

ACRA

Alliance of Christchurch Residents Associations

Minutes of the meeting on **Tuesday 9th September 2014 at 7.30pm**

1. **Present:** Charles Clark (Friars Cliff); John Mather (Highcliffe); Debbie Stephens (SAMRA); Mike Collard (SAMRA - Chairman); David Barnett (West Christchurch); Jim Biggin (West Christchurch – Secretary);
2. **Apologies for absence;** Christchurch Citizens
3. **Absent:** Grange, Somerford
4. **Acceptance of Minutes:** the minutes of June 2014 were accepted
5. **Matters Arising:**
 - 5.1. **CBC Roadshows (minute 11):** SAMRA outlined how CBC will contribute to their AGM in September; WCRA described a CBC presentation scheduled for October 30th; Friars Cliff are looking into inviting CBC to a meeting in the new year
 - 5.2. **Morrisons Supermarket (minute 14):** Jim Biggin confirmed that Morrisons had not appealed against their adverse planning decision. Their poor trading results were one contributory factor in that decision
 - 5.3. **Avon Beach (minute 15):** SAMRA described repairs scheduled for 2015
 - 5.4. **DWP Grange Road Site (minute 16):** Grange RA had confirmed that their worries over this site had reduced
6. **Treasurer's Report:** ACRA funds amount to £155.63 with all outstanding dues now paid. WCRA were thanked for paying for the hire of The Hall on the Hill
7. **Delegate to Bournemouth Airport:**
 - 7.1. John Mather reported that passenger numbers continue to decline (670,000 in 2013 – 96.9% of budget; 217,000 Q1 of 2014 – 96.1% of budget) whilst profits were maintained by cost cutting and increases in cargo and general aviation. No new routes have been secured. It would appear that the marketing and sales efforts are not fully effective but there is little indication that the problem is either understood or being addressed.
 - 7.2. John Mather recommended a letter from ACRA be sent direct to MAG asking for an explanation of their overall marketing strategy. *It was resolved that* we would draft such a letter and then review its purpose and content.
 - 7.3. John Mather announced his resignation as ACRA Delegate to Bournemouth Airport. After some discussion *it was resolved that* we would speak with Councillor Margaret Phipps about the possibility of her representing ACRA at these meetings
8. **Druitt Hall and Druitt Gardens:** no report
9. **ACRA participation in local flood defences:** Jim Biggin reported templates had been sent to all members for them to adapt to their own local needs.

He indicated that in West Christchurch the Maundeville Crescent and Road scheme is progressing but the Conifer Close – Stourbanks scheme is on hold awaiting further action by local residents

- 10. Closure of Christchurch Police Station:** the closure date has been confirmed as October 31st 2014. The reply to our letter has been circulated and posted to the website www.wcresidents.co.uk
- 11. Navitus Bay:** Jim Biggin confirmed that ACRA was now registered as an interested party majoring upon the "trench" to be built from the coast to Mannington. We had not attended the "procedure" meeting, having little to contribute
- 12. DWP Survey:** Jim Biggin confirmed that the link to the waste survey would be circulated very soon (note – it was sent the next day) for members to make their own local comments
- 13. Infrastructure Bill:** SAMRA described the outline content of this bill which is supposedly designed to increase Government investment in infrastructure. It envisages: turning the Highways Agency into a Government owned company; allowing land to be transferred directly from Local Authorities to the Homes and Community Agency and thus for development to take place outside of the normal planning structures. It was noted that this could have a major impact upon our local plan
- 14. Autumn Meeting with CBC-EDDC Executive:** Jim Biggin was authorised to arrange such a meeting and to include both the Antisocial Behaviour Act and the Infrastructure Bill on the agenda
- 15. Autumn Meeting with DCC Councillor Robert Gould:** Jim Biggin was authorised to arrange such a meeting
- 16. Stanpit Recreation Ground:**
 - 16.1.** SAMRA reported that at a recent meeting of CBC Resources Committee an item was debated, after exclusion of the Press and the public, to agree the principle of disposing of a small area of amenity green space at Stanpit Recreation Ground car park subject to the removal of an existing covenant (which had been put on the land by The Council).
 - 16.2.** The precise area was not defined but the purpose of the resolution, which was passed unanimously, was to enable sale to a private individual.
 - 16.3.** The rules determining when a matter should be debated in camera, and the legitimacy of the proposed action, are unclear to SAMRA. In the ensuing discussion it was strongly suggested that whilst financial contract details are a legitimate subject for debate in camera the principles upon which a contract are to be based are not. *It was resolved that we would ask CBC for clarification.*
- 17. Resignation of John Mather:** John Mather indicated that he would be standing down as Highcliffe ACRA representative. He would be available in the event of an emergency until such time as a replacement has been appointed

18. Next Meeting: Tuesday 9th December 2014 at The Hall on the Hill, West Christchurch at 7.30pm.

Jim Biggin, Secretary

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