

## **ACRA**

Alliance of Christchurch Residents Associations

Minutes of the meeting on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 7.30pm**

- 1. Present:** Liz Evans (Christchurch Citizens); Derek Chaffey (SAMRA); Mike Collard (SAMRA - Chairman); Jim Biggin (West Christchurch – Secretary); David Barnett (WCRA); Sam Bragg (Winkton); Cheryl Pountain (Winkton)
- 2. Apologies for absence:** Friars Cliff; Grange; Highcliffe; Somerford;
- 3. Acceptance of Minutes:** the minutes of June 2015 were accepted
- 4. Matters Arising:**
  - 4.1. Roeshot Quarry:** the meeting with the Meyrick Estate's consultant arranged by Chris Hopkins (Somerford) in the ARC had taken place. Further developments are awaited
  - 4.2. Future Capacity of Middle and Senior Schools:** Jim Biggin reported that Councillor Robert Gould, Leader of DCC, had confirmed in a letter to WCRA that DCC officers are actively monitoring the future capacity of the school system and that no problems are currently foreseen
  - 4.3. Dorset Waste Partnership:** Jim Biggin reported he had been advised that DWP were now implementing a detailed correction plan and operating a proper financial control system. He agreed to ask Councillor Margaret Phipps to provide a written assessment of the current situation
  - 4.4. Cost of Beagle-Stony Lane Planning:** Jim Biggin reported that CBC had advised him that whilst direct external costs like the contribution to Beagle's costs imposed by Bristol Planning Inspectors could be quantified internal costs such as staff salaries were not allocated to individual projects. There was some surprise at this expressed by delegates since time recording against large projects is standard practice in most businesses and is a key measure in cost control and billing. Mike Collard and Jim Biggin were asked to include this topic on the agenda for their next meeting with CBC Directorate.
- 5. Treasurer's Report:** ACRA funds amount to £115.23 following expenditure of £15 to book Druitt Hall for a Dorset PCC election hustings in May 2016
- 6. Dorset Alert:** Mike Collard regretted the slow progress being made in making Dorset Alert into a properly controlled, fully functioning system. Jim Biggin was asked to contact Dorset Police and request an update
- 7. The Local NHS Trust:**
  - 7.1.** Mike Collard outlined the events surrounding the re-appointment of a retired senior employee on a higher NHS salary than that previously enjoyed one month after taking his pension and the letter written by ACRA to a local Trust Governor expressing our deep misgivings at the way the matter had been handled, including a meeting of the elected Governors held in camera.
  - 7.2.** The Delphic and devious comments of NHS Officials associated with the affair were not appreciated.
  - 7.3.** Jim Biggin was asked to draft a letter to NHS England specifically asking (1) how it is that the Chair of the Trust and the Chair of the Governors is one and the same person and why that is allowed (2) why Trusts are allowed to make senior appointments without advertising the post externally and interviewing candidates and (3) to explain the remark attributed to the Chair of Governors that the meeting had been held in camera in the interests of transparency
- 8. Autumn Meeting with CBC-EDDC Executive:** Jim Biggin and Mike Collard indicated that a date of 20<sup>th</sup> October has been agreed for this meeting

- 9. Autumn Meeting with DCC Councillor Robert Gould:** Jim Biggin was authorised to arrange a meeting with Councillor Robert Gould. He was to particularly enquire why the promised case studies had not materialised.
- 10. Annual Meeting with PCC Martyn Underhill:** Mike Collard and Jim Biggin reported on their meeting with PCC Martyn Underhill, full notes of which have been posted to the website [www.wcresidents.co.uk](http://www.wcresidents.co.uk). It was noted that ACRA has been asked to organise a hustings for the next election of the Dorset PCC due next year. Jim Biggin confirmed that Druitt Hall has been booked for Wednesday April 27<sup>th</sup> in the evening. All RA were asked to publicise the event nearer the date, to try to make the election more valid than last time; help on the night will also be needed and welcomed
- 11. Ward Budgets:** delegates were asked to consider the funding of defibrillator units outside key community buildings as a possible use of these funds
- 12. Dangerous Grass Verges in Winkton:** Sam Bragg reported that grass verges on the Burton Road, which has no pavement, have not been properly maintained by DCC for some time. This is causing residents to walk in the road where the speed limit is unfortunately 60mph and is putting them in danger. Jim Biggin will draw this to the attention of Councillor Margaret Phipps
- 13. Traffic Disruption in Town Centre:** Liz Evans reported further temporary road closures, including Wick Lane, that will lead to some traffic disruption
- 14. Community Infrastructure Levy:** Mike Collard reported that SAMRA are seeking a better understanding of the latest changes and will inform other RA of the outcome
- 15. Roeshot Hill New Housing:** the public exhibition at the ARC on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September organised by Wimpey Homes was noted. Chris Hopkins (Somerford) is trying to obtain further and better particulars
- 16. Local Health:** the meeting organised by NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group for Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 5.30pm was noted
- 17. Navitus Bay:** the Government decision not to proceed with the Navitus Bay development was noted
- 18. Next Meeting:** Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at the Hall on the Hill, West Christchurch at 7.30pm.

Jim Biggin, Secretary

[jebgreycells@zoho.com](mailto:jebgreycells@zoho.com)

01202-473-658