

## **FORCEDA**

Federation of Residents of Christchurch and East Dorset Associations

Minutes of the meeting on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm**

1. **Present:** Ken Clay (Friars Cliff); Robin Ede (Highcliffe); Malcolm Burton-Smith (SAMRA); Mike Collard (SAMRA); John Pendrill (West Christchurch - Chairman); Jim Biggin (West Christchurch - Secretary); Dick Heaslip (West Parley)
2. **In attendance:** Brian Lane (Corfe Mullen); Sarah Sumner (Verwood);
3. **Apologies:** John White (Christchurch Citizens); Andy Glaser (Friars Cliff); Debbie Stephens (SAMRA); Margaret Phipps (Hurn Parish Council)
4. **Acceptance of Minutes:** the minutes of 29<sup>th</sup> September were accepted
5. **Matters Arising:**
  - 5.1. The delegate to Christchurch Community Partnership was confirmed as Malcolm Burton-Smith (SAMRA)
  - 5.2. FORCEDA has been accepted onto the Airport Transport Forum. Dick Heaslip (West Parley) will represent us.
  - 5.3. FORCEDA has been registered with DCC; CBC; EDDC
  - 5.4. The formation of FORCEDA has been notified to the local press. *It was resolved that* The Christchurch Courier should also be informed
  - 5.5. The new CBC-EDDC CEO David McIntosh has been contacted
6. **Treasurer's Report:** there has been no change since the last meeting
7. **Delegate's Reports:**
  - 7.1. Bournemouth Airport – the minutes of the last meeting will be distributed as soon as they are to hand
  - 7.2. Druitt Gardens and Druitt Hall in central Christchurch– little has happened. The loss of Nigel Davies (see 10.1 below) may be keenly felt here. The Secretary has contacted David McIntosh to try to establish the current situation
  - 7.3. Christchurch Community Partnership – CCP now accepts the need for better self-promotion; they will in future concentrate upon projects; future funding is likely to be a significant issue
8. **East Dorset Community Partnership:** such a body does exist but it reportedly has little interaction with residents and so no delegate is currently required. This has the appearance of a box-ticking exercise
9. **Other potential FORCEDA members:**
  - 9.1. Brian Lane from Corfe Mullen was welcomed
  - 9.2. Heathlands have not responded to our approach
  - 9.3. Longham have not responded to our approach
  - 9.4. Sarah Sumner from Verwood was welcomed
  - 9.5. Wimborne have not responded to our approach
  - 9.6. Burton Parish Council has asked to be kept informed of developments
  - 9.7. Ferndown Town Council has asked to be kept informed of developments

## **10. Joint working CBC-EDDC – the current situation:**

- 10.1.** The top team has been announced with one tba. Nigel Davies, previously a director of CBC, is not included in the structure and has left CBC
- 10.2.** The merging of county-wide waste management facilities was being managed by Nigel Davies. His departure throws some doubt upon the project. The Secretary has contacted David McIntosh to try to establish the current situation
- 10.3.** The lack of a qualified planner in the top team could cause problems. The Secretary has contacted David McIntosh to try to establish the new method of working

**11. Meeting with new CEO:** the Secretary will contact David McIntosh

**12. Responses to Draft Core Strategy:** lively discussion revealed a consensus that the plan was likely to be of little real worth. It largely ignores the realities of the interdependence between the East Dorset population centres and the boroughs of Bournemouth and Poole and the current financial situation that is likely to continue for some time. Objections will be raised to building on green belt and moving land out of green belt (such as that at the airport). The need for infrastructure to be created as a matter of urgency was highlighted. The lack of creativity, such as looking to increase opportunities for commercial trade or the potential use of some existing roads as the foundation for a Christchurch bypass was regretted. Questions were raised as to whether the full details of feedback received by planners will be made public.

## **13. DCC Financial Situation**

- 13.1.** 2010-2011 – the response from Councillor Spencer Flower to questions raised by the Secretary was welcomed
- 13.2.** 2011-2012 – details of the Central Government Grant are awaited before a further approach to Councillor Spencer Flower is made by the Secretary

**14. Extraordinary Council Meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> September:** the effect of CBC-EDDC calling an extraordinary meeting and thereby preventing members of the public from participating was discussed. Whilst it is acknowledged that for reasons of confidentiality the occasional such meeting can be justified the regular use of this device would be deplored. It was resolved that Dick Heaslip (West Parley) and the Secretary will draft a note on this topic for general agreement before discussing the question with CBC-EDDC

**15. The Localism Bill:** members were urged to read this Bill which, if properly implemented, could have major implications for residents associations. A summary can be found at [www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk) with the Bill itself at [www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/126/11126.i-v.html](http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/126/11126.i-v.html)

**16. Next Meeting:** March 8<sup>th</sup> 2011 at Ferndown Town Council Offices at 7.30pm

Jim Biggin, Secretary

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