

WEST CHRISTCHURCH RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

www.wcreidents.co.uk

Committee Meeting Minutes

The Hall on the Hill: 7th March 2012 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; DCC=Dorset County Council; EDDC=East Dorset District Council; FOSCH=Friends of St Catherine's Hill; NE=Natural England; 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; Maureen Biggin; Chris Gordon; Roger Hamilton; John Pendrill; Janet Robson;
2. **Apologies for absence:** Eileen Lancaster
3. **Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of 1st February 2012 were approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** John Pendrill had come straight to the meeting from the hospital and so had no records with him. Nothing very much had changed from last month. Six local residents had paid £3 each for printed copies of the St Catherine's Hill Management Plan.
5. **Delegate to ACRA:** nothing to report
6. **FOSCH:** there have been some interesting changes to the committee. Future meetings will be held every two months.
7. **The Hall on the Hill:** plans are progressing related to new fixtures and fittings
8. **St Catherine's Hill Management Plan:** Jim Biggin confirmed that:
 - 8.1. 4,000 leaflets have been distributed locally
 - 8.2. The February drop-in day was reasonably well attended
 - 8.3. Both the February and March E-mail Newsletters carried comment on the need for public response and links to the website
 - 8.4. Maureen Biggin had addressed the March meeting of the local WI
 - 8.5. A new poster advertising the 9th March drop-in day has been produced
 - 8.6. So far the comments made via the website had been no more than a trickle. The volume of written material going to CBC is not known at this stage
9. **Volume of response:** there was considerable discussion about the level of response to the public consultation and the potential need to send a further, single issue, e-mail to residents. *It was resolved that:* we will see how many people turn up to the Friday drop-in; we will see if the level of response via the website picks up in the week 11th to 17th March; we will establish how many responses CBC have received direct; based upon that information we will decide whether or not to directly target e-mail residents who live on St Catherine's Hill
10. **The New St Catherine's Hill Management Committee:** there was discussion as to who should represent WCRA on this new committee. *It was resolved that* either John Pendrill or Jim Biggin should attend the first meeting to ensure continuity. Thereafter, Chris Gordon will represent us with a deputy to be appointed at a later date.

- 11. Planning Issues:** Roger Hamilton confirmed that: the Super-buys conversion has gone to appeal; the planning application for a food store at Bailey Bridge has been submitted. It was noted that Christchurch Hospital wants to demolish three wards; the demolition of the old night club at the Barrack Road end of The Grove has stopped – the reason for this is unclear
- 12. 151 The Grove:** Chris Gordon drew attention to the new fence that has been erected on this property along its Fairmile Road edge. The fence appears to be higher than it should be and is thus causing a traffic blind spot at the dangerous junction of Fairmile Road and The Grove. *It was resolved that* Roger Hamilton will draw this to the attention of CBC Planning
- 13. WCRA Web Site:** Eileen Lancaster had distributed a report showing that hits on the website had increased following the issue of the February E-mail Newsletter. St Catherine's Hill reports and feed-back forms were the most popular destinations but the weekly planning schedules continue to be well read
- 14. AGM:** a slightly disappointing turn out to hear a good presentation by Councillor Spencer Flower. It was noted that as a direct consequence of the meeting the road repairs for Marlow Drive and Hillside have been brought forward to June 2012
- 15. Spring News Letter:** the News Letter for members who do not take the monthly e-mail News Letter has been printed and is with our volunteers for delivery
- 16. 2012 Membership Renewal Notice:** the draft was approved for printing and numbering
- 17. Collector's Badges:** the new Official Collector badges were approved
- 18. Hospital Consultation:** Janet Robson confirmed that she will be attending the April consultation meeting before preparing our submission
- 19.** The meeting closed at 8.55pm. Next formal committee meeting is on **Wednesday 4th April 2012 at 7.30pm**, at the Hall on the Hill