

**MINUTES OF BRANKSOME PARK, CANFORD CLIFFS & DISTRICT
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13 NOV 2013
AT 7.30PM IN THE LOUNGE, BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM'S PARISH CENTRE**

PRESENT: John Sprackling (JS) Chairman
Carol Parkin (CP) Secretary

Approx. 12 Members/Wardens

1. APOLOGIES AND ACCURACY OF MINUTES

ACTION

JS welcomed all those present.

JS

Apologies: Apologies received from Cllr Neil Sorton, Terry Stewart, Keith Alcroft & John Gunton. Apologies also received from Cllr Mrs May Haines & Wayne Hancock.

Accuracy: JS said would sign the Minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 09 OCTOBER 2013.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Poole Pottery/Old Orchard/Quay Thistle Hotel sites update: JS reported..

JS

1. Quayside (former Dolphin Quays) development – No new developments
2. Former Poole Pottery & Swan Inn site – ditto
3. Quay Thistle Hotel site – ditto
4. Old Orchard House – ditto
5. Land at West Quay Road – ditto

Planning Enforcement, TPOs/Tree replacements – update:

Victoria Education Centre (Landscaping to the new entrance) – No new developments

JS

31 Western Avenue (Overhanging vegetation) – JS said that he had used the 'Report it' facility on the BoP website and the fallen branches overhanging the footpath outside 4 Wilderton Road.

Roy Pointer said that he had reported the collapsed section of road by the Wilderton Road Sewage Pumping Station but this had still to be dealt with.

Community Working Group (CWG): The next CWG meeting is fixed for 20 November 2013.

Commercial Property & Land Agents, Sibbett Gregory, are offering a plot of land for sale in St Aldhelms Close, adjacent to Victoria Education Centre. The plot size is 0.64 acre, so JS has asked TS to query if the 0.75 acre rule for the Branksome Park Conservation Area be upheld.

TS

JS has also asked TS to raise the case of the CLEUD application for 28a and 30 Cliff Drive for a single storey extension to enclose approved veranda to ground floor of both plots was granted on 07/11/13.on the grounds that the proposal meets the requirements for permitted development. References in the legislation to an "existing dwelling house" imply that permitted development rights can only be exercised after a house has been built and occupied. In looking at the revision notes and dates on the drawings, it appears that the enclosure of the verandas was planned in 2012 before construction even began.

Roy Pointer asked if TS might also follow up if new planning applications take account of the proposal for additional Waste Bins and their obtrusion on our pavements..

Council Budget Monitoring report: (2013/14) William Mutlow reported on the Council Budget Monitoring report covering the period 01 April to 31 September 2013.

WM

Forecast surplus of £1,706m is slightly up on the August 2013 figure of £1,682m. WM highlighted that we are only half way through the financial year and that there are a number of known and potentially unknown issues could have an impact of the final year-end position (Councils words NOT his) which include:

ACTION

- Looked After Children - The average cost of Children in Care is currently higher than assumed in constructing the budget.
- Public Health - This is a new service to the Council which is being managed by Dorset County Council on behalf of all upper tier Authorities within Dorset.
- Transformation Challenge - On 9th October, the Local Government Minister announced the Transformation Challenge Bid to integrate local healthcare services from Poole, Bournemouth and Dorset County Council had been successful. Award of £750K to be added to the £1m committed between the 3 Authorities and the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group. However Grant was less than Bid. Additional resources may be required.
- Changes to Social Care - Work needs to begin now to prepare for the changes due to the £72k Cap on contributions towards Personal Care for the Elderly from April 2016 onwards. Assessment of resources being undertaken as no Government funding before 2015/16.
- Winter Pressures in Health - NHS has, in previous years, made one-off funds to cover the costs of this.
- Munro review of child protection – This identified provision of early help to families as being crucial in delivering better outcomes for children. Recommendations being raised which may require additional investment.

Savings include...

- £295k Reduced residential and home care.
- £200k Bad Debt Provisions
- £80k Ordinary Residence allowance for back-dated costs
- Earmarked Reserves: £130k additional drawdown

The Efficiency Review Programme has been reduced (£808k transferred to reduce the savings expected from the ERP Programme in 2013/14 (as well as in future years). This transfer is equal to the final expected shortfall for the overall programme. The balance of the reduced programme has been re-profiled into 2014/15 and 2015/16.

Budget Transfers due to 're-profiling' into future years:

- Hamworthy Park Rail Crossing £344k
- Several Housing Revenue Account programmes being part re-profiled into future years. (no reasons given for the need to re-profile in the public report)

WM said that he is also concerned about the decision by Cabinet to publish the Council Budget Monitoring Financial Reports every 3 months or so, which he believes will greatly degrade transparency, reduce public accountability, make it near impossible to identify and/or follow trends and movements all relating to the financial spends.

During the last 3 months of the financial year, there are usually higher levels of financial movements as the year end approaches with a need to finish up with a "Balanced Budget/Spend". This can have a knock-on effect on the following years budget.

WM feels this is, in part, a return to the 'bad old days', where the public had very little, if any, awareness of where public money is being spent, if it was being spent wisely, if it was a local or national government initiative, who was authorising it with minimal public accountability that ended up with double digit Council Tax increase requests.

JS said that he would be raising this matter at Monday's Southern Poole Chairmen's Liaison Group meeting. **ACTION**

JS also reminded Members that, earlier this year, the Conservative Group on the Council proposed to reject the Government 'freeze grant of 1% increase and impose a 1.9 per cent rise. This proposal was defeated by the Full Council and the freeze grant was accepted. In the event, the Council's revenue surplus for the year was a surplus of £2.6m.

JS also said Cllr Ms Elaine Atkinson, the Leader of the Council was recently quoted in the Daily Echo as saying "that low tax, more cuts to funding and increased demand for services was "not sustainable", as the Council has to close a £22.8m budget gap in the next four years..

Cllr Ms Atkinson added that "While we are working hard to find further savings in our budget, this task is becoming increasingly difficult and it would be irresponsible at this stage to rule out the possibility of raising council tax in future."

Again, JS said that he would be seeking support for acceptance of the Government's 'freeze grant' for 2014/15 at Monday's Southern Poole Chairmen's Liaison Group meeting.

Public Rights of Way

Westminster Road end of Dalkeith Road – No new developments. **RD**

Buccleuch Road to Lakeside Road – ditto

Bessborough Road – ditto

Footpath 85 (Adjacent to 2A Shore Road) – ditto

Footpaths 82/128 (at the rear of 48 Panorama Road to the small beach) – Public Inquiry on 21 November 2013 at 10.00 am at Salterns Hotel, 38 Salterns Way, Poole BH14 8JR The Sandbanks Association would welcome support at this Inquiry by any members able to attend. **All**

Pinecliff Gardens (Sunken garden): No new developments. **WH**

Poole Council's Efficiency Review Programme (ERP): JS said that he attended the Council Efficiency and Effectiveness Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 24 October 2013 at which the Corporate Property and Asset Management Strategy Action Plan was presented and this is to be reviewed annually. **JS**

It is not entirely clear why the Action Plan covered 2013/14 only. bearing in mind that there is only four months left in this Municipal year. In JS view, the Action Plan includes too much background information – there are 17 references to 2012. There is only one reference to a date beyond March 2014 and this relates to "Plans to understand extent of exit from other leased accommodation" by an unspecified date in 2014.

Localism Act/Community Engagement: No new developments. **JS/TS**

Navitus Bay Offshore Wind Farm – RP said that, even though the Consultation period was over, questions can still be raised between now and Navitus submitting their application next Spring, as issues arise. **RP**

PCBA sense that there is growing opposition, not only locally, but nationally. The website is now up and running – saveourdorsetseaside.co.uk Details can be found on there. PCBA is also producing a periodic Newsletter which will be available over the web. A lobbying service at the House of Commons will be set in train around January 2014.

On Saturday 23 November, PCBA will be presenting at the Bournemouth Natural Sciences. This will be mainly for the residents of the East Cliff in Bournemouth.

Tourism is becoming a key issue. Navitus's own survey has found that 11% net of tourists have said that it will affect their coming to this area. RP pointed out that if just 10% of tourists stopped coming to the area it would have a marked effect on businesses. A third of those surveyed said that they would be disinclined to come to this area during the construction period which will be for five years, 24/7.

ACTION

Another major issue is the noise of the wind farm which must not be underestimated, as the current assessment of a Consultant working for PCBA is that this wind farm will breach noise regulations at Bournemouth Beach.

RP re-iterated that this is not yet a 'done-deal' and the PCBA is working hard to stop this.

Road Safety concerns Lindsay Road/St Aldhelm's Road Junction:
Representations about the Traffic Orders for the Poole Road/Lindsay Road/St Aldhems Road improvements are required by 2 December 2013.

PT

Sustaining Poole's Seafront (Formerly Seafront Beaches Master Plan DPD):
The outcome of the latest consultation is currently awaited.

TS

BPCRA Autumn 2013 Magazine: The magazines have largely been distributed. JS expressed grateful thanks to all involved.

**No further action
MH**

Poole's Waste strategy update -

Chairman's Note: Cllr Mrs May Haines writes "Just as a follow up to the minutes from last month, I thought a brief update on the waste strategy might be of interest. The recommendation is to swap to 240l blue bins and 180l black bins next summer maintaining weekly black bin collections. Those who have already had their bins swapped and currently have a 140l black bin can opt to change to a 180l one instead.

The impact from this swap will be monitored and reviewed in 2015. At that point there will be more accurate data on waste tonnage to ascertain if it is necessary to go down the food waste collection route with alternate weekly black bin collection. It may also be the case that it will just be alternate week for black bins with no food waste collection or no change other than that stated in the above paragraph

NB Blue Bin Recycling Collection Days over the Christmas period are as follows...

- There will be no black or blue bin collections between 25 and 31 December
- All properties will miss one **black** bin (refuse) collection
- Some properties will miss one **blue** bin (recycling) collection. Check the table below for details
- Collections will resume from 1 January 2014 **on your normal collection day**
- We will take extra bags with your first collection after Christmas. Please do not put additional cardboard recycling out until the day of collection to avoid it getting wet
- With the exception of Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day, the tip in Nuffield Road is open 8.30am to 5pm every day (open until 6pm on Wednesdays) for disposal of additional waste

(Italics indicates last collection before Christmas)

General Area (for guidance only)	Your normal December Collection Dates	First Collection after Christmas
Penn Hill, Canford Cliffs	Monday 2 December <i>Monday 16 December</i>	Monday 13 January

3 NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT -

ACTION

In the absence of KA on holiday, JS reported that he had recently been contacted about two planning applications...

KA

3 Martello Road South (*Demolition of the existing dwelling and garage and the construction of a replacement dwelling with integral garage and separate garage with accommodation above*) – Application validated on 30/10/13. Local concerns.
44 Western Road (*Demolition of conservatory, erection of two storey extension*) - Application validated on 25/10/13. Local concerns.

The Planning Application re **Puss n Boots Nursery 2 Lindsay Road** (*Partial Change of Use of 1st floor of premises from residential to nursery*) is subject to Appeal Hearing on 19/11/13.. The neighbours would welcome support at this meeting by any members able to attend.

All

Other current planning issues

7 Wilderton Road (*Demolition of the existing block of 6 flats and the construction of a new block of 7 flats with basement car parking, accessed from Balcombe Road*) – To be determined by Planning Committee at tomorrow's meeting – Officer's recommendation is to refuse.

Chairman's note: NS writes "You will see from the Case Officer's Report on the planning website that his recommendation was to refuse on the grounds that, by moving the development further away from 2 Balcombe Road, there was an increased threat to the trees on the site. I urged the Committee to refuse the application on the spot.

Unfortunately, the applicant's Agent was able to persuade the Committee to defer the application to allow time for the applicant's tree expert to negotiate with the Council's arboriculturist over a possible adjustment to the plans to overcome the tree objection. So you will see that things are still in the balance."

4. **ACCOUNTS TO DATE** – JS reported that the total Association funds as at 31st October 2013 amounted to £34,431.64.

JS

5 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Ringmaster message: In a note dated 6 November 2013, subscribers to this service were advised that In the past few weeks there have been a series of burglaries in the Branksome Park and Bournemouth Road areas of Poole. Please leave your home secure when you are out, and if it is after dark please leave a light on upstairs and down.-

All

Poole and Swanage Bays nearshore beach re-nourishment trial – A member commented on the deep excavations of sand from some sections of the promenade which is being transported by lorry to Sandbanks beach.

JS said that he assumed that this was related to the proposals by the Borough of Poole to work in partnership with its neighbours Purbeck District Council (Swanage), Bournemouth Borough Council and the Poole Harbour Commissioners (PHC) in undertaking beach re nourishment using sand from PHC dredging activities.

No further action

Chairman's note: I set out below an extract from a report from a Portfolio Holder (Cllr Mrs Dion) Decision meeting held on 18 October 2013

"Future beach re nourishment should if possible be more sustainable, embrace partnership working and reduce central government grant aid funding. In support of these requirements, over the last 12 months consideration has been given to the concept of the placement of material on the sea bed from PHC maintenance dredging. The concept is to evaluate working with natural wave forces to move the material onto the beach.

It is assumed that future sand supply for both Poole and Swanage will be from PHC.

The supply may be from frequent but relatively small (50,000m³) maintenance dredges. Conventional re nourishment, pumping ashore and spreading by land based plant is not economical with such small quantities due to high mobilisation costs (estimated to be in the order of £250,000).

ACTION

The trial will consist of the placement of approximately 45,000m³ per financial year of material at two locations in Poole and Swanage Bays. Detailed monitoring will be undertaken to assess the movement of the material both spatially (space) and temporally (time).

The locations have been chosen as they are at the 'up-drift end' of each of the bays. The concept is for the sand to be driven onto the beach by the action of the waves then moved around the bays, littoral drift, thus making better use of the sand as it moves along the bay frontage.

The trial sites have been identified so as to be most beneficial for beach re nourishment but also so that they can be undertaken by dredgers without the restriction of tidal working. Within the Poole site it is anticipated that two piles of sand will be placed on the sea bed one closer in shore than the other so that a detailed assessment can be made during the trial where it is best to place the sand for future works.

The aim of the trial is to investigate if frequent, nearshore replenishment will trickle feed sand onto the beach so as to stabilise the beach width and be more economical than traditional large scale pump-ashore re nourishment.

Swanage Bay has been included within the trial as it offers different wave and tidal stream conditions which will make the trial more robust. This element of the trial is funded by the Environment Agency in the form of additional grant. The Environment Agency has requested that the Borough of Poole project manage the trial in Swanage Bay.

The trial has the support of the Environment Agency both locally and nationally. SCOPAC (Standing Conference on Projects Associated with the Coastline) have also endorsed this trial.

The measurement of success is considered to be:

Little to no effect on the Poole Rocks rMCZ (recommended Marine Conservation Zone) and Swanage Eelgrass beds.

- Movement of the material towards the foreshore.
- Reduction in beach erosion.
- The economics of nearshore re nourishment are at least on par with traditional methods.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Date of next Meeting: The next meeting will be on Wednesday 11th December 2013 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room (formerly Lounge), Rear of Branksome St Aldhelms Parish Centre (Access via Lindsay Road) **To be concluded by Mulled Wine & Mince pies**

All