

**FRIARS CLIFF RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION  
AGM ON 2 Mar 2023**

**In attendance:**

Steve Alves, Paul De Jonghe, Meg Ward, Louise Heybourne, Sara Luder, Kevan Ward  
Cllr Dedman, Cllr Hilliard  
32 residents

**Apologies:**

Sarah Webb, Peter Skeggs

**Introduction**

A safety briefing was given and the FCRA committee introduced as some new residents were in attendance.

**Review of EGM actions**

The previous actions from our EGM were responded to:

**Police** – Possibly another PCSO for the Christchurch area? We now have the following as per the Dorset Police Website, although little policing presence seen in Friars cliff.

East Christchurch Neighbourhood Policing Team are:

Inspector Helen Deakin 0155

Tim Mitchell PS 2696

Rebecca Walker-Date PC 0284

Liane Haddock PCSO 7160

**Documents on website** – In response to a lack of visibility the following have now been uploaded to our website - Qtrly minutes, GDPR, FCRA rules, Planning advice.

**Planning focus** – A potential addition to committee was deemed to be a benefit, but no volunteer came forward.

**FCRA overall Action List**

Paul De Jonghe gave an overall picture of the many issues we track and try to progress, with specific focus on a few, namely:

**Seafront Strategy** – Confirmed by Cllr Hilliard that the toilet refurbishment will go ahead. One additional cold beach shower near Avon Run Rd ramp. Refurbishment of FCRA shelter now to be managed with the NCI requirement.

**Parking/Road Safety** – Major success with just a few issues, the working group to continue with attempts to open the overflow car parks although BCP's team unwilling to engage. Some minor tweaks to notices where kerb marking overgrown, and all single yellow lines to be painted in the Spring.

**Lifesaving Club donation** – Covered separately

**Bat Survey** – Louise Heybourne to arrange some local “Bat Walks” using the monitor, and these will be communicated.

### **Update on new issues**

**Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)** – Recent “Have your say” survey run by BCP on plans to implement increased powers to limit Anti Social Behaviour in peak summer months, such as:

Overnight camping

Beach fires/BBQ’s

Sleeping in vehicles

Littering

Loud Music

The survey was communicated to residents via email and Website and is now closed, we await the results and hopefully improved control of the various issues this summer.

### **Heritage displays at Steamer Point**

Paul De Jonghe gave a rundown of the project headed by Nuala Clarke of BCP Heritage team.

Budget available before end of this FY, so a quick delivery expected.

New heritage sign at Steamer Point near to the radome bases consisting of a modern style steel plate (allowed to rust) with cut-outs showing the domes etc.

Refurbishment of old notice board at Steamer Point just inside Nature Reserve gate

Installation of a Woodland nature trail through to Highcliffe Castle

Additional heritage notice boards in the NR visitors centre (but not an additional display room)

Signs will have QR code scans to a web-site containing much more detail

Commemorative plaques located on the buildings in SPNR.

Commemorative event planned after all installations, this will be communicated in due course.

### **Finances**

FCRA treasurer was absent and sent his apologies but had supplied the following simple summary to report on:

#### **Receipts – Total £5,715**

Advertising = £3,200, Subscriptions = £2,515

#### **Payments – Total costs £5,888**

Magazine costs = £4,699, Web site costs = £151, Meeting costs £365, Bat scanner = £302, Other costs = £371

**Balance 31/12/22 = £18,883**

## **Subscriptions 2021 = 505 with average £4.21**

Subscriptions 2022 = 580 with average £4.33

It was good to see an increase in both number of subscriptions and average amount. Given the recent rise to £3 minimum, it will be interesting to see the results later in 2023.

## **Councillor update**

The PSPO survey was thought to be a good way forward with the exception of beach BBQ's, other BCP beaches have dedicated BBQ provision and we have none. Cllr Dedman would like to see these allowed or provision for dedicated areas.

The Church have now appointed a new vicar and the building work will proceed anew. Some discussion over what FCRA could do specifically now a vicar is appointed such as supplying some specific item as previously mentioned. We will continue to monitor this and as some time meet with councillors and the vicar?

Police apologies from Insp Deakin that no representative sent to the meeting. Friars Cliff is deemed to be low crime area with only one Anti-Social incident. (Post meeting note – we have seen 2 incidences immediately after)

They have seen a rise in 101 calls on potential car crime on driveways but think these have been driven by Ring Doorbells where people have opportunistically approached cars on driveways and been recorded. Further analysis is required by the Police.

Cycling on the promenade was raised by a resident, councillor response was there are no bylaws that can be enforced but this year increased Beach Ranger presence might help in stopping cycling too fast.

Future Places (the council set up organisation) has seen more directors appointed, and recent business cases proposed for approval to spend £170k for outline case for Christchurch civic centre and £1m for a full business case continues with FP causing more cost for BCP which our councillors are unhappy with. Options for the civic centre include conversion to a hotel. Hopefully the new leadership/admin after May 2023 with the elections may see some positive changes.

May elections, all residents must now provide photo id to vote. If you have no passport/driving license/bus pass, then BCP can arrange photo id on request.

## **King Charles coronation**

The following dates were shared, and all BCP residents are able to celebrate, although thought unlikely that as many would take this up as the Queens 70<sup>th</sup> last year.

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> May - Coronation

Sun 7<sup>th</sup> May – Big lunches/Street parties

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday

Large screens in place across BCP to view the coronation

Cut off date to apply for a free license application for a street party – 24<sup>th</sup> March

### **National Coastwatch Institute Station for Friars Cliff**

FCRA only recently became aware of this requirement and arranged an on site meeting the next day with station managers.

National Coastwatch Institute has 57 stations across UK, Hengistbury Head is 2<sup>nd</sup> busiest but has blind spot east of HH across our area.

This area suffers approx 30% of all incidents with lack of safety co-ordination due to visibility.

Several sites had been assessed but BCP recommend site of our shelter due to its poor condition. Comments made that this is condemned are not proved.

**Action – Paul Hilliard to seek BCP surveyors report as FCRA have not had a response.**

Previously, NCI had requested to merge with a major joint re-development of Lifesaving club and part of Beach Hut café. Planning permission was approved and is still thought to be live, as the café had started their portion of work within the allotted timescales. However this would mean massive investment, and is deemed unrealistic in the current financial climate.

Site of our shelter is thought to be the optimum site for visibility from Hurst point to Hengistbury Head.

**FCRA wish a caveat that any use of this site has our shelter re-positioned nearby, and costs for a new shelter to be shared with any NCI installation.**

NCI Station to be 16ft x 10ft portacabin with alarm, lights and possibly CCTV. Thought that having this on site would have a positive impact on Anti Social behaviour due to having uniformed personnel on site

Limiting factors include: Deployment for summer holidays required (unlikely), planning permission and operating licence required. Proximity to showers and No 7 Cliff Drive may cause concern. Feasibility of new shelter in front of showers to be assessed.

Due to the complexity of this project, it was proposed that FCRA raise a working group to enter into discussions with all parties, BCP, NCI etc and some 7 volunteers came forward.

**Action – Steve Alves to scope out the brief for the working group, including all relevant contacts.**

### **Lifesaving club**

After much previous discussion on using our funds to help local organisations, Lifesaving club had supplied the committee with a list of equipment to help train the youngsters coming to approx. £2.3k.

They have also been approaching other local companies for donations, so to keep to FCRA usual cost share preference the following was proposed and voted on. The committee was not supportive of FCRA covering the total cost.

If we kept to small grants process, then only £250 could be awarded this year.

Proposal – To donate £1000 – Steve Alves

Seconded – Pete Gardiner

Agreed – Unanimous

**Action – FCRA Treasurer to make the arrangements with Vicky Marley, the chair of lifesaving club.**

**Action - Steve Alves to contact Beach Hut Owners Association with our decision and “suggest” a contribution also.**

### **Committee structure inc stand down & elections**

The existing committee structure was explained on screen with those officer positions where the incumbents were willing to re-stand all voted in unanimously as there were no other nominations, these were:

Treasurer – Peter Skeggs

Environment Officer – Louise Heybourne

Forum Editor – Paul De Jonghe

Membership Secretary – Meg Ward

Head Road Warden – Sarah Webb

Social Secretary – Sara Luder

Web manager – Kevan Ward

The planning role and advertising role remain vacant.

The roles where movement was required were then discussed and voted upon.

We moved away from having Co-chairmen, and back to a Chairman and Vice Chairman. It was not ideal having the Chairman act as the secretary as most organisations formal arrangements call for having a separate Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary, therefore the following were proposed and voted in:

Chairman – Steve Alves - proposed Paul De Jonghe, seconded Louise Heybourne.

Vice Chairman – Paul De Jonghe – proposed Peter Gardiner, seconded Meg Ward.

Secretary – Louise Heybourne – proposed Steve Alves, seconded Meg Ward.

### **AOB**

The committee welcomed Sara Luder to the committee as we have not had a Social Secretary for some years. Sara spoke about her plans which at the moment were to ensure we have a more modern form of communication such as using Facebook, as it was thought that using our system of Road Wardens or emailing residents might not be suitable especially where open air events are proposed.

More in the coming months.

**Meeting concluded approx. 9:15**