

## ACRA

Alliance of Christchurch Residents Associations

Minutes of the meeting on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm**

1. **Present:** Ken Clay (Friars Cliff); Malcolm Burton-Smith (SAMRA); Mike Collard (SAMRA); Debbie Stephens (SAMRA); John Pendrill (West Christchurch - Chairman); Jim Biggin (West Christchurch - Secretary);
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Liz Evans (Christchurch Citizens); Rob Evans (Christchurch Citizens); Andy Glaser (Friars Cliff);
3. **Absent Without Apology:** Highcliffe
4. **Acceptance of Minutes:** the minutes of 13<sup>th</sup> September 2011 were accepted
5. **Matters Arising**
  - 5.1. **Dorset Police:** John Pendrill's continued exchange of correspondence with Chris Chope MP was reviewed and in particular his remarks regarding the Association of Chief Police Officers. It appears that this organisation is: a limited company; to a limited degree exempted from the provisions of Freedom of Information Act; the owner of considerable property interests in Central London; generating income by selling data stored on the police computer. *It was resolved that* John Pendrill will distribute to delegates the full text of the letter from Chris Chope MP (which can now be seen at [www.wcresidents.co.uk](http://www.wcresidents.co.uk) )
  - 5.2. **The B3703 (minute 7.7 of September meeting):** after our September meeting it was announced that as part of the plans to expand the Bournemouth Airport Industrial Estate, which have now been approved, the airport management will make funds available to assist in altering the junctions at Parley Cross, Hurn Roundabout and Blackwater Junction. The plans for a Hurn by-pass have been dropped.
  - 5.3. **Lights Out (minute 10.1 of September meeting):** it is believed that the lights out provisions will take effect from February 2012.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** ACRA funds amount to £111.93
7. **Delegate to Bournemouth Airport:** John Pendrill reported that:
  - 7.1. The redevelopment of the Industrial Estate will take place in phases spread over ten years. Each phase will have its own internal road system that will be built at the same time as the factory units it serves.
  - 7.2. The complaints related to air traffic have increased thanks to a couple of Broadstone residents complaining persistently about the early morning mail flights. The aircraft concerned is quite old and is due to be replaced shortly.
  - 7.3. During the Olympic Games air traffic control will be handled in Brussels. This is a temporary change made for reasons of security
8. **Druitt Hall:** Malcolm Burton-Smith reported that: Christchurch Housing Association bear the current running costs; no timetable has been set for

the demolition of the existing hall; the current lease holders do not wish to continue with the lease; CBC are trying to relocate Age Concern before considering the future of the existing hall, which will be kept until a replacement hall has been built. The cost of rebuilding is not known but the meeting noted that a prefabricated Log Cabin style hall can be purchased and erected for around £50,000

**{NB the above minute accurately reflects what was said at the ACRA meeting. After reading the minute CBC have asked us to add the following note, which we are pleased to do:**

*The Council has been notified that its tenant wishes to surrender its lease for the Druitt Hall at the end of this calendar year. Subject to the normal checks and balances relating to health and safety the Council will take over the management of the hall for a further 12 months after which time the hall will be demolished. The Council has made no commitment to keep the hall open until a replacement is provided. It is correct that we are working with Age Concern in an effort to find them an alternative location. As you may be aware the Christchurch Community Trust has an active planning consent to construct a new hall on land in this Council's ownership close to the existing Hall. It however has no formal lease at this time with the Council. We have encourage the Trust and interested existing Hall users to combine their efforts into providing a new hall which is small than the one for which planning permission has been granted. These policy positions will be ratified by Resources Committee early in the New Year.}*

- 9. Druitt Gardens:** Malcolm Burton-Smith reported that renovation work continues

**10. Member's Current Issues:**

- 10.1.** Friars Cliff reported that the proposed Travellers' Permanent and Transit Site at Grange Road is not popular amongst local residents. It was stressed that any objection (which must be lodged before 10<sup>th</sup> February 2012) must be couched in appropriate language and be made solely on proper planning grounds. The most obvious of these is the potential change of use away from industrial land with the consequential loss of local jobs. SAMRA supported Friars Cliff and indicated that the consultative document called *Have Your Say: finding sites in Dorset for Gypsies* can be found on the Dorset for You website (and also at [www.wcresidents.co.uk](http://www.wcresidents.co.uk) )
- 10.2.** Friars Cliff reported that the proposed wind farm off The Needles is also unpopular. It has been mooted that the power cable to bring the power ashore may make landfall at Highcliffe.
- 10.3.** SAMRA reported that local residents did not like the proposed increase in charges for parking at Avon Beach or the restricted hours of use that prevent early morning and late evening dog walkers from using the car park as at present
- 10.4.** West Christchurch reported that the final draft plan for the Management of St Catherine's Hill is was delayed until December and so will not go to CBC Councillors until January 2012 with the public

consultation now being held in February-March 2012. There will be a "drop-in" day on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February at The Hall on the Hill for those wishing to discuss the plan

**10.5.** West Christchurch reported that the rebuilding of a bus shelter on Fairmile Road following a road accident had proved far from straightforward and had taken six months to accomplish with the help of The Bournemouth Transport Action Group. They have asked CBC to clarify the procedure to be used in future and will pass this on to delegates once it is available

**10.6.** West Christchurch reported that plans to collect recycled waste over the Christmas period (no collection between 14<sup>th</sup> December and 16<sup>th</sup> January) had given rise to some complaints. Whilst two of these appeared to be politically motivated the remainder appeared genuine and two cited the provision of powers under the Localism Act 2011. West Christchurch have asked CBC to investigate with a view to improving matters before the scheme is deployed to the whole Borough in 2012

**11. Meeting with CBC Autumn 2011:** Jim Biggin reported that:

**11.1.** The 2012 Budget appears to be relatively problem free

**11.2.** The Unified Waste Management Scheme is progressing and saving money

**11.3.** The Core Strategy - Local Development Plan is still being reviewed against the very large feedback that was received

**11.4.** The functioning of CBC Planning Department appeared satisfactory

**11.5.** All other matters discussed were outlined in a minute of the meeting that was distributed in October 2011 and can be viewed at [www.wcresidents.co.uk](http://www.wcresidents.co.uk)

**12. Meeting Councillor Spenser Flower Autumn 2011:** John Pendrill reported that:

**12.1.** DCC 2011-12 Budget shortfall is not fully resolved

**12.2.** DCC 2012-13 Budget remains problematic despite considerable progress having been made in effecting cost reductions

**12.3.** The "Lights Out" scheme is financially viable provided the investment is viewed over a sufficiently long period

**12.4.** All other matters discussed were outlined in a minute of the meeting that was distributed in October 2011 and can be viewed at [www.wcresidents.co.uk](http://www.wcresidents.co.uk)

**13. Councillor Flower Presentation:** Councillor Flower has agreed to address the West Christchurch Residents Association public meeting to be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February at The Hall on the Hill. All ACRA delegates are welcome to attend

**14. The Localism Act 2011:** the provisions of this act were discussed and in particular the Neighbourhood Planning aspects. It was universally agreed that we need to understand this legislation and know how to interface

with CBC before its main provisions come into force in April 2012 (a summary of these provisions can be found at [www.wrcresidents.co.uk](http://www.wrcresidents.co.uk) ) Jim Biggin reported that he had contacted CBC with a view to them running an education session of some description and hoped to hear back from them in the New Year

**15. Mudeford Wood Community Centre:** Debbie Stephens reported that:

- 15.1.** The Trust will take over the lease from April 2012
- 15.2.** CBC will undertake some maintenance work before then
- 15.3.** A grant of £6,000 had been obtained from Nat West Bank as a contribution towards future running costs

**16. FROGS:** Jim Biggin reported the sad demise of FROGS and the potential birth of a new Residents Association to replace them. *It was agreed that* we would offer appropriate assistance to the new body should they require it

**17. Next Meeting:** Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at The Hall on the Hill, West Christchurch at 7.30pm

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