

# WEST CHRISTCHURCH RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

[www.wcresidents.co.uk](http://www.wcresidents.co.uk)

## Committee Meeting Minutes

St Catherine's Hill: 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017 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; CED=Christchurch and East Dorset; CQC=Care Quality Commission; DCC=Dorset County Council; DPCC=Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner; DWP=Dorset Waste Partnership; EDDC=East Dorset District Council; FOSCH=Friends of St Catherine's Hill; 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; David Barnett; Maureen Biggin; John Cooper; Sue Fotheringham; Malcolm Green;
2. **John Cooper:** John Cooper was welcomed to the committee
3. **Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of January 2017 were approved
4. **Treasurer's Report:**
  - 4.1. David Barnett presented the 2016 Final Accounts which showed assets at year end of £8193.04 compared with £8140.26 at the previous year end. The accounts were unanimously agreed and formally signed by the Chairman and Treasurer
  - 4.2. David Barnett reported excess expenditure over income of £421.98 in January 2017. The expenditure was all related to printing. This is the usual situation at the start of the year until collections are banked later in the year
5. **Membership:**
  - 5.1. Noted that the new Membership Certificate has been printed
  - 5.2. Noted that the new "sorry we missed you" cards have been printed
  - 5.3. Sue Fotheringham outlined the allocation of collectors for 2017. Areas A and B are fully covered, Areas C and D are partially covered. It was agreed that the February Newsletter will mention that we are ready to start collections and will reinforce Sue as the main contact point for Collectors
6. **Public Meeting – Spring 2017:** noted that Tony Spotswood, CEO of the Hospital Trust has agreed to give a presentation.
7. **Reorganisation of Local Government:**
  - 7.1. The committee noted that DCC and the two unitary authorities, Bournemouth and Poole, had voted in favour of forming two new unitary authorities in Dorset with Christchurch joining Bournemouth and Poole to form one of them. Of the subsidiary councils in Dorset, North Dorset, West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland had also voted in favour. This meant that representatives of over 75% of Dorset's population had decided to implement the solution favoured by over 60% of the public as well as by business
  - 7.2. The committee then discussed the fact that the two smallest Councils, Christchurch and Purbeck, along with East Dorset had voted for "no change" despite considerable evidence that such a solution is politically and economically unviable and does not find great favour with either the public or business. It also isolates

Christchurch, which is a huge strategic mistake. It was unanimously decided that such a situation is not in the best interest of local Council Tax payers (our members) and that WCRA should write to Councillor Robert Gould, Leader of DCC, dissociating ourselves from the decision taken by Christchurch Council and offering our support for an approach to the Minister by DCC along with Bournemouth, Poole and the other assenting Councils with a view to implementing the two Unitary Authorities solution in Dorset

8. **Hall on the Hill - Defibrillators:** Malcolm Green confirmed that training has now been arranged
9. The meeting closed at 9.00pm. Next meeting Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017