6. **The Hall on the Hill:** the redecoration of the hall was welcomed. The Christmas Quiz was a success whilst the Father Christmas at the charity event was memorable
7. **St Catherine's Hill Management Plan:** Chris Gordon reported that the minutes of the second meeting of the new committee had finally arrived and had been posted to the website. He indicated that they did not in his view accurately reflect the true tenor of the meeting and he would raise that and the tardy delivery as issues. He will now provide a précis.
8. **Dip-Wells:** the hydrologist has specified the initial locations for these devices used to measure water movement over time and the first wells have been installed on St Catherine's Hill. The results will be published.
9. **Flooding at Burton:** the recent unfortunate flooding of parts of Burton by the Avon was commented upon. Whilst rainfall had been extremely heavy it was noted that in the recent past a great many trees had been felled on the Avon side of St Catherine's Hill and that we had previously predicted the possibility of such flooding.
10. **The Supermarkets Planning Issues:** there has been no progress on Bailey Bridge; the Meteor Site approval has also been referred to the Secretary of State; Morrison have now appealed.
11. **Navitus Bay:** a detailed summary of events during 2012 has been posted to our website. Steve Roberts indicated that when measured against other similar schemes Navitus Bay

is a small development. It may therefore be that well organised and persistent local opposition could lead the developer to view the project as not being worth the level of hassle involved

- 12. Christchurch Hospital:** the application to demolish the buildings seen as not fit for purpose prior to redevelopment is to be discussed by CBC Planning Committee on 4th January. Some members of the committee continue to harbour strong doubts concerning the eventual actual outcome of these plans as measured against the promises that have been made.
- 13. AGM Thursday 28th February:** local Councillors have indicated a willingness to participate in a "BBC Question Time" style of meeting; *it was resolved that* Roger Hamilton will investigate hiring some roving microphones
- 14. Local trees:** a date in February has been agreed with CBC to discuss our comments
- 15. Druitt Hall:** CBC plans to demolish Druitt Hall were discussed; there was no consensus of views with opinions covering every option from keeping the hall through to demolishing it and using Priory Hall as an alternative venue.
- 16. Dorset Waste Partnership:** Jim Biggin reported that he had asked for an update of progress made to the end of 2012; Roger Hamilton reported no new development on plans to improve Wilverley Road
- 17. Christmas Cards for Collectors:** Maureen Biggin proposed that in 2013 we should send Christmas Cards to all our collectors. This suggestion was adopted unanimously.
- 18.** The meeting closed at 8.55pm. Next formal committee meeting is on **Wednesday 6th February 2013 at 7.30pm**, at the Hall on the Hill