

WEST CHRISTCHURCH RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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Committee Meeting Minutes

Hall on the Hill: 1st June 2016 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; CED=Christchurch and East Dorset; CQC=Care Quality Commission; DCC=Dorset County Council; DPCC=Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner; DWP=Dorset Waste Partnership; EDDC=East Dorset District Council; FOSCH=Friends of St Catherine's Hill; HENRA=Hengistbury Head RA; 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; David Barnett; Sue Fotheringham; Chris Gordon;
2. **Apologies for absence:** Maureen Biggin; Malcolm Green;
3. **Resignation of Chris Gordon:** the resignation of Chris Gordon with immediate effect was noted. Chris Gordon left the meeting at this point.
4. **Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of May 2016 were approved
5. **Treasurer's Report:** David Barnett reported excess expenditure over income of £645.95 with assets of £7,494.31.
6. **Membership:** Sue Fotheringham reported collections to date of £123 which she passed to Jim Biggin for banking. The loss of Chris Gordon, along with a couple of other collectors, will cause some rejigging of responsibilities among the remaining collectors.
7. **Reorganisation of Local Government:**
 - 7.1. Jim Biggin outlined the discussions that had taken place at: the ACRA sub-group meeting of 12th May; the Christchurch Citizens meeting of 23rd May; the CBC-ACRA meeting of 26th May; the full ACRA meeting of 26th May
 - 7.2. The information imparted by CBC Chief Executive David McIntosh at the CBC-ACRA meeting was discussed. In particular the committee noted: the formation of the Dorset Combined Authority; the Government preference for two unitary authorities subsidiary to the Combined Authority; the likelihood of a directly elected executive Mayor for Dorset; the level of debt held by many Dorset Councils; the Government diktat that new arrangements must be fiscally neutral and must lead to a positive return to HMG (David Barnett particularly drew attention to the need to generate more income as well as saving costs); the appointment of just 4 delegates to represent the whole of Dorset in future negotiations with Whitehall; public consultation will now take place August-September 2016 under the aegis of a professional company
 - 7.3. The committee noted the production of the ACRA report on non-financial aspects of local government reorganisation that had been distributed to every CBC Councillor.
 - 7.4. Finally the committee considered the "*high level financial review*" which had now missed its rescheduled deadline of 31st May 2016 (delayed from 26th March 2016), a fact which did not surprise the committee. It was felt that in the light of the information described at 7.2 above the importance of this report had waned

- 7.5. The committee discussed the WCRA Public Meeting scheduled for Thursday 20th October 2016 and decided to ask Dave Barnes, CBC Strategic Director, to reserve the date in his diary
8. **ACRA:** noted the next full ACRA meeting will be on 14th June
9. **Hall on the Hill:** no report
10. **Planning Issues:** no report
11. **Friends of St Catherine's Hill:** Sue Fotheringham kindly volunteered to represent us at future meetings
12. **St Catherine's Hill Management Plan:** Sue Fotheringham kindly volunteered to represent us at future meetings
13. **Refuse on the Quomps:** David Barnett drew attention to critical and derogatory comments made on the social networking site [Streetlife - the local social network](#). Jim Biggin undertook to inform Cllr Margaret Phipps
14. **New School at Marsh Lane:** noted that the school had been approved without being called in
15. The meeting closed at 9.00pm. Next formal committee meeting is on **Wednesday 6th July 2016 at 7.30pm.**