



Christchurch Town Council

Old Town Hall
30 High Street
Christchurch
BH23 1AY

Community Committee Agenda

Tuesday, 16 February 2021, 6.00pm

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the **Christchurch Town Council** to be held via Zoom conferencing facilities Council **on Tuesday, 16 February 2021 at 6.00pm.**

Membership:

Chairman: Cllr F F T Neale

Vice Chairman: Cllr S J McCormack

Cllr Mrs S Bungey

Cllr V Charrett

Cllr A E Coulton

Cllr C A Gardiner

Cllr W Grace

Cllr G R Jarvis

Cllr G E E Polson

Cllr Mrs S Spittle

Members of the public wishing to attend the meeting should use the link:

<https://zoom.us/j/91475922294?from=addon>

Meeting ID: 914 7592 2294

Passcode: 672054

The business to be transacted is set out overleaf

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Daniel Lucas'.

Daniel Lucas

Town Clerk

10 February 2021

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence.

2. Declaration of Interests

Members are reminded that any disclosable pecuniary interests must be declared including any issues which may arise through predetermination of bias.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Committee held on 15 December 2020 (copy attached)

5 – 8

4. Public Participation

In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders the period of time designated for Public Participation cannot exceed 15 minutes unless directed by the Chairman of the meeting and a member of the public shall not speak for more than 5 minutes.

5. Public Questions

Members of the public who wish to ask a question at the meeting shall give notice to the Town Clerk of the question no later than 12 noon on the working day before the meeting is on. The question stated in the notice shall be the question asked at the meeting. The Chairman will call on those wishing to speak in turn, each questioner being allowed to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes. Those wishing to speak shall state their name and address.

6. Christchurch and District Sports Council

The CDSC held a review meeting to consider its future recently following the loss of two well known supporters. The Town Clerk has been approached by BCP Council to ask the question as to whether this Town Council wished to support the endeavours of the CDSC. Attached as Appendix 1 is the initial approach email (redacted), and at Appendix 2 the options put to CDSC to consider. As Members can see option 5 involves the possibility of the Town Council becoming involved. In terms of Town Council commitment to time and resources Appendix 1 provides some input here.

9-13

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Members consider the proposal especially at Appendix 2 option 5 to continue involvement with CDSC in principle and to resolve accordingly;
- 2) If Members resolve to continue involvement with CDSC to delegate to Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Community Committee to formulate agreed proposals with CDSC for future consideration for Full Council.

7. Trees at Christchurch Quay

14-17

Members are asked to consider the professional report from Hayden's Arboricultural Consultants of 4th February 2021 and the attachments (Appendices 3-7). In summary the health of the x2 trees identified at Christchurch Quay – Poplar (T002) and Willow (T0013) provide sufficient health and safety concerns. The two trees have been recommended for removal.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Members consider the report and resolve to authorise Hayden's Arboricultural Consultants to submit to the Local Planning Authority a section 211 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Conservation Area notification and/or any other associated application required under the Planning Acts and ancillary regulations.

8. Bank Close Car Park - Footpath

Members to consider the verbal report of Cllr Coulton and decide whether in principle this is something the Community Committee wishes to pursue.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Authorises the Town Clerk to devote time and further work to prepare a report about options available to the Town Council, including cost and viability.

9. Druitt Hall Survey.

The Town Clerk has approached 2 local surveyors and 1 company did not wish to operate during the Covid Lockdown and the second has quoted as follows:

Elcock Associates, 83 The Grove, Christchurch. BH23 2EZ.

£2500 plus VAT

There is ample provision in the Druitt Hall budget line to accommodate this expenditure.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Community Committee authorises the quotation provided by Elcock Associates;
- 2) Delegates to the Town Clerk to liaise with the tenant of Druitt Hall to provide access to the surveying company.

No other items of business can be considered unless the Chairman decides the matter is urgent for reasons that must be specified and recorded in the Minutes.

CHRISTCHURCH TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 December 2020 at 6.00pm via Zoom conferencing facilities

Present:-

Chairman: Cllr F F T Neal

Present: Cllr Mrs S Bungey, Cllr A E Coulton, Cllr C A Gardiner, Cllr W Grace, Cllr G R Jarvis, Cllr G E E Polson, and Cllr Mrs S Spittle.

Also in attendance: Cllr V Charrett

Apologies: Cllr S J McCormack

Officers present: Daniel Lucas, Town Clerk and Susan Roxby, Administrative Support Officer.

Members of the Public present: 1

Members of the Press present: None present

168. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

169. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2020 were agreed and signed as an accurate record subject to Cllr Tarling being added to the attendance record as also being in attendance.

Voting: unanimous

170. Public Participation

There was no public participation on this occasion.

171. Public Questions

There were no questions from the public on this occasion.

172. Replacement Trees at Christchurch Quay

Members were asked to decide on species replacement for two failed Willows at Christchurch Quay.

The Town Clerk informed Members that given the site is a Conservation Area it was prudent that replacement trees were planted. The Town Council's consultant recommended replacement with either Stone Pine, Holm Oak or Turkish Hazel given the location and exposure to prevailing winds and that Willows here seemed unsuitable. The Local Planning Authority disagreed and recommended replacement with White Willow, Alder or Aspen. Upon seeking further advice, the Council's consultant had recommended Alder as the suitable replacement. Two nurseries have been recommended and been contacted and quoted as follows:

- 1) Hilliers: Common Alder, 16-18cm girth, 5m height
£150 per tree, Stakes £6, Tie/Spacer £3.
£250 delivery. All prices exclusive of VAT;
- 2) Landford Trees: Common Alder, 16-18cm girth 5m height
£95 per tree, strapping and ties £11.70 per tree. All prices exclusive of VAT.
Delivery can coincide with other supply they are doing in the area.

The chairman stated that it would be fitting to dedicate a replacement tree in memory of the late Honorary Freeman, Councillor Colin Bungey.

Cllr Mrs Spittle joined the meeting at 6.14pm.

RESOLVED that:

- a) **2 replacement high quality specimen size Common Alder trees be purchased, along with any necessary protective fencing, stakes etc; and**
- b) **the Town Clerk be delegated to proceed with the quotation from Landford Trees and purchase 2 Common Alder Trees and to arrange for delivery and replanting as follows:**
 - **16-18cm girth 5m height**
 - **£95 per tree, strapping and ties £11.70 per tree**
 - **all prices exclusive of VAT; and**
- c) **the Town Clerk be delegated to arrange for one of the replacement trees to be dedicated in the memory of the late Honorary Freeman, Councillor Colin Bungey and the wording on the plaque be arranged in consultation with the Deputy Mayor.**

Voting: unanimous

222. Tree Works Required at Christchurch Quay

Members previously had circulated the Council's Tree Survey conducted by Hayden's Arboricultural Consultants for health and safety matters relating to the trees at Christchurch Quay. Members were advised in the survey that certain trees needed tending to within a six-month window.

The Chairman stated that bird boxes could be placed on the tree stumps to consider to the environment. Other members disagreed and thought that the tree stumps should be removed to keep the greenery flat.

The Town Clerk advised that if the trees were still living, that they would be protected and therefore no action could be taken to remove the tree stumps or add bird boxes. Members agreed that further investigations should be undertaken and reported back.

Comprehensive discussion took place regarding the removal of the failed trees to be replaced with Alders. Members agreed that the Arboricultural Consultant be instructed to deal with matters arising identified in the Arboricultural report.

RESOLVED that:

- a) **Hayden's Arboricultural Consultants be instructed to act on behalf of the Town Council in liaising, negotiating, preparing and submitting any application as required by the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and any associated Tree Regulations and or Conservation Area matters for those trees identified as required felling; and**
- b) **an update be provided as to the state of those 3 trees identified as questionable and requiring secondary investigations.**

Voting: unanimous

223. Community Grants Scheme

The Town Clerk advised Members that there was still budget to extend the Community Grants scheme for a second round of applications and awards.

RESOLVED that:

- a) **the Town Clerk opens the window for applications on the 21st of December 2020 and updates the website/social media accordingly. The deadline for receipt of applications shall be 4 weeks hence from that date being the 18th January 2021 at the close of business (5pm); and**
- b) **the Town Clerk summons the Community Grants Working Group as necessary to put into effect the second round of applications and awards as to be agreed by Full Council at a future date.**

Voting: unanimous

224. Mayors Mead Carpark and Boat-parking

Cllr Coulton provided members with an update on Mayors Mead Carpark and Boat Parking. Members were presented with a map of Mayors Mead Winter Boat parking, a copy of which appears as appendix 'A' to these minutes in the minute book. Members noted that 56 bays were used for Winter Boat Parking during 1st October to 31st March.

RESOLVED that the verbal update be noted.

Voting: unanimous

The meeting ended at 7.01pm

CHAIRMAN

APPENDIX 1

From:

Sent: 27 January 2021 15:09

To: Daniel Lucas <townclerk@christchurch-tc.gov.uk>

Subject: CDSC review - Thursday 21st January 2021 and its outcomes

Dear Dan

CDSC held a review meeting to consider its future recently.

Although the network is thriving for contacts with local clubs and organisations, in terms of direct support it has struggled in recent years to have high attendance at formal meetings. For this reason we have adjusted the frequency of those to a couple a year. Unfortunately because we have no provision for electronic meetings I, as Secretary, have simply updated the network from time to time about various activity and sport related matters. This has primarily focussed on Government and/ or NGB advice, potential funding opportunities to help the clubs and organisations survive lean times when they cannot operate, details to stay fit and well during the Pandemic, and general news on sport, activities and health related policy. (A new Sports Council Strategy was announced yesterday)

The review was prompted by the loss of two of our strongest allies in Councillor Colin Bungey, who was our Chairman, and Mike Green (Xch Rowing Club rep and assistant Treasurer/ Grants Sub Cttee member. As you are aware because on my correspondence on this, we had previously adjusted our Constitution to become as relevant as possible in the new era of BCP Council and Town and Parishes, but now find ourselves in limbo without leadership or a strong base. My rough summary of the potential choices and how I rated them at the time is attached. You will note that I had two potential routes marked as 'green' (Choices 4 and 5). No 5 would be probably the favoured if CTC was both interested and willing to take CDSCs operation under its wing. This would link CDSC directly with its local work around Christchurch (and vice versa) and allow it to recruit support. The latter would be aided by eg nominated representation from CTC to draw interested Town Councillors into its work and recruitment of volunteers living in Christchurch who are most likely to have interest in local sports clubs and organisations, from family membership in those clubs or those with local sporting connections.

Those present were keen to explore possibilities for some form of CTC involvement and would like to discuss this with Town Councillors and or yourself in further detail please? In the first instance and to explore possibilities it may be best if we speak via Teams so you then can take this to Senior Councillors?

The main elements I think are:

- CDSC comes with a current balance of c£1741. *(In discussion if CTC is not interested and the BCP route also fails to materialise, this would probably be distributed between either the current clubs or a selection of current clubs, or passed to a sporting organisation who could distribute funds to local clubs)*
- Our flagship event is the annual Christchurch Sports Awards with the Mayor traditionally presenting at the awards ceremony *(Although this has not been hosted in November 2019 or November 2020, we have nominations forming the basis of a future event. In the absence of activity in clubs this year the difficulty will still be the lack of potential nominations when it is possible to host this)*

- Christchurch Rotary has been very positive in its support for the Sports Achievement Awards and funded the last two events. *(Our Treasurer Cllr David Flagg is reasonably confident of their continuing support, although the level of direct funding gathered by Xch Rotary must have been impacted by lack of fundraising opportunities that it too has faced over the past year.)*
- CDSC is still relevant as a networking organisation whilst its outlay for administration is minimal, therefore offering value to our local sports scene
- A number of facilities owned by CTC are in use to support club activities

If I can offer any other information please let me know, otherwise I hope you will get in touch?

Best wishes

APPENDIX 2

Choice	Pros	Cons	Overall rating (RAG)	Notes	
1	Do nothing	Existing Constitution with network of supporting Club contacts; minimum of 2 meetings per yr; personnel are committed to getting the get for local sports people; healthy activity remains an important focus esp for the 50+ group less likely to be active	Shortage of existing volunteers who are not always typical of the groups they represent; no specialist health related expertise; funding may continue to dwindling to nothing; nothing new is achieved despite a changing activity landscape; we have no volunteer recruitment champion	Red	The minimum would be to recruit new committee members. XXX has volunteered support. If we targeted people we know well (eg someone like XXX) I think they would be prepared to help too. CTC may also be able to provide support from either elected Town Cllrs or otherwise? Active Dorset may also know of personnel who would be interested;
2	Recruit new committee members and review/amend Constitution	Unrealised opportunities to work with CTC and Parish Councils (due to Covid 19) may become realisable; Constitutional changes could make meetings virtual to engage more/ younger people; need to review rationale for CDSC to see if this format is compatible, which could lead to wider benefits;	Requires personal and organisational investment	Amber	The minimum would be to recruit new committee members

3	Amalgamate by merger or dissolution with another Local Sports Council	Currently Poole SC are active and have £5k BCP funding for grants. Amalgamation might permit wider financial allocation and support from BCP; there are economies of scale in combining to help with volunteer shortages; strategy is going to look at delivery across BCP area in future; could be set up to offer grant support to local decision makers	Is likely to impact on and potentially weaken support for Xch items on the local agendas of eg local clubs or CTC/ Parish Councils; constitutional changes will require suitable support from existing Members to get approved; may be better to start with a new organisation with neutral history but also potential to lose key member support if so	Amber	See comment below; its conclusion may or may not promote this
4	Create new BCP wide Local Sports Council	New constitution, new purpose, fresh start; with approval from former organisations, could start with some resources including potential BCP office support; can create an operating model which is better able to serve purpose (eg CIO)	potential to lose key member support; may lack energy/ commitment to make new proposals work or retain role required as community based part of the local sporting and activity landscape	Green	There is a BCP review of roles for Poole SC under way, but no firm view has yet been formed. As yet there is no specified time line for report completion.
5	Bolt CDSC role into another organisation or Authority	If with a viable and vibrant Parish or Town Council or recognised activity organisation then would	The match between the two would need to be carefully considered and right for both parties;	Amber or Green depending on available interest/ organisation	IF Parish Council, then Neighbourhood Plans and access to precept funding for priorities may apply;

		keep decision making local; could provide a strategic framework (with potential funding support); could allow involvement in developmental role	may cause disconnect from BCP; could be seen as arm of one organisation, not 'independent'.		
6	Close CDSC down	Worthwhile if not relevant to today's needs; transfer of funds is required under Constitution to another body able to continue relevant work so purpose of resources would be protected. Transfer of assets to Active Dorset would be possible.	Loss of network Comms generally and especially with BCP, loss of cross cutting work to link clubs; no obvious replacement for Sports Awards	Amber	The loss of the network would be noticed, as would the Sports Achievement Awards
7	Any other proposals not considered	?	?		



Mr Daniel Lucas
Christchurch Town Council
Old Town Hall
30 High Street
Christchurch
BH23 1EA

REF: 8584/SH/LB
2021

Dear Mr Lucas,

RE: 8584 - RESISTOGRAPH TESTING OF POPLAR T002 AND WILLOW T018 AT THE QUOMPS, CHRISTCHURCH QUAY

Thank you for your recent commission to undertake secondary investigations of a Poplar and a Willow which were recommended following the identification of various structural defects affecting them during the initial survey undertaken in November 2020.

The assessment was undertaken on the 19th January 2021 with a Resistograph Micro Drill. The IML PD500 Resistograph is a calibrated micro drill which measures the resistance to the progress of a 500mm long, 2mm diameter drilling needle bit. The results for each tree are appended on the attached drawings and these display two colours; blue represents the feed rate and green represents the penetration resistance. The graph is read from right to left and can be interpreted to evaluate relative wood strength, decay pockets, structural condition of cell walls and tree responses to environmental conditions.

Having assessed the results in details, below is a summary of the findings with recommendations for each tree investigated.

POPLAR (T002)

Located at the base of the tree's stem on the north and north-eastern aspect is an area of tarry exudation symptomatic of infection with *Armillaria* sp. This initial diagnosis of infection with *Armillaria* sp. was corroborated on the 19th January when freshly dislodged bark revealed the presence of flattened, black rhizomorphs. A total of four drill tests were undertaken at the locations identified on the attached drawing no. 8584-D1-Resistograph. The drill tests revealed the presence of decay at the

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4th February

stem's base. Given the presence of the root and stem decay fungus *Armillaria* and associated decay at the stem's base, its historic management as a pollard and its location within a high target area (i.e. within falling distance of a road, parking spaces and park), it is considered that its safe retention can no longer be ensured and that it should be felled and replaced.

WILLOW (T013)

This large, mature tree leans at a relatively acute angle with the bias to the east. Longitudinal seams on the lower, west of the stem indicate that the tree is reacting to internal cracks that commonly precede shear failure. Located at the branch/stem interface of the lowest lateral branch extending east are the remnants of the decay fungus Chicken of the woods (*Laetiporous sulphureous*). A total of seven drill tests were undertaken at the locations identified on the attached drawing no. 8584-D2-Resistograph. Drill tests around the base of the tree revealed the presence of significant decay. Given the extent of decay present in the lower stem, its size and its location within a high target area, it is not considered reasonable to retain this tree. Its removal and replacement is therefore considered to be the most appropriate management option.

Taking the above into consideration, it is recommended a section '211' notice (Conservation Area Notification) is submitted to the Local Planning Authority that includes the following specification to **fell Poplar (T002) and Willow (T013)**; within three weeks of the date of this letter. This tree work notification will also include work specified following the initial survey 8481-TS H&S-Christchurch Quay.

I trust the above will be of assistance. Should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Liz Beckett

Arboricultural Consultant – Southern Office

SUMMARY OF PATHOGENS

Name: Honey Fungus (<i>Armillaria mellea</i>)	
Symptoms/Damage Type:	<p>Symptoms of the disease are toadstools which appear between July and December but commonly disappear by October with the autumn frosts. The cap is up to 15cm diameter and yellowish or tawny in colour, the stalk is usually up to 15cm high with a thick whitish to yellow cottony ring and they occur in clusters on stumps, roots, trunk bases and occasionally higher up the stem. Affected wood is initially stained, and then a soft wet brown rot develops which eventually becomes fibrous, stringy and white, often mixed with flaky white material. The rot rarely develops more than 50cm above ground level and sometimes is virtually confined to the roots. There may be dark-zone lines in the wood surrounding the most badly affected parts and often flat white sheets of fungal mycelium growth and sometimes masses of blackish-brown strands develop beneath the bark. Black, rounded bootlace like strands (rhizomorphs) can often be found among the soil around affected plants. Despite the apparently distinct symptoms, the diagnosis of Honey fungus attack is not always easy. The toadstools are only present in the autumn and do not always occur then, even on badly diseased trees. The bootlace like strands are not always easy to detect in the soil and similar bodies may be formed by other fungi.</p>
Consequence:	<p>This is an extremely serious pathogen recorded on almost all woody plants and several herbaceous species causing decay of the roots and lower stem and eventual death. This renders trees and shrubs liable to windthrow or breakage.</p>
Control Measures:	<p>Treatment of the disease is extremely difficult. Once infected a tree cannot be cured of Honey fungus and the only effective procedure to limit its spread to others is the prompt removal of the diseased individual, together with its entire root system and as much as possible of the surrounding soil. Other methods such as trenches and other barriers together with the application of preparations based on phenolic emulsions can be used, but application must be done on an annual basis and cannot be relied upon at all times in all soil types. Future planting on the site should be of trees regarded to be sufficiently resistant to succeed on infected sites, such as Ash, Beech, Box, Douglas Fir, False Acacia, Hawthorn, Holly, Larch, Laurel, Lime, Silver Firs, Tree of Heaven and Yews. Recently experiments have been undertaken with natural controls including the use of other fungi to remove potential host deadwood from the environment however results are not yet conclusive.</p>

Name: Sulphur Fungus (<i>Laetiporus sulphureus</i>)	
Alternative or common names: Chicken of the woods	
Symptoms/Damage Type:	This occurs on a range of both broad-leaved and coniferous trees, but is particularly common on <i>Quercus</i> , <i>Castanea</i> and <i>Taxus</i> . In the last named species it is by far the commonest decay fungus. Another quite frequent host is <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> . In the early stages of decay a yellow or red dis-colouration develops in the wood, and this changes to a rich red-brown as the decay advances. In advanced decay, the wood develops cubical cracking and is very brittle. A yellowish or whitish leathery sheet of fungal mycelium often fills the cracks. Decay is usually confined to the heartwood, which it enters via pruning wounds or broken branches. In some cases, it is found in the stem base and in major roots.
Consequence:	The fungus develops slowly and may persist for many years in large trees leading to hollowing of the stem and potential stem breakage.
Control Measures:	Depending on the degree or distribution of decay it may be necessary to fell the host tree. Full assessment of decay should be undertaken as many trees survive for a considerable time following infection.