



Christchurch Town Council

Old Town Hall
30 High Street
Christchurch
BH23 1AY

Community Committee Agenda

Tuesday, 31 August 2021, 6.00pm

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the **Christchurch Town Council** to be held at Homelands Hall, Kings Avenue, Christchurch, BH23 1NA on **Tuesday, 31 August 2021 at 6.00pm.**

Membership:

Chairman: Cllr A Coulton

Vice Chairman: Cllr G R Jarvis

Cllr Mrs S Bungey

Cllr V Charrett

Cllr L Dedman

Cllr C A Gardiner

Cllr W Grace

Cllr S McCormack

Cllr Mrs S Spittle

The business to be transacted is set out overleaf

Daniel Lucas
Town Clerk

24 August 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 29 June 2021 (copy attached)

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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. Trees at the Quomps

For information concerning re-planting.

Cllr Coulton

7. Notice boards at Druiitt Gardens and Old Town Hall which may need Listed Building Consent.

RECOMMENDATION: 1) To delegate to the Town Clerk to investigate the planning possibility of a notice board to be affixed to

Verbal report

the Old Town Hall which is sympathetic and in-keeping with the listed building with BCP Council. 2) To update and re-locate the Druitt Gardens Noticeboard at Wick Lane entrance to a new site in Druitt Gardens to be confirmed.

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| <p>8. Tables & Chairs & 'A' Boards – Highways Act 1980</p> | <p>Cllr Coulton</p> |
| <p>9. Community Speed Indicator Device (SID) – Sopers Lane Christchurch</p> <p>To update Members on concerns raised by a resident for speeding along Sopers Lane and the recent response received from BCP Road Safety Team.</p> | <p>10 – 12 &
Appendices
1a, 1b & 2</p> |
| <p>10. Avon and Friars Cliff Beaches -Seaweed</p> | <p>Cllr Spittle</p> |
| <p>11. Christmas Lights</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee creates a Task & Finish Group comprising of no more than 5 members of Community Committee to oversee and facilitate the work of Officers concerning this matter.</p> | <p>Verbal report</p> |
| <p>12. Druitt Gardens</p> <p>Members to receive an update from Cllr Coulton on the Friends of Druitt Gardens' proposed works during the autumn months and budget requirements. Both the Town Clerk and Cllr Coulton having discussed with an elector/Friend of Druitt Garden about progressing the plans and Council resources required.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) A post and rail fence be installed at the boundary running along the North-East to South-West and adjacent to a neighbouring property and a budget of £4,500 (exc VAT) be set-aside for this. That the Town Clerk be authorised to discuss with the neighbours any concerns about location and position of the fence;2) Ground Elder clearance takes place in this area which shall require specialist contractors and a budget of £2,500 (exc VAT) be allocated for this work;3) Fees for hire and delivery of machinery such as rotavators be included £300 (exc VAT);4) Replacement Tree planting is required following 3 trees which have been felled (1 the subject of Tree Works notification: 8/21/0609/REG14 – Holm Oak adjacent to the Creedy Path) and the further loss of a Sycamore during | <p>Verbal report</p> |

inclement weather adjacent to the Green Man Tree. Further the Friends of Druitt Gardens have been approached by the Women's Institute and a resident who have requested x2 commemorative trees. In response x6 Common Oaks be purchased to replace these losses at a cost of £100 per tree (exc delivery and VAT) and £100 for tree stakes/straps (£700 exc VAT and delivery). That the Town Clerk discuss with the WI and the resident of reducing Council costs by way of benefactor contributions for these 2 trees;

- 5) That a Crab Apple tree that is seriously damaged by the path between Warne's areas 3 and 4 be replaced and a budget of £200 be set-aside for this replacement (exc VAT and delivery).
- 6) To increase pollinators in the Gardens more wildflowers, small shrubs and bulbs are required. Warne's Area 3 is currently open grassland and has a good display of spring Crocus, Snow Drop and Daffodil, but after this period no real attractors. Working with the Friends of Druitt Gardens a plan is currently being compiled to detail an approach to this area and neighbouring areas in terms of wildflower planting. It is estimated that a budget of £1,500 (exc VAT) be set aside for this work.

Total Budget to be ear-marked = £9,700 (exc VAT and Delivery charges).

13. Tuttons Well – Guide Hut Culvert

RECOMMENDATION: That members consider the works required to clear the culvert and resolve accordingly.

Cllr Jarvis
(pictures to follow)

14. Access to BCP Departments

Cllr Coulton

15. Allotment Complaint received by a resident of Christchurch (Exempt)

Appendix 3
(exempt)

Exempt to consider passing a resolution to exclude the press and public pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the matter relating to the personal information of the matter relating to living individuals

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 29 June 2021 at 6.00pm at Homelands Hall, Kings Avenue, Christchurch, BH23 1NA

Present:-

Chairman: Cllr A E Coulton

Vice-Chairman: Cllr G R Jarvis

Present: Cllr Mrs S Bungey, Cllr V Charrett, Cllr C A Gardiner, Cllr S McCormack and Cllr Mrs S Spittle.

Apologies: Cllr L Dedman and Cllr W Grace.

Officers present: Daniel Lucas, Town Clerk
Susan Roxby, Democratic Services Officer

Members of the Public present: 7

Members of the Press present: 0

58. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

59. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meetings of held on 16 February 2021, 31 March 2021, 13 April 2021, and extraordinary meetings held on 23 April 2021 and 17 June 2021 were agreed and signed as an accurate record subject to:

Cllr Jarvis upon answering questions from the Town Clerk confirmed and clarified that her declaration of interest made on 23 April 2021 was incorrect. Cllr Jarvis explained that she is simply a member of Christchurch Citizens Association and apologised for the error.

Minute no. 294 on 23 April 2021 (Public Participation) to be amended to read 'a Trustee of DrUITT Hall Community Association.'

Cllr Spittle joined the meeting at 6.03pm.

60. Public Participation

2 electors read statements to Members relating to minute number 62. (Druitt Hall).

61. Public Questions

There were no questions from the public on this occasion.

62. Druitt Hall

The Town Clerk submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'A' and survey report as Appendix 'B' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members had 2 Survey reports to consider which approach the Council should take for maintenance/repair or rebuild options.

A trustee of Druitt Hall Community Association (DHCA) raised concerns that there were further costs to be considered. He stated that the roof was sound and not leaking and there was no asbestos in the building and the remainder of building was in a robust condition. The Trustees were committed to maintaining the hall and would like the funding for the cost of refurbishing the windows considered, and hoped the Council would show support by granting funding to continue the Hall's use. He raised further concerns as to how the Town Council would service a loan for a new building.

An elector stated that Druitt Hall was an established town centre hall and raised concerns about the hall needing replacement. He felt that the Town Council should visit the hall to see the volunteers at work painting and maintaining the hall at no cost to the Council. He felt that the considerable amount of borrowing required by Town Council to replace the hall and to rebuild with a 2-storey new hall was not the answer. He stated that the Town Centre strategy envisaged glazing in of the lower arches of the Town Hall and he suggested this be invested to provide office space.

Mr Elcock stated that Druitt Hall was in a good state of repair and needed to be maintained and would be fit for purposes for up to 30 years.

Members considered that the hall was loved by residents and raised concerns that the community could not do without the use of the building for 2 years during any rebuilding.

Cllr Mrs Spittle proposed a motion that the windows be refurbished, this motion was seconded by Cllr Mrs Bungey.

RESOLVED that the Council approves the refurbishment of Druitt Hall windows and the cost taken from the £40,000 earmarked in reserves for the refurbishment.

RECOMMENDED to Full Council the replacement of Druitt Hall roof in principle and the extension of the 30-year lease.

Voting: unanimous

63. BCP grass cutting - open spaces.

Members were updated on BCP Council's changes to the way some green spaces across the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole area were managed.

Ward Councillors were invited to provide feedback from residents about problem areas and report to the Town Clerk to register on a spreadsheet to be considered at a future Community Committee at the end of the summer.

RESOLVED that the Town Council:

- a) welcomed the opportunity to comment on BCP's Green Strategy and will monitor and update on Facebook; and**
- b) delegate to the Town clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-chairman to request mowing of Town Council sites in line with the Service Level agreement.**

Voting: unanimous

64. Scotts Hill Lane Playpark

Cllr McCormack updated members on the lease position for Scotts Hill Lane Playpark.

The Town Clerk informed Members that the Town Council did not have the budget to maintain the Playpark and that the precept would need to be increased to fund the maintenance.

RECOMMENDED to Full Council that The Town Council:

- a) step-in to the Scotts Hill Lane Playpark lease position currently occupied by BCP Council; and**
- b) writes to BCP Council conveying the strong desire and wish to take responsibility for the site; and**
- c) considers allocation from Community Infrastructure Levy a capital expenditure project to bring Scotts Hill Lane Play Park back into safe use.**

Voting: unanimous

65. Traffic in Sopers Lane

Two letters received from a resident were submitted, copies of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendices 'C' and 'D' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were informed of concerns raised by a resident for speeding along Sopers Lane.

The Town Clerk informed Members that a Speed Indicator Device in Sopers Lane could be considered as a deterrent to speeding and that the Community Speed Safety Partnership could get the public involved in this initiative.

A member stated that speed humps should be considered, another member felt that the school and residents should be consulted if speed humps were to be considered.

RESOLVED that the Town Council approach BCP Council requesting the installation of a Speed Indicator Device in Sopers lane.

Voting: unanimous

66. Coring Survey in Druitt Gardens

A report was submitted, a copy of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendices 'E' and 'F' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members noted the Notice of the proposed works and rationale for coring at Druitt Gardens by Christchurch Antiquarians.

RESOLVED that Members noted the Notice of the proposed works and rationale for coring at Druitt Gardens by Christchurch Antiquarians.

67. Strategic Plan- quarter 1 report

A report was submitted, a copy of which had been circulated to each member and a copy of which appears as Appendices 'G' and 'F' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were asked to consider the Council's Strategic Plan achievements for quarter 1.

RESOLVED that the Strategic Plan- quarter 1 report be noted.

68. Zyair Circus

Members were informed of a complaint from a resident concerning the Zyair circus and the impact it had upon residents who lived close to where the event was held.

RESOLVED that the Zyair Circus complaint be noted following Ward Councillors' intervention and Council notes to invite residents to a future Planning and Regulatory Committee should there be future approaches from the Circus to be held on the Quomps.

69. BCP Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy – Parks and Open Spaces

Members were asked to consider BCP Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy and resolve a response from the Council accordingly.

RESOLVED that the Town Council delegated to the Town Clerk to write to BCP Council with the following response:

Promote more biodiversity initiatives in parks, to consider and provide more thought to the concessions and/or commercialisation of open spaces; and to celebrate the diversity and different types of parks/open spaces in Christchurch.

Voting: unanimous

The meeting ended at 8.20pm

CHAIRMAN

Agenda Item 9

Sent: 08 July 2021 14:05

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

Cc: Road Safety <road.safety@bcpcouncil.gov.uk>; Highways <highways.highways@bcpcouncil.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: Community SID Sopers Lane Christchurch pt2422

Importance: High

Dear Mr Daniel Lucas

c/o Christchurch Town Council

I would like to thank you for your email dated 7 July 2021 relating to matters discussed at the Christchurch Town Council meeting held on the 29th June under Agenda Item 9, following receipt of a letter to Councillors dated 14 September 2020. I trust that the following response is of assistance and interest.

I note the specific concerns brought to the attention of the Council with regards vehicle speeds on Sopers Lane as raised by local residents and the request that various safety measures be introduced.

While I can understand that residents are concerned about the speed of traffic, I would like to respond that 7-day speed surveys carried out in Sopers Lane and Willow Drive in February 2021 in fact do not indicate that speeds are excessive on these roads compared with the rest of the Council area. I attach three separate spreadsheets to evidence this for your perusal.

Please note that there is a summary of the survey and a location map on the first "Cvr" or cover tab of each spreadsheet, then separate tabs for traffic volumes and finally speeds. These data indicate that in Sopers Lane for example, (2608) average speeds are between 27.9 and 28.2 mph depending on direction of travel. While a proportion of vehicles are recorded as exceeding the limit, this is the case on virtually every urban road across the BCP area and is (unfortunately) not unusual. The 85th Percentile figure is used by the Police to determine the level of speed enforcement that might be required in a road. Throughout most of the day the 85thile figure is around 34mph which is lower than the 10% +2mph enforcement level at which speeding violations would normally be detected. The results are broadly similar across all three surveys.

While I am happy for these surveys to be shared with your Councillors they should include the above commentary about how these results are typical across the conurbation

Similarly the historic injury accident records indicate that we cannot justify introducing traffic calming measures or introduce a 20mph limit here. We prioritise road safety requests on the basis of actual casualty evidence. There are currently 127 locations around BCP where there is a significant casualty accident record over the most recent 5 year period for which data is available. Our 'intervention level' is individual locations where there are seven or more casualty accidents within a 50m radius (i.e. hotspot or

cluster site), however the current level of funding only allows us to treat a small number of these cluster sites each year. I would point out that these thresholds relate to locations where injury accidents are occurring; we do not keep records of crashes where there is damage to property or other vehicles because there is no requirement to report these to the Department for Transport.

There are several reasons for this approach:

- Traffic calming is very expensive to install and we are only given limited funds for schemes that will show a casualty reduction.
- To be fair to everyone, we must be able to demonstrate why we have introduced traffic calming in one road/area and not in another and we use accident records as the indicator for this.
- Traffic calming is not always welcomed by the residents and we can only defend a scheme against those residents that opposed it by showing its safety benefits. That is often debatable unless you can show an objective measure like accident reduction.
- The calming features could present a potential hazard in themselves; if we introduce them in a road where there have been no accidents, it is possible that the accident records could go up.
- In roads where we have introduced physical traffic calming we get frequently complaints about noise and vibrations from vehicles that are being driven over the humps at speed.
- We can only justify introducing a 20mph zone in an area where there is likely to be a casualty reduction benefit and this won't be possible if there is no problem in the first place

I have investigated the casualty accident history in Sopers Lane and Willow Drive and there have only been 3 casualty collisions throughout the entire length of Sopers Lane and Willow Drive (2 in Sopers Lane and 1 Willow Drive) from the Department for Transport verified data for the five year period 2015-2019. Whilst I understand the concerns about the speed of traffic in your road this location does not qualify as a cluster site. Unfortunately therefore, this location is not sufficiently highly ranked to justify any engineering intervention, like traffic calming or camera purely on the grounds of road safety.

More information about how the Council investigates and treats casualty hotspots can be found here:

<https://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/travelandtransport/TransportDocs/Road-Safety-Report-Final-Published-2021.pdf>

Concerned local residents are able to take direct action themselves by setting up a Community Speed watch team in the area. More details can be found on the same Dorset Road Safe Website:

<https://www.dorsetroadsafe.org.uk/enforcement-operations/community-speed-watch/>

Finally I can confirm that BCP Council are seeking to procure additional mobile Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS signs) which are moved around a number of sites

across the Town. These VAS signs are battery powered and are moved around on a monthly basis to areas where we receive speed complaints. I am happy to consider and assess Sopers Lane and Willow Drive as a potential site for a future VAS as suggested by the Christchurch Town Council, but please be aware that we've already received at least 70 requests for these VAS across BCP and we only have a limited budget for installing new signs. I am unable, therefore, to say exactly where a VAS might be situated until an assessment has been carried out or when it will be deployed.

I appreciate that this reply does not provide a more immediate intervention to the request from residents however I hope that it is of interest to your Council Members.

please feel free to contact me should you require further information or clarification.



Kind Regards

**Road Safety Team Leader
Transport and Engineering**

bcpcouncil.gov.uk

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 hands  face  space