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EDITORIAL

Winter draws on and I am not referring to clothing. Summer has come and gone and certainly any concrete evidence of global warming was absent from much of July and August.

We have an interesting collection of articles in this edition of the magazine and the allocation of beach huts has proved to be probably the most contentious issue we have covered in years. I have reproduced in this magazine edited versions of two strongly opposing views. Controversy is always welcome!

Other areas of concern that have been brought to my attention are building work continuing outside allowed hours and also cars parking on grass verges. In respect of building work the council is quite clear that work involving noise must be restricted to between 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday and from 8am to 1pm on Saturday. Work is not permitted on Sundays or Bank Holidays. They have a team of environmental officers who are both willing and able to enforce this rule. I am investigating the issue re cars on grass verges as it seems to be a police matter and not a high priority at the moment.

Can I take this opportunity to say how much all of us will miss Michael Bond, our Membership Secretary, who sadly died this year. We have lost a real character. Please do read John's note in his Chairman's Report.

I'd also like to record my thanks to John Byrne, the Vicar of All Saints Church, who has been a regular contributor to this magazine and who retires at the end of November. I am not sure if Vicars ever do actually retire, but all the very best for the future to John and his wife, Gill.

Once again, early Christmas Greetings and all the best for 2013.

John Gunton

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Association's magazine and thank you, once again, to the Committee and members for their continued support. I am also grateful to our Canford Cliffs Ward Councillors who attend the Association's monthly meetings.

Michael Bond, who was Membership Secretary of the Association for many years, President of Poole Conservative Association for 8 years and Chairman of the Canford Cliffs branch for 24 years, sadly passed away on 24 June 2012. Michael was active in recruiting new members to the Association, a very committed and passionate member of the Conservative Party and a member of the Church of the Transfiguration, Chaddesley Glen for whom he did much fund-raising. He will be very sadly missed by everyone in the Association and the many charities that he actively supported.

As always, there has been a wide variety of matters of concern to our members.

1. Borough of Poole- Local Development Framework (LDF).

1.1 Our Streets and Spaces Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) - The overall aim is to create an environment that has better legibility, is safer and healthier to move about it in, is vibrant, functions well for all users and is greener and more sustainable in our changing climate. It is particularly important for strategic locations in the areas which will experience the greatest changes including the Regeneration Area and Town Centre, as well as major Local Centres. Consultation closed on 13th February 2012 and the work on this is still ongoing.

1.2 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - This new locally set charge can be applied to most new developments to help fund infrastructure in Poole. The following recommendations were approved at the Full Council meeting on 18 September 2012.

- a) the CIL charging schedule be adopted
- b) that the CIL charging schedule take effect from 2 January 2013.

1.3 Central Area Urban Design Planning and Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) - Public consultation closed on 19 August 2012 and the work on this is still ongoing.

2. Community Working Group (CWG) - The Community Working Group was formed in 2009 and meets quarterly. Its objective is to improve the engagement and communication between the Planning and Regeneration Service and the community of Poole. The Association's representative is Wayne Hancock.

The Minutes of the Group are published on the Borough of Poole website
www.boroughofpoole.com/planning-and-buildings/planning-information/planning-working-group-meetings

The Planning & Regeneration Unit also produce a Quarterly Newsletter and this can be accessed via the Borough of Poole website
www.boroughofpoole.com/planning-and-buildings/planning-information/planning-news

3. Planning Enforcement, Tree Preservation Orders/Tree replacements

2 Burton Road - The property has been divided into two dwellings, without planning consent. A retrospective application was refused on 02 August 2012. The inevitable appeal is now awaited.

The Cherry Orchard, Dover Road (*Retrospective application to erect entrance gates*) - The appeal against the Local Planning Authority's refusal to grant this application was allowed by the Planning Inspector on 12 April 2012. A former Planning Inspector comments...

"... Had there been no SPG then the decision letter makes a reasoned balanced judgement on the effect of the proposal on the character and appearance of the area in the context of the Conservation Area and the decision could not be faulted (even if not agreed with).

However, policy is important in its own right. The Inspector cites the Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) and states that the proposal conflicts with it, but then goes on to come to his own opinion on the merits of the case, assessed against local character. He gives no indication of the weight he attaches to the SPG, which appears to be none. However, if the SPG has been adopted following public consultation, it should be given substantial weight, as supplementary to the Development Plan.

If policy is to be overridden, then the factors in favour of the proposal sufficient to outweigh the conflict with policy should be stated. His opinion of lack of appreciable harm to the area is not sufficient in my view to set aside the policy with which there is unambiguous conflict, as the policy itself would be harmed. The decision may therefore be flawed.

He also refers to other examples of solid gates approved by the Council without indicating whether these decisions pre- or post-dated the SPG. If the former, then his attachment of weight to that consideration is also flawed."

Regrettably, the decision could not be altered by Planning Inspectorate, even if it were to agree. The only recourse was Judicial Review in the High Court. I put this to the Local Planning Authority via its Chairman but heard nothing and the deadline for this action expired on 11 July 2012.

1 Cliff Drive (*Addition of four additional windows where there was one large one before*) - revised retrospective application granted on 06 July 2011. I am still awaiting confirmation that the outstanding s106 contribution of £5,363.22 has been paid.

19 Mornish Road (*Tree replacement*) - Two directors pleaded guilty and accepted a caution plus the Council's costs (which included a new tree at £3,500) following a S210(1) prosecution in July/August 2008. The new owner has agreed to carry out the tree replacement but confirmation of this is currently awaited.

Illegal tree work at 147 Banks Road - His Honour Judge Roger Jarvis allowed the appeal at Bournemouth Crown Court on 28 August 2012. The Barrister for the Defence successfully argued for the exclusion of all material relating to **ownership, motive and gain** which seriously weakened the Council's case. This gives unscrupulous developers a distinct advantage, unless the Council or residents catch them red-handed which, invariably, is so difficult.

I have been assured that the result in this case will, most certainly, not bring about a relaxation of the Council's procedures on protection of trees - the planning department officers are fully aware of the feelings of the public on this topic.

Heavytree Road (*Unauthorised felling of the 12m Scots pine as reported in the Daily Echo dated 23 June 2010*) - The two defendants have pleaded 'Not Guilty' to the two counts of (a) causing or permitting and (b) destroying and the trial date has been fixed for 19 November 2012 at Bournemouth Crown Court.

4. Conservation Area reviews

Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisals (The Quay, The Old Town and The High Street). The recommendations propose consolidating the three town centre Conservation Areas into one area and extending the boundaries into four, small adjoining areas to protect isolated historic buildings that are of significant architectural and townscape value. A review of these appraisals is still ongoing.

The Avenue, Branksome Park, Brunstead Road, Canford Cliffs and Evening Hill Conservation Areas - An appraisal of the loss of Local Plan policy BE23 (*Residential development should take the form of single household detached dwellings on sites of a size consistent with that existing in the area*) has yet to be carried out.

Ashley Cross Conservation Appraisal - This appraisal was amended in June 2012.

An appraisal of the loss of Local Plan policy BE23 (*Residential development should take the form of single household detached dwellings on sites of a size consistent with that existing in the area*) on The Avenue, Branksome Park, Brunstead Road, Canford Cliffs and Evening Hill Conservation Areas has yet to be carried out.

5. Beach Master Plan - The Beach Master Plan project seeks to provide a 25 year strategic and corporate vision for:

- The management of Poole's beaches.
- Improvements in leisure provision for all beach users
- The development of a sustainable infrastructure and,
- A greater return on existing assets.

Stage 1 is complete and initial options have been shared with the officer group and Members. The options currently include the review of existing dated structures, increased beach hut provision, retail and catering outlets and hotel/accommodation possibilities. These proposals have now undergone a public engagement exercise to allow the views of the public to be embedded in the proposals going forward.

Stage 2 was undertaken over the summer of 2012 with the compilation and statutory consultation exercise required to adopt this as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) undertaken in the autumn. The Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be considering a report on this at its meeting on 18 October 2012.

A Member Board has been set up to consider the commercially sensitive proposals in detail ahead of consideration by Committee. These details, in conjunction with the SPD document are due to be reported to members early in 2013.

See also separate article by Terry Stewart about this elsewhere in this magazine.

Beach Hut policy - The Cabinet is due to consider this policy at its meeting on 16 October 2012.

6. Navitus Offshore Wind Farm - See separate article by Roy Pointer about this elsewhere in this magazine. Roy Pointer attended a meeting on 21 September 2012, organised by Hengistbury Residents' Association to consider the Navitus Bay wind farm scheme. This was an opportunity to meet other Resident Association representatives and delegates from the Council, together with Andrew Langley from Challenge Navitus. He learnt a great deal and was impressed by the work done so far that is probably not known to many people outside Residents' Association and the authorities.

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7. Compton Acres - There has been no further news about the sale of this site. Because Compton Acres has a Grade II listing from English Heritage, it has legal protection from the Council to prevent any new owner changing its use, and to ensure it remains open to the public. Planning consent for the erection of 36-bed hotel with ancillary and service accommodation, 2 x 2-bed apartments and 3 x 3-bed apartments expires on 03 March 2013.

8. Sunken Gardens at Pinecliff Gardens - The Association has been granted a Licence by the Borough of Poole to manage the sunken garden in Pinecliff Gardens near the Canford Cliffs Library. See separate article by Wayne Hancock about this elsewhere in this magazine. The work carried out by Wayne and his band of volunteers is much appreciated.

9. Pocket Park - The Canford Cliffs Land Society is hosting a communal gardening event on the weekend of 3 to 4 November 2012 between 10am to 12noon each day at the Pocket Park between Haven Road and Bessborough Road.

10. Canford Cliffs Village Christmas Lights - These are being switched on Friday 16th November 2012 from 5pm at Mazda Motors.

11. Branksome Chine Gardens, Branksome Park Woods, Pinecliff Gardens, Martello Woods & Beach Road Woodland Management Plan 2001-2011 - It has been suggested that consideration might be given to the involvement of local residents in the management of Branksome Park Woods but this project has yet to be progressed.

12. Public Rights of Way:

Westminster Road end of Dalkeith Road - No new developments

Buccleuch Road to Lakeside Road - ditto

Bessborough Road - ditto

Footpath 82 (Off Panorama Road) - This is to be the subject of a report at the Canford Cliffs & Penn Hill Area Committee on 24 October 2012.

13. Quayside (former Dolphin Quays) development, former Poole Pottery & Swan Inn, Old Orchard House, Quay Thistle Hotel & former Poole Pottery factory buildings in Sopers Lane - The Association continues to take a close interest in these properties (*two of which are on Borough-owned land*), which were formerly owned by Orb Estates or its subsidiaries.

Dolphin Quays development - the Council owns the freehold of this site and Ground rent of £68,000 per annum is payable twice yearly. The rent falling due on 24 June 2012 was not paid to the Council within the permitted period of grace of 21 days. The tenant, therefore, is in breach of their covenant to pay rent. However, a further complication is that the tenant now appears to be in liquidation.

The Council is currently in the process of carefully considering its options and deciding how to proceed. Although technically, there are grounds for an action to forfeit the lease, at this stage this is unlikely to be in the Council's best interest. Actions for forfeiture are notoriously difficult and the Courts are reluctant to interfere in the property rights of third parties unless it is strictly necessary. Furthermore, if the Council were to be successful, this would have a significant impact on the sub-lessees which could be less than advantageous for the Council.

Contact has been made with the liquidators and the situation is being closely monitored.

14. Council's Budget 2012/2013 - Poole is still in the bottom 10 of Unitary Authorities in terms of funding. The Council is facing a cumulative funding gap of £13m over 2013/14 and 2014/15.

There are a number of significant areas of uncertainty outside of the control of the Council that will need to be kept under close review over the coming months as it progress through the Budget cycle this year. Looking further ahead, the Council will need to embrace the fundamental redesign of Council services and make extremely tough rationing decisions if it is going to meet the challenges posed by the year on year growth in demand for services such as Adult Social Care, coupled with year on year reductions in government funding.

I am grateful to William Mutlow for monitoring the Council's Corporate Financial Monitoring reports on behalf of the Association.

As I have mentioned previously, there are two important programmes which offer scope for producing efficiencies and savings - for the benefit of Poole's council tax payers.

(a) Poole Council's Efficiency Review Programme (ERP) - The ERP was first adopted by Council in setting the 2010/11 Budget. The current schedule of ERP projects now in-hand or otherwise planned over the period of the Medium Term Financial Plan are set out below. Four areas listed in the final column are £¼m or more and the following notes are included in the report presented to the Council Efficiency and Effectiveness Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 20 September 2012.

Cost of Employment (£521K) - Underway, with Trade Union discussion proceeding.

Street Scene (£300K) - Work to bring teams and budgets together under one Service Unit (ECPS) went live on 12 June 2012 (focus is on ensuring that quality of service is not adversely impacted by the change). Work to review services, reduce waste and realise savings will then commence led by Streetscene managers with support from project team.

Office Accommodation (£250K) - The report submitted to Management team on the 20 April 2012 was accepted and supported. Discussions surrounding the moves detailed in the report have started, the priority being preparative moves enabling the authority to vacate leased buildings, St Johns being the priority followed by the Crown Building.

The project team are establishing a working group to begin work on the accommodation principles and standards policy document.

Efficiency Review Project (£000's)	3 year Savings Target 2011 to 2014	Actual Savings delivered	Further Savings Secured (in 2012/13 or beyond)	Total Savings delivered or secured	Savings still to be identified to reach Target in 2013/14
Cost of Employment	1,500	909	70	979	521
Income Generation	1,000	661	305	966	34
Procurement	629	421	0	421	208
Street Scene	300	0	0	0	300
Facilities Management	290	93	0	93	197
Customer Transport	264	199	65	264	0
Revenue & Benefits	263	263	0	263	0
Office Accommodation	250	0	0	0	250
Communications	200	0	0	0	200
ICT Print Strategy	110	93	0	93	17
Beach Master plan	50	0	0	0	50
Staff Training & Development	50	0	0	0	50
Upton Country Park	50	0	0	0	50
Total	4,956	2,639	440	3,079	1,877
	100 %	53 %	9 %	62 %	38 %



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The current ERP is to be 'capped' and any new saving and efficiency projects will now be monitored as part of the Changing Times Programme, Theme 3 Business Improvement. A regular report on the Changing Times Programme will be presented to the Cabinet.

Although the Changing Times Programme has been running for 2/3 years, no reports have been presented to the Cabinet to date. At the Full Council meeting on 18 September 2012, Members received a confidential report from the Chief Executive on 'Update on senior management arrangements' but it is understood that this was simply an announcement that there had been delays in implementing this.

(b) Corporate Asset Management Plan - A new Asset Management Plan was due to be presented to the Council Efficiency and Effectiveness Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 20 September 2012 but there has been further delay in its production.

15. Localism Act: The Council has set up a Community Engagement Working Party which is currently reviewing how the Council engages with local residents. As part of this important review, a survey of residents was recently carried out asking them what they liked, didn't like and seeking ideas as to how community engagement can be improved.

Representatives of Residents' Associations and other organisations have been invited to an event on 29 September 2012 to consider what is most important to the community as a whole in Poole with regard to community engagement and what residents would like the elected member working party to consider when completing the review into how engagement in Poole is developed in the future.

16. Lindsay Road and St Aldhelm's Road Junction - The Association is seeking an improvement at this junction and a reduction in speeding traffic in Lindsay Road. The latter is to be the subject of a report at the Canford Cliffs & Penn Hill Area Committee on 24 October 2012.

17. Gypsy & Traveller Encampments: The Council is to enter into negotiations with Dorset Police, Bournemouth Borough Council, and possibly Dorset County Council in developing a new protocol for Unauthorised Encampments. This is to be the subject of an up-date report at the Canford Cliffs & Penn Hill Area Committee on 24 October 2012.

18. Future of Grade II* listed Upton House - Catering is currently being changed. Annually the Peacock Tea Rooms and Upton Country Park (UCP) based Buffet Service require combined subsidy of around £120k. This is a sizeable proportion of the total £500k required to run UCP each year and is, therefore, a natural point of focus for the Officer Group. Care needs to be taken with this change because the current service provides for 50% of the Borough's work placement opportunities for adults with learning difficulties.

Alongside this, work is ongoing developing medium-term strategies for further income generation - including hire of rooms within Upton House, and effective promotion of UCP as a venue for weddings, receptions and events. Where possible this is being implemented as the project goes forward.

Improvements (e.g. walled garden, play areas) designed to increase footfall and income are also being implemented currently.

19. Friends of Poole Park - The Friends of Poole Park, a voluntary group dedicated to preserving and enhancing this park in the centre of our town, continue their work with various improvements/additions to the facilities in the park.

20. Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) projects - Last year the Borough of Poole, Bournemouth Borough Council and Dorset County Council made a joint bid for funding from the Department for Transport (DfT) Local Sustainable Transport Fund towards a package of integrated transport measures along the corridor linking Poole, Bournemouth and Christchurch town centres - named the '3 Towns Corridor'. The package includes improvements to junctions, bus facilities, walking and cycling infrastructure and Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS).

On 26 June 2012, the DfT announced its decision to award £12.122m of LSTF funding to the 3 Towns Corridor. Included within this is £2.811m for Network Improvements within Poole, spread over the three years 2012/13 to 2014/15.

Although DfT funding is allocated over the three years in line with the original bid arrangement the Government has now decided to include for a requirement that it must be spent in the year allocated with the risk that it might be withdrawn. This increases the challenge given the sums involved, particularly in the current year (2012/13) with six months remaining Network Improvement Schemes to the value of £698k now need to be delivered.

Three local schemes are Poole Road cycling & passenger transport (£425K) & Poole Road/Bourne Valley Road (£36K) which are scheduled for 2013/14 and Branksome Railway Station scheduled (£25K) for 2014/15.

At the present time, the Council is focusing on the consultation/design/construction of schemes in this year's programme in order to meet the funding deadlines set out by the Department for Transport and will be looking at Poole Road early in the New Year 2013 but has yet to work out the detail of this.

21. Southern Poole Chairman's Liaison Group (Chairmen of nine local Associations) - We continue to meet a week or so before the Area Committee meetings so that we can present a united front on matters of common concern to all the Associations in our immediate area.

The four candidates who have, so far, announced that they are standing for Police Commissioner are being invited to speak at the next meeting on 08 October 2012. The election takes place on 15 November 2012.

22. Vision for Poole Group - Terry Stewart and I are members of this Group, who are monitoring the various planning applications within the regeneration area, such as Neptune's (West Quay Road), Pilkington's Tiles (Blandford Road) and Gallagher's (Former Power Station) sites.

The group is assisting in setting up a Neighbourhood Forum to be known as Poole Quays Forum, covering the area in question and its second meeting is being held on 24 September 2012.

See also separate article by Terry Stewart about this elsewhere in this magazine.

23. Poole Harbour Commissioners (PHC) - PHC have produced a draft Master Plan identifies the port's strategic planning for the medium to long term (i.e. the next 20 to 30 years) by identifying the port activities necessary to support the growth and development of business.

The consultants' Strategy report evaluating the Town Quay and Hamworthy Marina proposals was due to have been posted on the PHC website <http://www.phc.co.uk/> by the end of August but is still awaited. The Environmental Impact Assessment is due end December.

24. Safer Neighbourhood Team - The Team covers Parkstone, Penn Hill & Canford Cliffs <http://www.dorset.police.uk/Default.aspx?page=829> and holds regular events.

25. Poole Borough Council - Committee Dates

Members might like to note the following dates for committee meetings in the near future:

*Canford Cliffs and Penn Hill Area Meeting**

Wednesday 24 October 2012 at 7pm, St Luke's Church Hall, Wellington Road

Planning Committee

18 October 2012

*Newtown and Parkstone Area Meeting**

7 November 2012

* Anyone may attend these Meetings. Please see the Borough of Poole website at www.boroughofpoole.com for Agenda and supporting papers.

26. Other matters -

Membership Secretary - As a result of the sad passing of Michael Bond, we are looking for someone to fill this role. The main responsibilities are:

- Recruit and manage the wardens, so every road in the area is covered
- Recruit members/blocks of flats
- Together with the Magazine Editor, administer the delivery of the magazines to the wardens and the accompanying wardens' lists
- Make contact with lapsed members before the Treasurer removes them from the database

I am most grateful to Paul Fearnley for all his hard work in improving/updating our Membership records. All joining/renewal/standing order forms should now go to Paul, as it is easier for him to enter this data straight into his database.

Magazine Advertising Manager - Roger Allen has kindly agreed to take on this role. His address and contact details are 23 The Oasis, 45 Lindsay Road, Branksome Park, Poole BH13 6AP
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John Sprackling
Chairman

THE AIM AND OBJECT OF THE ASSOCIATION

The aim of the Association is to protect the interests of residents, and to investigate on their behalf any aspects which could be detrimental to private properties or public services. The Association endeavours at all times to maintain good relationships with the Poole Borough Council and to bring to their notice all matters which adversely affect the amenities of the whole of the District.

It also submits recommendations to the Council concerning any plans, developments or financial matters which would improve the Environment, Community, Safety, Amenity and Cost Effectiveness of the area and the residents' quality of life.

The Association is a member of the National Organisation of Residents' Associations and the Campaign to Protect Rural England.

The minimum Annual Subscription is £3.00 per member (or £5.00 per couple). In many cases contributions exceed this figure. There is a special bulk subscription rate of £2 per flat for blocks of flats.

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**MINUTES OF THE FIFTYTHIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE BRANKSOME PARK, CANFORD CLIFFS
AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION,
HELD AT 10.30am ON SATURDAY, 28 APRIL 2012
IN CANFORD CLIFFS VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT:	Mr Terry Stewart	President
	Mr John Sprackling	Chairman
	Mr Wayne Hancock	Vice-Chairman
	Mr Paul Fearnley	Hon Treasurer
	Mr Keith Alcroft	Planning Officer
	Mr John Gunton	Magazine Editor

GUESTS: Cllr Mrs Judy Butt - Guest Speaker
Mr Mark Whittaker - Improve our Village
Cllr Mrs May Haines - Canford Cliffs Ward Councillor
Cllr Tony Woodcock - Parkstone Ward Councillor

And approx 130 + Members/Wardens of the Association

1. WELCOME

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance. In particular he welcomed the guests mentioned above and Cllr Mrs Judy Butt, the Guest Speaker. Mr Mark Whittaker had also requested the opportunity to put forward his ideas on improving life in the village.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Neil Sorton & Peter Pawlowski, Carol Parkin, Muriel Alexander, Chris Stracey and Ken Sanson, Chairman, Sandbanks Association. The Chairman was also expecting Mr Robert Syms MP to attend but, unfortunately, he was unable to make it.

3. AGM 2011 MINUTES: Accuracy & Matters Arising

The Chairman said that, inadvertently, the Minutes of the AGM held on 14 May 2011 had not been included in the Autumn 2011 magazine but were widely distributed and were available on the branksomepark.com website. The Chairman said that he had not been contacted about their accuracy and asked for a show of hands to approve the Minutes as no queries had arisen. This was given and the Minutes were approved.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman proposed to limit his report to the up-dating of items included in his Chairman's Report in the Spring magazine as follows:

At the time of writing his report, the travellers had not 'invaded' the Beach Road Car Park. The Chairman was informed that the Officers visited the site yesterday and direction orders were served on the 13 caravans present.

On Monday, the Council will serve the summons, court time is booked for Tuesday morning and, subject to the eviction order being granted, the travellers will have 24 hours from serving the eviction order on Tuesday to leave the site. The Chairman observed that Lidl appeared to be able to act more speedily as, when the travellers pitched up at the former Southernprint site on a Sunday, they had gone by the Thursday.

Borough of Poole - Local Development Framework (LDF).

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - This is a new locally set charge which can be applied to most new development to help fund infrastructure in Poole. The Examination in Public will take place in the Cattistock Room, Civic Centre and will commence at 10am on Wednesday 13 June 2012. The Hearing will be run on a 'rolling programme' and it is anticipated that the Hearing will last two days.

Planning Enforcement, Tree Preservation Orders/Tree replacements

The Cherry Orchard, Dover Road (*Retrospective application to erect entrance gates*) - The Planning Inspector allowed the appeal against the Council's decision to refuse application for the solid gates. Regrettably, this drives a 'coach and horses' through the Branksome Park Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan which was adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance in 2006 and, in particular, Code 3, which states that gates should be open in design with gardens being visible. The owner is a planning consultant and, in a note to the Chairman, reminded him that the aforementioned Management Plan is only for "guidance".

Beach Master Plan - The Beach Master Plan questionnaires should be returned by this coming Monday 30 April. Leaflets are available in the library and there is information on the Borough of Poole website.

The Poole Beach Policy - Consultation also ended on 30 April 2012.

Chairman's Note: The Forward Plan presented at the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 3 May 2012 shows that Head of Leisure Services' Final Report to consider the Seafront Beaches Strategy (Beach Master Plan) is to be considered in December 2012.

Offshore Wind Farm - Roy Pointer, on behalf of the Association, is taking the lead on this one. The opposition to the proposals is gaining momentum with the formation of the Challenge Navitus Group, based in Swanage.

Sunken Gardens at Pinecliff Gardens - The Association has been granted a Licence by the Borough of Poole to manage the sunken garden in Pinecliff Gardens near the Canford Cliffs Library. **Chairman's Note:** This work is carried out by a group of volunteers who will be meeting every Tuesday between 10.00am and 12.30pm during the Spring and Summer months, under the leadership of the Association's Vice-Chairman, Wayne Hancock (Tel. 01202 765993).

Council's Budget 2012/2013 - One important programme which offers scope for producing efficiencies and savings for the benefit of Poole's council tax payers is the Corporate Asset Management Plan but the presentation of the new Asset Management Plan to the Council Efficiency and Effectiveness Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been deferred until September 2012.

Lindsay Road and St Aldhelm's Road Junction - The Head of Transportation Services informed JS that the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) on Lindsay Road outside the Victoria Education Centre "*currently indicates the 85th% quartile speed as 33mph, which is well within normal expectations*".

JS lodged a Freedom of Information request for the documentation to support this and this shows that the majority of vehicles using the road between 07.00 and 08.00 and in the evening are speeding. The traffic is slowed considerably between 08.00 and 09.00 and 17.00 and 18.00 by sheer volume.

Other matters:-

Magazine Advertising Manager - The Chairman thanked Bob Young who was standing down as Magazine Advertising Manager after six years. The Association is looking for someone who might be willing to take on this role. All the advertisers can be contacted electronically and no selling is involved, as all the advertisers either approach the Association to advertise or are long-standing advertisers.

Chairman's Note: I am pleased to report that Roger Allen (Email waterfalls@sky.com), 23 The Oasis, 45 Lindsay Road, Poole BH13 6AP has kindly volunteered to take on this role.

JS had learned today that an application has been submitted to build a block of four flats at 2 Ettrick Road which the Association's Planning Officer has been asked to look at.

Conclusion - The Chairman expressed his personal thanks to Committee members and Wardens for all their work on the Association's behalf and to members for their valuable support.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul Fearnley referred to the Accounts a copy of which had been placed on the chairs at the start of the meeting. This year there is a surplus of £1,300 as against the debit of £2,700 for 2011. This has come about by less expenditure on community projects, an increased membership and due to members updating their standing orders from the old rate to the new subscription which is £3 each and £5 for couples. He has carried out an analysis of the number of members and advises that we now have 424 couples, 193 singles and 1,479 flats (£2 per flat) making an average subscription approximately £2.70. Increased membership and subscriptions will allow the Association to have more credibility when taking part in any local debate.

PF would like to encourage members to pay by standing order and to also to renew their standing order mandates to the new rates. Presently there are two Bank Accounts (Barclays & Santander) and he would like to tidy this up and close one (Santander). He would be grateful if members would set up their Standing Orders on the Barclays Account.

There is now a fund of £33,000 which can be used for community projects and for a fighting fund for use in local issues.

There were no questions and JS thanked PF for all his hard work during the year.

6. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR:

Peter Schofield had audited the Accounts and has agreed to continue for a further year. JS asked for approval by the meeting and this was given by a show of hands.

7. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Terry Stewart, in proposing that John Sprackling continue as Chairman, wished to express his thanks to JS for his leadership and extremely hard work on behalf of the Association and a show of hands confirmed his appointment.

8. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE

JS asked for any nominations for the Executive Committee positions before proceeding with the election of the existing Executive Committee who had all indicated their willingness to stand. As there were no nominations, the current Executive Committee were unanimously elected en bloc.

JS advised that Michael Bond was very poorly and he wished him well and a speedy recovery. JS hoped that MB would be able to continue as Membership Secretary once he had recovered from his present illness. JS thanked the Executive Committee for their hard work on behalf of the Association during the year.

A show of hands carried the motion.

President	Terry Stewart
Chairman	John Sprackling
Vice Chairman	Wayne Hancock
Treasurer	Paul Fearnley
Membership Secretary	Michael Bond
Planning Officer	Keith Alcroft
Secretary/Minute Secretary	Carol Parkin
Magazine Editor	John Gunton
Magazine Advertising	Roger Allen

9. 'IMPROVE OUR VILLAGE'

JS welcomed Mark Whittaker who had asked to say a few words about improving life in our village.

Mark advised he has been a local resident for 15 years and would like to hear members' views on an idea he has for improving life for the villagers. He and his family also have links to St Katherine's Dock in London which, until recently, was managed by a large insurance company. Following a change of ownership, the new owner called the residents together and asked what they wanted and since then there has been a big improvement in morale and a much improved community spirit.

There are now eight estate agents in Canford Cliffs village, a few banks and some restaurants, but independent traders, such as a coffee shop, delicatessen, dentist, etc were not present and some of the local residents have expressed their desire for this kind of outlets. It was also felt that the car park could be used for a farmers' market on one or two days a week.

MW invited residents to make their views known as to what they would like to see changed on his forum info@improveourvillage.co.uk. This would be a start. At the very worst it might produce a community 'wish list' for local objectives for local people. MW has been talking to Poole Council about this over the last few months and his desire to encourage new business and new jobs. Adrian Trevett at Poole Council has been very helpful. Once he has received some local views he will take it from there.

10. GUEST SPEAKER

JS welcomed Cllr Mrs Judy Butt - Portfolio Holder for Public Engagement and Participation. Cllr Butt advised she had four specific areas she wished to talk about:

- i) National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
- ii) Neighbourhood Forums/Area Forums
- iii) Neighbourhood Plans
- iv) Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP)

i) **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)**: The Government has reduced a 3,000 page document down to 59 pages. JB pointed out that, in Poole, we have a Core Strategy which Bournemouth Borough Council does not yet have. We have quite specific requirements to support

economic growth, promote assisted transport, viability of town centre, the siting of mobile phone masts, the delivery of a wide choice of high quality homes locally, the protection of green spaces, adapting to climate change, and exploitation of minerals.

ii) **Neighbourhood Forums/Area Forums:** The Residents' Association is well on the way to provide all that is needed here. The forum will provide a greater co-operation between the Council and the Community. It will be up to the local community to set this up - it will not be for the Council to encourage or 'bully'. Most proposals will be community driven and it will be up to the Council to deal with them appropriately. The elected members will make decisions democratically.

The Council have yet to determine the applications procedure but will assist with applications and this will be the first stage of the formation of a Neighbourhood Forum. The Council will determine the application, which may take up to 13 weeks. The Neighbourhood Forum must be fit for purpose, have a written constitution, have 21 known individuals and must be truly representative. Again, JB felt the Association was well on the way to meet these requirements.

De-Registration: This will be over a 5 year period but can be extended. It is intended that a strong Neighbourhood Forum will last a long time. £80,000 has been set aside for 2012/2013, which includes Neighbourhood Forum and Neighbourhood Plans.

iii) **Neighbourhood Plans (Poole model):** JB wants to get this right and Councillors are about to consult on the procedure for Neighbourhood Plans. Residents will need to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan and evidence of this will be required. Residents will have to prove that they have consulted and developers will have to prove they too have consulted. There will follow a six week public consultation and JB felt with this Association this should not be a problem. Following public consultation, this then goes to the Planning Inspector who JB hoped would be local and not from Bristol, say. The Local Planning Authority can accept or decline any amendment.

iv) **Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP):** Mark Whittaker's ideas here are a perfect example of the local community working together. The government wish to encourage local business and the Local Authority to support the LEP which will be accountable to Councils and Associations. The Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership is a new organisation set up to liaise between the private and public sector with a flexible approach but, in the end, it is up to the local community to be active in participating.

The LEP has a very powerful team headed by Chairman, Gordon Tate (ex Cobham plc), Andrew Wood (MD of Hall & Woodhouse Brewery), Christina Baker (Dorset Community Foundation) Bruce Grant-Braham (Senior Lecturer at Bournemouth University), Terence O'Rourke (Architect and Chairman of the BSO), David Ramsden (Chairman - Small Businesses Partnership), Peter Scott, (CEO, Dorset Chamber of Commerce and Industry), Philip Warr (PH Warr plc Building Consultant), James Weld of the Weld Estate, Cllr Ray Nottage (Christchurch Borough Council) and Cllr Elaine Atkinson (Borough of Poole) and John Beasley (Leader of Bournemouth Borough Council).

Dorset County Council is represented by Angus Campbell (Leader of DCC), Lawrence Vincent of Bournemouth & Poole College and David Willey of Bournemouth University.

The business strategy is to remove obstacles, inform and discuss. There are still rural areas of Dorset awaiting high speed broadband and this is something BT is working on. Another area to address will be the planning system and the housing market.

JB finished her talk by advising that she is happy to e-mail the localism agenda with updates to John Sprackling who can then pass it on to all members. She invited questions which she would endeavour to answer.

Q: Dennis Riley felt the 'horse has already bolted' and any measures mentioned were too late, i.e. the eight estate agents are not going to move away.

A: JB said she heard him but was confident the LEP partnership would be helpful with the local community assisting.

Q: The owner of the Hair stylists (HNB Stylists) was anxious to attract local people to the village and welcomed any initiatives as outlined by Mark Whittaker. Currently many of her customers are not local, particularly during the winter, when many second homes are vacant.

A: JB said she would provide John Sprackling with the LEP website details which he can pass on to all interested parties.

Q: Roger Allen wished to thank JB for her excellent talk. Having just moved from Weymouth where they are intent on banning cars from the town centre and removing car parks he found it refreshing to hear of the planned initiatives.

A: JB agreed it is not the intention to remove any car parks. The area is unique and if there are any issues these could be fed to Cllr May Haines.

Q: Cllr Tony Woodcock felt the best resolution would be to have a thorough review of parking in the Borough and he will undertake consultation and take into account economic problems. It will take some time and it will be a thorough review.

Q: John Gunton asked why the Council were slow to react to travellers' arrivals and he quoted Creekmoor Park & Ride as a case in point where the car park had to be closed for five days.

A: JB said they are bound by government legislation and there is a set process which they have to follow. As long as there is no harm done by the travellers they are entitled to stay. The Council visit the site and provide black bin bags, Social Services follow up the following day and the Education Department will also become involved. JB advised that the travellers come to Creekmoor twice a year (Palm Sunday and in June), usually with three vans and then go back to their static homes in the north. JB advised this is a very sensitive subject and as long as the travellers abide by the law the Council must follow due procedures laid down by the government. This will continue until an appropriate transit site is provided. Bournemouth has land where it would be appropriate but currently we are not allowed to work together (Borough of Poole and Borough of Bournemouth). JB said when anyone has any concerns then they are welcome to telephone the Council and if no-one is available at the time they are welcome to ring her.

Chairman's note: The Council's initial estimate is that there are approximately 10 tonnes of waste but, on my visit, I observed plastic carrier bags, black bags and other flytipping behind the wooden fence on the Pinebeach Road side of the top car park and a pile of builders rubble, including a quantity of brand new grey pavements, in the bottom car park. There are also a number of empty drink cans/bottles throughout the site.

Q: A question was raised about the use of barriers being erected where travellers would cause a problem.

A: Cllr Mrs Haines advised that this has been looked into but there are issues with the height of these barriers.

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Q: Stan Alfert advised of the occasion where he had not been able to get into Kings Park as barriers had been erected to prevent the travellers from settling there. He asked why Poole could not do the same.

A: JB was unable to answer that question but she promised to take it up elsewhere.

Q: Dennis Riley queried why the Association were reactive in the case of new Planning Applications rather than proactive.

A: JS advised that with only one planning officer it was not possible to be proactive.

Q: Terry Stewart expressed his concerns about the Beach Masterplan and, in particular, the proposed fun fair, pubs, zipwires down to the beach etc. Locals do not want their beaches turned into another Blackpool.

A: JB advised this is not a consultation document and the plan is merely survey. It is all about asking local people what they want.

The Chairman thanked JB for sparing the time to talk to the residents and for her very comprehensive presentation.

9. REFRESHMENTS

The Chairman closed the meeting at 11.45am and invited everyone to partake of the refreshments provided.

John Sprackling
Chairman

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TREASURER'S REPORT

At the 31 August we had a cash surplus for the year of £2,789 and an accumulated balance of £35,834.

Effective membership (counting each flat in our bulk flat membership scheme as a membership of one) is 2549, up from 2520 six months ago.

We still have 257 members who are paying their subscriptions into our Santander bank account, and many of whom are still paying at a historical rate. The current subscription is a minimum of £3 for a single subscription and £5 for couples.

We would like to close this bank account as soon as possible and direct all transactions through our Barclays account which will give us better control and simplify procedures. Please could you check your standing order, and if it is not up to date, complete the form in the centre of the magazine and either send it to me or take it to your bank.

Quite a number of these old payments do not identify who made the payment and the bank cannot tell us. We are now deleting members who have not paid for over 2 years. If you stop receiving the magazine, it could be because your payment has not been recognised and needs updating.

Paul Fearnley

*The Association is looking for Wardens for the following areas
if you can help please get in touch -*

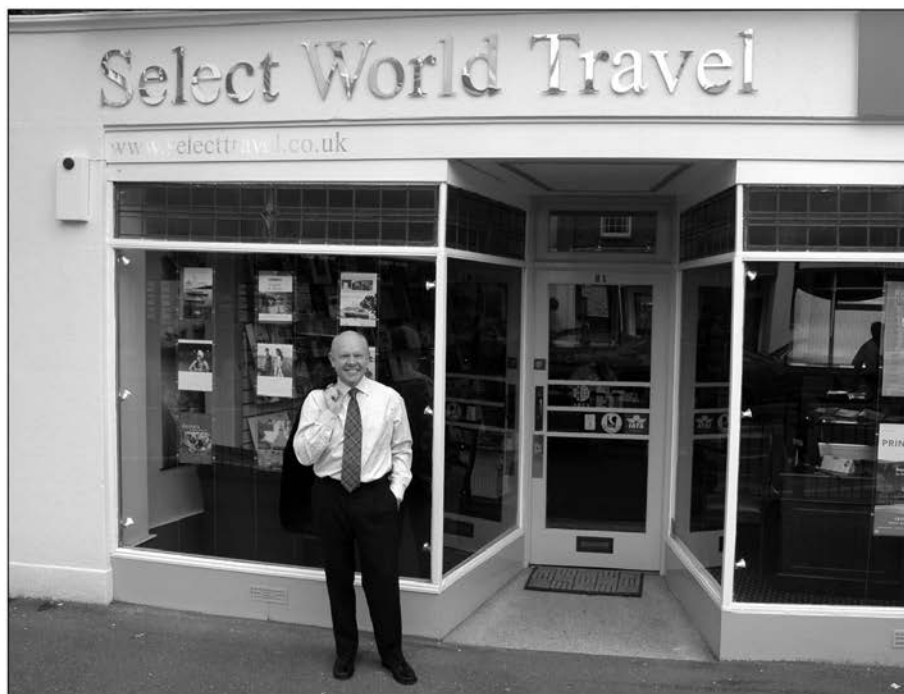
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PLANNING REPORT

I have been contacted about very few planning applications during the course of the past six months. The only contentious application to which the Association has raised objection was **19 Links Road** (Sever land and erect a detached dwelling house and replacement garage at land to the rear) - Application refused on 12 November 2011 but was the subject of a 'Written representations' appeal and was allowed by the Planning Inspector on 25 July 2012.

*Keith Alcroft
Planning Officer*

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THE FUTURE OF POOLE IS IN YOUR HANDS

Massive changes are proposed for Poole, and we need all residents who are proud of our ancient Borough since 1280 to monitor and fight for our heritage, environment and character.

The Vision For Poole Group

The Formation of the Vision for Poole Group has been a great success. It comprises four Conservation bodies : Poole CPRE, The Old Town Conservation Group, The Society of Poole Men and the Hamside Residents Association. Our high profile campaign against the ugly West Quay proposal for 373 flats and a 13-storey tower next to the Old Town Parish Church led to the proposal being rejected at a special planning meeting at the RNLI. This has meant that developers have been much more amenable to our proposals.

Under the new Localism Act we have set up the '***Poole Quays Neighbourhood Forum***', which gives us more power to influence planning in the designated Area : the Old Town and the large regeneration sites on East Hamworthy. The Act is very bureaucratic and costly to set up a Forum and requires that membership includes at least 30 local residents' Associations, developers and employers. Councillors and Officers can attend but cannot vote. We are holding our second meeting shortly including the RNLI and the Harbour Commissioners, and have already submitted our draft Constitution to the Council for approval. We are conducting a 'Placecheck' which will publish a review and photographs of buildings and streetscapes which we like and dislike in the Area as the basis for commenting on planning applications.

West Quay Road Site

Following the rejection of the planning application, the developers, Neptune, have held several meetings with us where we have been able to suggest building and roofscape styles and insist on better recreation and open space provision. We support the open walkway along the river and provision for the Poole Rowing Club, but are pressing for more Affordable Housing. We expect them to submit their planning application shortly. Residents are protesting at the speeding safety worries for the Traffic Gyratory along West Quay Road and back up West Road, so we have pressed the Council for an Experts' Review of all traffic in the Forum's Area.

Hamworthy Power Station Site

The developers, Gallahers, have submitted a planning application which we have generally supported in meetings with them. They have produced an outstanding 'palette' of building shapes, roofscapes and building materials that are compatible with the Old Town. The 14,000 residents of Hamworthy want a supermarket since the Coop store burnt down, but this is being resisted by the planners. The major problem is that there is a large and ugly transformer station which will cost millions to move. We have supported a store, but proposed a rather smaller one, and pressed for a community and surgery centre. We have also asked for improved recreation and open spaces and more Affordable Housing.

continued ... >

Pilkington Tiles Site

The developer, Inland Homes, has also submitted a planning application. Again, we like their architectural approach, but in meetings with them we have asked that the sequence of building the plots should be altered so that the river walkway should be completed earlier, and there should be more Affordable Homes and Recreation Space. The main concern is the road from the new Lifting Bridge to Blandford Road. Originally it was planned through to Rigler Road, but the developer wants a new Port Access road. It has a right angle corner that we think will be too tight for the pantechnicons driving to the Port, and there is no space for cycleways.

Poole Harbour Commissioners' Master Plan

We have had several meetings with the Harbour Commissioners to review their plans for the next 25 years. With the probable withdrawal of the Barfleur Ferry which is 25% of their income, they want to build an 800 berth Marina - either off Town Quay (to include a berth for Cruise ships) or through and beyond the Poole Yacht Club. The latter is very unpopular with Hamworthy residents since it might impact Hamworthy Park. The Commissioners await a Consultants' Strategy report on the alternatives, and an Environmental Impact Assessment will be completed by the yearend. The Commissioners will also be bidding for the contract to supply a 5 acre space for the maintenance of the proposed Navitus off-shore windfarm.

Other Development Proposals which will Change Poole for Ever

The West Quay Marina site has been given planning approval, but is not offering Affordable Housing. The Lifeboat Quay site next to ASDA has been given planning approval for a hotel and restaurants, but we do not know when building will start. The plan to move the railway station 80 yards North to provide some 360 flats and a hotel has been approved, but again start has been delayed while the review of the Transport/Bus interchange is completed. The SPG2 Design Policy Review will also cover the Town Centre North and the Bus Station. A review of the Old Town Conservation Areas has been completed.

Beach Masterplan

The Council has started a Consultation on how Poole's valuable beaches can be 'improved'. This included the possibility of a zipwire down on to the beach, pubs and overnight pods in the Chines, a hotel at Sandbanks and a sky cafe projecting off the cliff. We must fight to protect Poole's finest assets and I have responded that we do not want them turned into a 'Blackpool' funfair. It is *essential that YOU* tell the Council what **YOU** want to protect.

Terry Stewart.

Chairman Poole CPRE.

POOLE COUNCIL - THE FINANCIAL FUTURE

The Council's budget process is now over for another year.

The squeeze on the Council's budget continues. For the forthcoming municipal year the Government, as part of its programme to shrink our national deficit, is cutting its Council grant by £2.736 million. In addition we have to recognise the pressure at both ends of the age scale - a baby boom among the indigenous population, with demands for more school places, and more children coming into care (£45,000 p.a. for each child), coupled with growing demands for adult social care, i.e. outside the hospital and doctors' arena - and Poole has an above average proportion of older residents. NHS treatment is free at the point of delivery, whereas, contrary to popular belief, social care is not free, but a means-tested benefit, the cost of which falls on the Council Taxpayer. The increase in children in care may be due to natural caution on the part of social workers following the tragic case of the murder of Baby Peter in Haringey. As a member of Poole's Adoption Panel I was pleased that the last inspection of OFSTED rated Poole's fostering and adoption services as "outstanding". Children's Services and Adult Social Care between them already absorb 65% of the Council's budget.

Business pressures include the impact of inflation on Council contracts, particularly energy (for instance transport and street lighting), increase in the rate of landfill tax and factors reflecting the state of the general economy such as the fall in the income from car parking and planning applications, and homelessness.

How is the Council coping? We have identified efficiency savings of £7 million for the coming year. An example is Streetscene, an innovative scheme for the centralisation of the process for the maintenance of roads, open spaces and beaches, hitherto spread between a number of departments. This will cut out duplication and produce a better service for less money. We are rolling out the popular green bin scheme across the whole Borough, giving choice to all residents and helping push up the Council's already commendable recycling rate, reducing the amount of material sent to landfill.

Accepting the one-off specific Government grant, we have frozen Council Tax for the second year running.

We have decided to concentrate the Council's stretched resources on helping the most vulnerable members of our community, for instance families with multiple problems, the victims of domestic violence ("the hidden crime") and residents on the Bourne Estate, which lies in one of the most deprived Wards in the South West. To help the rising generation we are devoting money to creating internal apprenticeships and supplementing our affordable housing programme.

So far as the "business as usual" aspect of the Council's services is concerned, black bin collections will continue weekly, and all libraries will remain open. We are encouraging increased use of blue bins (dry cyclate) - better to re-use than tip into the ground, out of respect for the environment, besides saving landfill tax.

What of the future? The recent opening of the Twin Sails bridge is crucial for the future long-term prosperity of Poole, which will open up the regeneration of the old power station site for affordable homes and employment. It will also ease traffic congestion in the town centre. We are planning for our children and grandchildren, to enable them to stay in Poole and not move away. As the Leader of the Council recently said "Poole is open for business". In the shorter term we are excited by the prospect of the Olympic Torch being run through Poole on 13 July, which will trigger many local events on that day, bringing welcome national publicity for the Borough and stimulating community well-being.

With the support of residents we face the future with confidence, but not complacency.

Neil Sorton,

Councillor for Branksome Park, Canford Cliffs and Sandbanks; Cabinet Member for Resources

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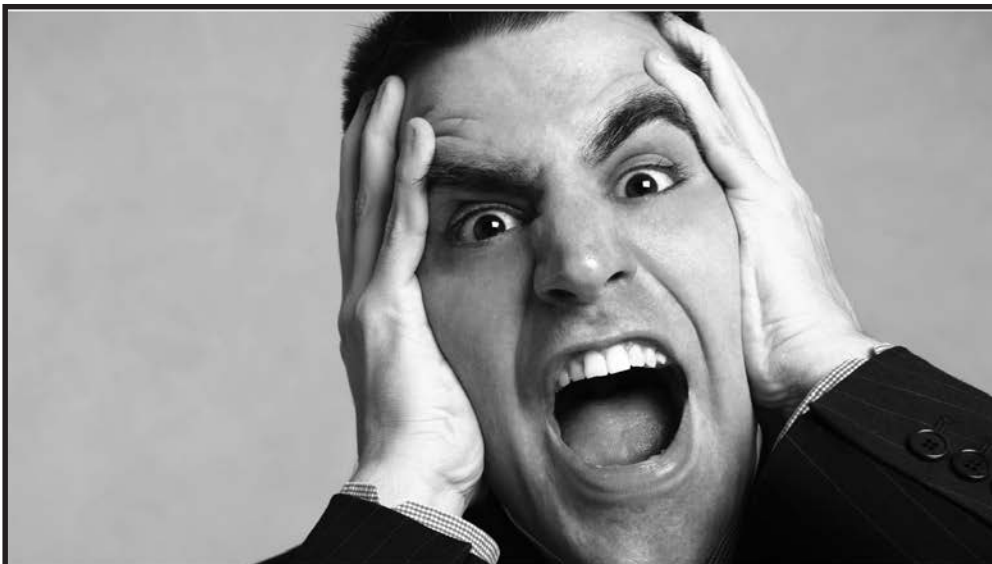


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WELL I THINK IT'S FUNNY ...

When the doctors went on strike and picketed the Department of Health they didn't have much effect. No one could read their writing on the picket signs!

*An apple a day keeps the doctor away... bad breath and body odour
will keep the rest of the people away.*

My neighbour is lucky. Her husband uses paint that doesn't drip to decorate the house, whereas I'm married to a drip that doesn't paint.

I know a man who used to run a flea circus. He started it from scratch.

A man went to the bank and asked the cashier to check his balance. She asked him to stand on one leg and she'd time how long he could remain like that.

*During a thunderstorm a small boy told his mother he was scared of the lightning.
His mother put his arms around him and said "Don't worry it will be over in a flash."*

I asked the man whether he had a web site.
"Yes. It's in a corner up on the ceiling in the lounge," he replied.

He started out in life with nothing. He still has most of it.

Old mail men never die- they just get another posting.

When men get married it's normally because they have been miss-led.

They have been married for twenty five years and they are still in love:
he with his secretary and she with the gardener.

What steals bubbles from a bath...a robber duck!

Who can hold up trains without being arrested?.....Bridesmaids and Pageboys.

The dyslexic Satanist ended up selling his soul to Santa.

It's really unfair. Short men are called short but short women are called petite.

*He recently painted the sundial in his garden.
He used luminous paint because he wanted to be able to tell the time at night.*

A male student at University believes a balanced diet is a beer in one hand and a pie in other and that there are three kinds of food - frozen, canned and take-away.

*(Reproduced from the book Quick Quips & Longer Jokes by Kevin Goldstein Jackson...
selection by the Editor)*

NAVITUS BAY WINDPARK - SOMETHING FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS TO THANK US FOR?

What is it?

A massive deployment of wind turbines in the sea in an area owned by Crown Estates between the Isle of Wight, Poole Bay and Swanage. This is part of the Jurassic coast UNESCO world heritage site, internationally famous for its beauty. There would be up to 330 post mounted turbines, the blade tips could be up to 200m above sea level; that's much higher than the cliffs of Alum Bay and Old Harry rocks and clearly visible from the coastline. It's four times the height of Nelson's Column! The exact number and size of turbines has yet to be fixed. Cables would take the energy on shore to a large substation possibly in the Verwood area.

What's it for?

Generation of electricity from the wind (when it blows hard enough). The maximum output would be up to 1,200Mw. If continuous this could power around 700,000 homes. Of course the wind doesn't blow all the time so backup conventional generators would also have to be available when there is not enough wind. The need for backup affects the financial viability of these schemes and makes a large subsidy from the Government necessary for private firms to be prepared to partake.

Who pays for the subsidy?

You do! This subsidy is obtained from customers in significantly higher energy bills. Many people are not aware of this since the subsidy element is not separately shown on bills. It amounts to £60 a year on average and the total is a staggering £1 Billion this year alone! The recent Government reshuffle might produce a bit more of a 'hawkish' approach to green energy and its cost; we'll see.

Is it windy enough in the Channel?

You may well ask. This type of project might be suitable in the North Sea, but we question the effectiveness of a location such as Navitus Bay. Of course, the less the turbines work the more backup will be needed and the higher will be our energy bills.

What will it cost to build and run?

Sorry that's a secret! It's a development by a private company. Despite several requests for a copy of the economic and financial bases for the farm, the developers reply that this is commercially confidential information. You might ask how this fits with a culture of 'freedom of information' on UK strategic issues.

British built?

Sorry no! The option to build has been given to Eneco, a Dutch energy company owned by around 90 municipalities in Holland. There might be some UK support for the work on site but the Dutch are coastal construction experts so it's unlikely to be much. You might ask why a foreign company is given a subsidy by British taxpayers to build something that a lot of Britons do not want.

continued ... >

When is it starting?

Eneco will submit a planning application in late 2013. Between now and then there will be more consultation by way of local exhibitions (the next is in Nov. 2012), media coverage etc. but this will only address the detail; the principle of a farm is now established. If all goes to plan, the work will start in 2016 with completion in 2019. The turbines have a life of around 20 years.

Object to the Local Planners?

Sorry! This project is major national infrastructure; local planning authorities have no locus in giving consent to build the farm. Consent will be in the hands of the Government's planners and the decision will be taken centrally. Local authorities will be encouraged to give their views but that's as far as it goes.

What might it look like?

There is an excellent video on the Challenge Navitus web site; this shows the visual impact from a number of locations around the 'arc of interest' ie from the Needles around the bay to Old Harry Rocks. The web site also gives you the opportunity to register your views and join a growing list of objectors.

I don't want the farm to be built; who can help me voice objections?

There is quite a lot of opposition developing; you need to contact those who are already on the case and let them know your views:

- Challenge Navitus; the web based opposition lobby;
- Local MPs. There has already been a special debate in the House; key speakers included Conor Burns, Richard Drax and Tobias Ellwood. You can see what they said on the Hansard web site [4 July 2012 : Column 1030];
- Your local council will pass on representations; write to the Planning Officer;
- Local Residents Associations in Bournemouth and Poole are getting together to mount a united objection.

Unless the 'volume' of the local opposition voice is raised, due process will follow and the proposed farm will become a reality.

Who else is objecting to the plans?

We believe that local fishing, sailing and other maritime interests are against the plan. It is also expected to have an adverse effect on tourism with consequent concern for the seasonal economy around the bay.

Of course if you like wind farms, this one will be right up your street. It will be one of the biggest in Europe and set in one of the most environmentally sensitive sites in the world! Over to you...

Roy Pointer





BLOCK MANAGEMENT CONSORTIUM

Any Questions ?..... the Block Management Consortium helps provide answers to the representatives of around 60 blocks of flat in the Poole and Bournemouth area.

How important are fire doors and under the fire regulations do we have to remove items from within the communal areas ?

Buying your freehold – what is the procedure and how is the value calculated?

Should our block consider putting solar panels on the roof?

How do I extend my lease and how is the premium calculated?

Has the panel any suggestions for dealing with breaches of the block regulations?

What is an insurance reinstatement valuation and how often should it be completed?

How should a block deal with unauthorised alternations to one of the flats?

At the most recent meeting of the Consortium held at the Wessex Hotel, those attending were able to ask the panel of experts a number of questions relating to their block of flats. The panel included a wide range of local professionals including, solicitors, surveyors, valuers and fire risk assessors. Matthew Strong, Managing Partner of Rebbeck Brothers commented "All blocks of flats face similar challenges and should be able to support each other. The Consortium has proved itself to be an ideal forum for an exchange of ideas and obtaining advice in a relaxed friendly atmosphere".



If you would like to be kept informed about the next meeting or to join the Block Management Steering Group, please contact us on **01202 780780**

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BEACH HUT ALLOCATION - A HOT ISSUE!

I am reproducing below two opinions from opposite ends of the spectrum. I have edited the contributions for reasons of space and also to take out personal references. This is understandably an issue that produces a lot of heat... hopefully we might, through the contributions, get some light as well! *Editor*

In reply to a letter in the Spring Newsletter "A personal view on the Allocation of Beach Huts" It would be prudent to check the facts and logic before expounding views to other members. The waiting list is reported as being 10 years, but the reasons have clearly not been investigated:

331 people on the list • 110 have been offered a hut once and refused • 7 have been offered a hut twice and refused • 8 have been offered a hut three times and refused • 8 people have specified a particular hut number, it is these that have swollen the waiting term!

So rather than penalising tenants, criticise and chase BoP for their poor management of the waiting list. People might not be aware but we have had 2x 15% increases with the third in December, taking our payments up 55% over 3 years. BoP have increased their Short Term Hire Stock, to 100, from 45 in 3 years ago by not reallocating vacated Long Term huts when relinquished.

The cost for Sandbanks is now £1681 pa with 20% VAT, so in December will cost over £2000! So not sure how much more BoP could put up rents to achieve £1.8m additional income, the income is currently £1.275m, if we use your 'sums' a beach hut would then cost £5000 p.a!

Who would afford that, possibly people who live in London and come down occasionally to their summer homes!!!

Ownership of tenancy of Long term Beach Huts remains with the Poole (main residence) Ratepayer and only gets passed to the Spouse, it is not possible to transfer to children or grandchildren!

How would BoP gain extra income by swapping one lot of tenants for another, in fact it would cost them considerably in labour to attempt to manage any such moves. How BoP could reduce the waiting list, open it up and generate more income is build more huts in the 200 locations available.

Bob Lister

continued ... >

And for a change in the rules.....

To be fair to all residents and to stop the blatant abuse of the system Poole Council should ditch their 'beach hut for life policy' without delay. I am aware the council have a working party looking into how the 10-year waiting list can be reduced. Unfortunately, like all council working parties, it takes an unreasonable amount of time before decisions are taken.

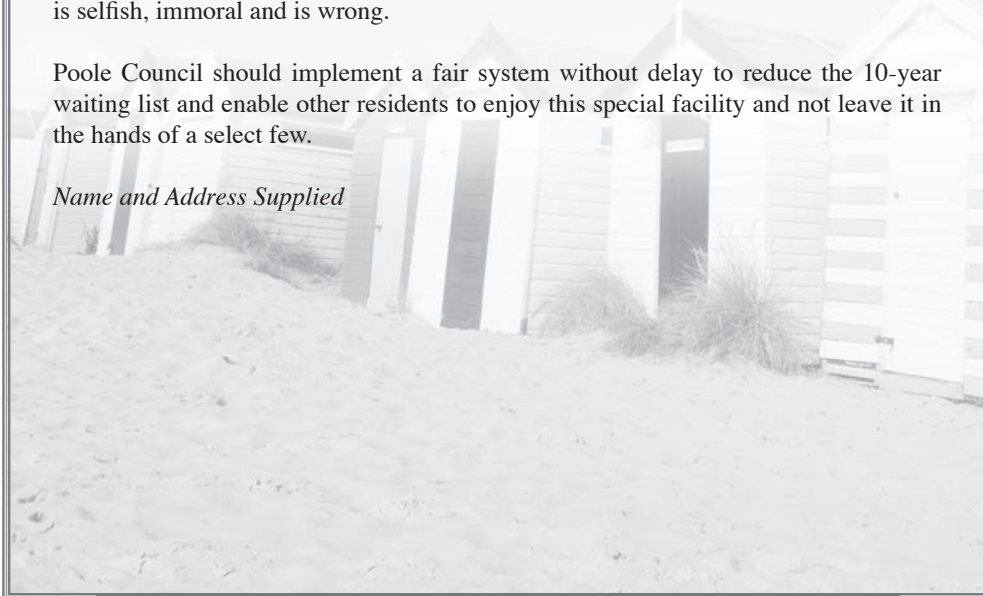
Let's deal with the facts. A survey carried out in June, July, and August this year on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday twice daily between 11am and 3pm to the 4 blocks at Branksome Chine, a total of 132 huts, revealed the following interesting fact. On an average 11 huts out of 132 were used daily over a three month period leaving 121 huts unused that could have been enjoyed by other residents. Multiply this by over 1200 huts owned by the council and it becomes a scandalous immoral misuse of this facility.

I am aware that some beach hut owners openly share their facility with other residents. I want to make it clear that my criticism is not directed at those. To illustrate the problem just walk past the beach huts and take a look at the locks. It is obvious from the state of many locks that some huts have not been opened for years. Indeed I suspect some locks would have to be cut away before entry could be made.

Not surprisingly when you hear of one owner who never use their hut but keep paying the rental looking to the future in case they have grandchildren. I was in Branksome Café in August and overheard one in a group saying that they use their hut so few times it cost them £200 each time. It sounded like a boast, they certainly seemed to find it funny! The attitude "I can afford the rental and its my business if I use the hut or not" is selfish, immoral and is wrong.

Poole Council should implement a fair system without delay to reduce the 10-year waiting list and enable other residents to enjoy this special facility and not leave it in the hands of a select few.

Name and Address Supplied



POOLE FLYING BOATS

Saturday 1 September 2012 was the 70th Anniversary of the very day when RAF Hamworthy became operational... Accordingly PFBC made a supreme effort to coordinate the return of *G-PBYA Catalina* to the Air Fest (after much arm-twisting) with the Anniversary, by arranging for *G-PBYA Catalina* to pass along the foreshore parallel to Canford Cliffs and to dip its wings as a salute.



This was to mark that our Sir Philip Joubert de la Ferte had a home there at the time he was Head of RAF Coastal Command and with responsibility for all the patrols over the Western Approaches down to the Bay of Biscay where the Flying Boats (Sunderlands on 461 & Catalinas on 210 Squadron) patrolled from RAF Hamworthy under great dangers from the enemy aircraft. Also, the violent storms which posed a threat: So that 30 men lost their lives when based at RAF Hamworthy, and failed to return home to the UK, also to Australia, New Zealand, Canada & South Africa etc. long ways from Poole!

The Catalina then turned by Sandbanks and the Royal Motor Yacht Club... (the base for Seaplane training with the Fleet Air Arm as RNAS Sandbanks), headed up Harbour towards Hamworthy, before turning over Salterns & Lilliput! This marked that Salterns by the start of 1943 had become HQs for the RAF... which included RAF Coastal and RAF Transport Commands, with also BOAC.

The superb day was topped by a Special Barbecue held by the Friends of PFBC at the Bournemouth Flying Club, with a very special viewing of *G-PBYA Catalina*!

Harry Alexander

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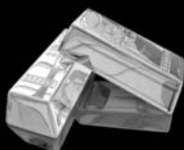
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PINECLIFF SUNKEN GARDENS UPDATE

Just over a year ago, the Association was granted a licence from the Borough of Poole to maintain the Pinecliff Sunken Gardens.

We first set about clearing the eastern rockery which consisted mainly of an invasive species of hypericum. During the Autumn we started the replanting.

This year has seen a consolidation of the plants from last year's planting, providing some good colour during the spring and summer months. We have continued with weeding the planted areas and have made a start on the western rockery.

We are most appreciative to all those who have made donations to assist with the purchase of plants and to those who have provided plants and cuttings.

In particular, our thanks to the volunteers, without whom the project would not have been possible, let alone such a success. We meet every Tuesday (weather permitting) between 10:00am and 12:30pm during Spring, Summer and Autumn.

Additional volunteers are always welcome, especially by the robins who frequent the area! They will also give you a hearty welcome and sit a few feet away from you eagerly waiting for your digging and weeding efforts which provide them with breakfast, lunch and dinner. During the late summer you will also see the parent robins training their offspring in the art of catching worms - made all the easier by our efforts at keeping the weeds at bay.

Wayne Hancock
Tel 01202 765 993



BRANKSOME PARK TO ... RAMSGATE SANDS?

Living near the head of Branksome Chine, this is often our pathway from Poole to Foreign Parts. The barrier along the promenade no longer requires passport checks to get into Bournemouth. Past the pier, and up the hill is a place of periodic pilgrimage for us, to Bournemouth's cultural gem.

The Russell Cotes Museum is a shrine to late Victorian taste. Built in 1901 (you can't get any later than that and still be Victorian) it was the home of Sir Merton Russell Cotes, former Mayor of Bournemouth. Its conical roofed 'towers' are now more windows than fortification, a last wistful look at Scottish baronial. The building, and its collection, was donated to the burghers of Bournemouth in 1907. The approach now from the cliff top and through the gardens takes you through the modern extension and the inevitable gift shop.

Within living memory, you could sweep down the grand staircase, having entered from Russell Cotes Road, and into the spacious vestibule, lit largely from above. There, a tiled fountain plays, as a central feature. This is inspired by the more (? Moor) authentic tiled vestibule of Leighton House. The 'peacock' motif round the frieze in the dining room could also have been similarly inspired. There is also a painting by Lord Leighton in the collection. Russell Cotes claimed a friendship with his lordship which was not reciprocated: the gap between a knighted northern industrialist and hereditary aristocracy being rather larger in Victorian times.

It is the collection of paintings which, for me, forms one of the main attractions. The quality of the collection is such that I occasionally bump into familiar faces at 'blockbuster' London exhibitions, Rossetti's 'Venus Vericordia', or the tastefully titillating nudes of William Etty. Other painters include Landseer, whose 'Highland Flood' is sheet Victorian disaster movie, and William Frith. His painting of a bustling (ladies with bustles) seashore, where decorous tots paddle at the water's edge attended by crinolined mamas evoke the mid 19th century middle class enthusiasm for the seaside. The title, 'On Ramsgate Sands', is my excuse for the odd title of this piece. Visiting exhibitions add interest. I was particularly taken with one centred round Lord Leighton's 'Clytie', and other classical paintings, to which a contemporary artist, David Brooke, had produced a response.

Russell Cotes was much travelled, and his souvenirs and artefacts from Japan to Russia form an eclectic collection reflecting both mid-Victorian, and his own idiosyncratic taste. The British Museum started as one individual's collection. Russell Cotes remains largely that of one man, and typifying an era which now seems closer to our own.

In our present austerity, the old debate about free access to public collections is renewed. My view is that it should be maintained, like public libraries. Russell Cotes is currently charging for the summer season. Those who cannot pay are those whose lives will most be enriched. Those, like me, who can, should go, donate, and gift aid. With the demise of Poole's 'Kube' Gallery, this is the only significant public gallery until Southampton.

Those who tick the 'STRONGLY AGREE' or 'STRONGLY DISAGREE' boxes - don't write to me. I'm sure the editor will be pleased to have informed views on either side. Poole Museum's Michael Spender, has defended the principle of free entry, but who knows? Ask not for whom the cash register rings...

David Reeve

WARDENS

BRANKSOME PARK

Mr G. Anderson	6 Buccleuch Road, BH13 6LE
Mr G.C. Beale	Flat 10, 2 Beach Road, BH13 7BT
Mr R. Cooper	8 Holly Lodge, Lindsay Road, BH13 6AB
Mr R. Dimbleby	30 Westminster Road, BH13 6JQ (<i>and Pinewood Road</i>)
Mr K. Goldstein-Jackson	18 Martello Road, BH13 7DH (<i>and Martello Road South (Houses) and Oratory Gardens</i>)
Mr P.H. Harland	20 Lakeside Road, BH13 6LR (<i>also covers Western Road - houses only</i>)
Mrs C. Harrington	5 Mornish Road, BH13 7BY
Mrs D. Howell	Flat 14, 17 Martello Road South, BH13 7HQ
Mr B. Kitson	9 Nairn Road, BH13 7NE (<i>for Cliff Drive</i>)
Miss J.J. Layard	F49, 11 The Avenue, BH13 6BB
Ms B. Low	Flat 9, Pelham, 34 Lindsay Road, BH13 6AY
Mrs A. J. Martin	6 Lingfield Grange, The Avenue, BH13 6AB
Mr J. Mills	Bay Tree House, 4 Dover Close, BH13 6EA
Mrs K.I.W. Moore	10 Ashton Court, Western Road, BH13 6EU
Mr E. Mundy	Flat 1, 6 Balcombe Road, BH13 6DY
Mr P. Neate	23 Canford Cliffs Road, BH13 7AG (<i>Odd Nos. 3-67</i>)
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Mrs I. Pearce	17 Bury Road, BH13 7DE
Mrs L.J. Schofield	7 Western Avenue, BH13, 7AL
Mr J. Sprackling	23 Lindsay Road, BH13 6AN
Mr T.H.F. Stewart	1 Canford Cliffs Avenue, BH14 9QN (<i>Odd Nos. 69-99</i>)
Mr T. Thurston	8 Baillie Park, Forest Road, BH13 6DE
Mrs S. Holt	14 Ettrick Road, BH13 6LG
Mr J. Flashman	Flat 10, 20 Tower Road, BH13 3HN
Mr P.J. Gamble	No 5, 166 Canford Cliffs Road, BH13 7ES

CANFORD CLIFFS

Mr M.R. Heath	26 Ravine Road, BH13 7HY <i>(for De Mauley, Elmstead, Chaucer and Moorfields Roads)</i>
Mrs M. Hodsdon	5 Newton Road, BH13 7EX
Mrs E. A. Knight	40 Canford Cliffs Avenue, BH14 9QN
Mr E.M. Parry-Davies	F2, 10n Ravine Road, BH13 7HX
Mr J.C. Pride	2 Spencer Road, BH13 7EU
Mr K. Sanders	F14, 25 Chaddlesley Glen, BH13 7PB
Mr & Mrs K. Scholts	1 / 23 Nairn Road, BH13 7NF
Mr R. Smith	27 St Clair Road, BH13 7JP <i>(and Flaghead Road)</i>
Mr R. Young	F6, 8 Martello Park, BH13 7BA
Mrs C. Parkin	22 Ravine Road BH13 7HY <i>(for Beaumont Rd, Bessborough Road, Bodley Rd & Haven Rd)</i>
Mrs B. Thompson	2 Canford Cres, BH13 7NB <i>(and Imbre Court)</i>

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Mr R. Cunnell	3 Overlinks Drive, BH14 9QV
Mr J.N. Gunton	36 Links Road, BH14 9QS <i>(with Compton Gdns/Drive)</i>
Mr K. Pottle	Flat 7, 2 Crichel Mount Road, BH14 8LT
Mr R.S. Sharman	29 Elgin Road, BH14 8QU
Mr J. Thorpe	4 Widdicombe Avenue, BH14 9QW
Mrs D. Greenwood	4 Links View Avenue, BH14 9QT

COUNCILLORS

Canford Cliffs Ward (which includes Branksome Park).

May Haines	8 Blake Hill Avenue, Poole. BH14 8QA Tel: 01202 709138 Email: m.haines@poole.gov.uk
Peter Pawloski	17A Chester Road, Branksome Park, Poole. BH13 6DE Tel: 01202 633048 Email: p.pawlowski@poole.gov.uk
Neil Sorton	20 Montacute Way, Merley, Poole. BH21 1UB Tel: 01202 888228 Email: n.sorton@poole.gov.uk

Penn Hill Ward

Ms Elaine Atkinson	c/o Civic Centre, Poole. Tel: 01202 746510 Email: e.atkinson@poole.gov.uk
Mrs Xena Dion	58 Blake Dean Road, Poole. BH14 8HH Tel: 01202 741256 Email: x.dion@poole.gov.uk
Ronald Parker	29 Cliff Drive, Canford Cliffs, Poole. BH13 7JE Tel: 01202 707755 Email: r.parker@poole.gov.uk

Parkstone Ward

Mrs Ann Stribley	16 Milton Road, Parkstone, Poole. BH14 9QL Tel: 01202 732969 Email: a.stribley@poole.gov.uk
Sally Carpenter	31 Lilliput Road, Poole. BH14 8JU Tel: 01202 633020 Email: s.carpenter@poole.gov.uk
Tony Woodcock	Bramhall Lodge, 25 Dingle Road, Bournemouth, BH5 2DP Tel: 01202 771628 Email: t.woodcock@poole.gov.uk

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Mr Robert Syms	Local surgery contact 38 Sandbanks Road, Poole Tel: 01202 718078 Email: symsr@parliament.uk House of Commons, London, SW1 0AA
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