



Christchurch Town Council

Old Town Hall
30 High Street
Christchurch
BH23 1AY

Community Committee Agenda

Thursday, 5 January 2023, 6.00pm

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the **Christchurch Town Council** to be held at Christchurch Library, Room 14, High Street, Christchurch, BH23 1AW **on Thursday, 5 January 2023 at 6.00pm.**

Membership:

Chairman: Cllr S J McCormack

Vice Chairman: Cllr Mrs S Bungey

Cllr V Charrett

Cllr A Coulton

Cllr C A Gardiner

Cllr W Grace

Cllr G R Jarvis

Cllr R D Luscombe

Cllr Mrs S Spittle

The business to be transacted is set out overleaf

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V Ricketts'.

Vanessa Ricketts FSLCC
Interim Town Clerk

22 December 2022

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 meetings of the Community Committee held on 25 October 2022 and 13 December 2022 (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. Update on the Quomps Task and Finish Group

Members to receive a verbal update and the notes of the Quomps Task and Finish Group's meeting held on 21 November 2022.

12 – 16

7. Partnership with Christchurch and District Sports Council

Members to consider engaging with other Parish Councils (Hurn, Burton and Winkton, Highcliffe and Walkford) to see whether grants and additional Members and volunteers could be forthcoming between all Councils to support Christchurch and District Sports Council going forward.

8. Update on Community Grants Scheme Applications

Members to receive a verbal update regarding the Community Grants Scheme applications.

9. Defibrillators

Members to discuss the installation/use of a defibrillator that was purchased by the Christchurch Carnival Committee. Cllr Charrett to provide additional information.

10. Legacy Path at Gundimore Beach

Members to receive a verbal update from the Mayor regarding the discussions held at the BCP meeting of 16 November 2022.

11. Installation of a Bridge at Watermans Park

Members to receive a verbal update from the Chairman regarding the installation of a bridge at Watermans Park.

12. Update from Christmas Lights Working Group

Members to receive a verbal update from the Chairman regarding the Christmas Lights.

13. Minor Maintenance Jobs and Disposal of Items at Town Hall

Members to receive a verbal update from the Chairman regarding the maintenance jobs and the list of items to be disposed at Town Hall.

14. Update on the Barrack Road Recreation Ground Pavilion Demolition Progress

Members to receive a verbal update from the Chairman about the demolition process of the Barrack Road Recreation Ground Pavilion.

15. Tuttons Well

Members to consider the flooding issues at Tuttons Well.

16. Christchurch Food Festival BID Application

At the recommendation of the Resources Committee (originally at the request of the Mayor), Members to consider a proposal from the BID to run an event in the High Street alongside the Food Festival.

Verbal update

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 25 October 2022 at 6.00pm at Christchurch Library,
Room 14, High Street, Christchurch, BH23 1AW

Present:-

Chairman: Cllr S McCormack

Vice-Chairman: Cllr Mrs S Bungey

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

Apologies: Cllr V Charrett

Officers present: Zeynep Aktuna, Democratic Services Officer
Vanessa Ricketts, Interim Town Clerk

Members of the
Public present: 5

Members of the
Press present: 0

178. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

179. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2022 were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

Voting: Unanimous

Proposed: Cllr Coulton

Seconded: Cllr Spittle

180. Public Participation

A member of the public made a statement regarding the intensity of the events held at the Quomps during the summer times and expressed his concerns over the sound level of these events. He pointed out that there should be an 'equitable balance' for residents, community, and the visitors of the Quomps and suggested there should be a clear view of the type and number of events that could take place at the Quomps and that reasonable licensing conditions should be available to all parties. He underlined the effectiveness of the Christchurch Borough Council's policy in managing the events at the Quomps.

A further member of the public made a statement relating to gas monitoring at Stanpit Recreation Ground, a copy of which appears as Appendix 'A' to these Minutes in the signed Minute Book. He pointed out the presence of landfill gases at Stanpit Recreation Ground which led BCP Council to ban certain activities at this recreation ground. He suggested that the Council should seek a second opinion on this matter by obtaining the up-to-date data and reports regarding the landfill gases.

181. Public Questions

There were no questions from the public on this occasion.

182. Events at the Quomps

Members discussed the frequent use of the Quomps for various events during the summer times and considered concerns of the occupiers of neighbouring residential properties over the sound level of the music events.

Members agreed with the public statement made regarding the intensity of the events and underlined the importance of keeping the Quomps as a suitable place for all sorts of activities (walking, running, resting, playing games, picnicking etc). It is discussed that there should be a balance between different type of activities at the Quomps.

It is noted that the Christchurch Borough Council had a policy regarding the events taking place in the Quomps and that the Town Council does not currently have an events policy or any other document to manage the events taking place at the Quomps. Members agreed that the Council should adopt an events policy that deals with the matter with its integrity by considering various aspects such as:

- The quality, levels, and limits of the sound
- The number and type of events
- The availability of a schedule of all events for all community

It is emphasized that this policy should be prepared in coordination with the neighbouring residents and the unitary council.

The Interim Town Clerk advised that the Council could query the old policy with the BCP Council to see whether this policy could be re-adopted. The Interim Town Clerk suggested, alternatively, that the Council could prepare a new policy from scratch by closely engaging with the occupiers of neighbouring residential properties.

Members underlined that this matter should be addressed promptly. Members agreed to set up a Task and Finish Group to put the matter on the table with the neighbouring residents and the BCP Council representatives.

RESOLVED that:

- a) the Council contacts the BCP Council to seek the old policy and considers using it as the basis of the new policy;**
- b) the Council sets up a Task and Finish Group that would work closely with the neighbouring residents and BCP Council;**
- c) the Task and Finish Group be comprised of the following 3 Members:
Cllr Bungey
Cllr Coulton
Cllr McCormack**
- d) the Task and Finish Group finalizes its work in 4 weeks;**
- e) the substitutions within the Task and Finish Group be allowed.**

Voting: Unanimous

Proposed: Cllr Bungey

Seconded: Cllr Spittle

183. Legacy Path at Gundimore Beach

Members considered the current state of the Legacy Path and expressed concerns over the challenges that the people with walking difficulties experiencing to access the beach.

Members agreed that the unitary council should be responsible for the maintenance and repair of the path as well as the provision of adequate pathways to enable safe and equitable accessibility. It is discussed that the Council should put more pressure on BCP to undertake the necessary work.

A Member outlined the difficulty of the area and highlighted that the path was highly exposed to the effects of the wind which brings lots of sand and makes the path difficult to keep clean and tidy.

Members considered that roll-out pathways would be an appropriate solution to improve accessibility and to encourage more people to come to the beach. Members considered that the Council should first consider this matter with the BCP and then, if necessary, would further investigate the quotes for roll-outs to be undertaken by BCP's equipment.

The Interim Town Clerk informed Members that if the Council decides to consider undertaking these works, the matter should be taken to the budget setting meeting and that the quotes should be elaborately evaluated to have a sound idea about the budget.

The Interim Town Clerk informed members that she and the Mayor would meet up with the BCP on 16th November and proposed to bring forward this matter in that meeting.

It is AGREED that the Mayor and the Interim Town Clerk take the matter to the meeting that would be held with BCP on 16 November and report back to the Committee.

Voting: Unanimous

Proposed: Cllr McCormack

Seconded: Cllr Luscombe

184. Community Grants

Members considered to open the window for the first half of Community Grant applications to be received.

RESOLVED that the Council

a) opens the window for Community Grant Applications to be received for 1 month with effect from the date of the Community Committee meeting held on 25 October 2022; and

b) delegates to the Interim Town Clerk to advertise on the Council's website that the window for applications for Community Grants is open for 1 month

Voting: Unanimous

Proposed: Cllr Coulton

Seconded: Cllr Bungey

185. Byelaw options to stop antisocial behaviour in the Fountain Roundabout Underpass

The Interim Town Clerk informed Members that the bylaws were being superseded by Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) and that there was a unitary-wide PSPO that covered the anti-social behaviour such as loitering and street drinking and that it could be enforced by the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) Officers. The Interim Town Clerk also advised Members about the additional measures soon being put in place in the underpass including additional CCTV, increased lighting, and mirrors at both end of the underpass.

The Interim Town Clerk highlighted that there was not a CSAS officer in Christchurch. She advised that the Council could put some pressure on BCP to budget for a CSAS Officer in Christchurch or, as an alternative, the Council could pay for a CSAS officer dedicated to Christchurch. The Interim Town Clerk advised that the Council would pay around £40,000 for a CSAS officer if they agree to hire a dedicated officer for Christchurch.

It is discussed that CSAS officer would deal with many other problems including graffiti, vandalism, street-begging, drinking and other various forms of anti-social behaviour.

A Member highlighted the increasing graffiti and vandalism acts in the town centre and underlined that the council should be proactive to prevent these activities to make sure the safety and the heritage of the town is well maintained.

It is RECOMMENDED that the Council considers adding a CSAS officer into the budget during the budget setting for 2023-2024.

Voting: Unanimous

Proposed: Cllr McCormack

Seconded: Cllr Jarvis

186. Defibrillators

The Interim Town Clerk advised that the item was requested by Cllr Charrett who was not present during the meeting. The Interim Town Clerk suggested that the item be deferred to the next meeting with the presence of Cllr Charrett.

It is agreed that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

Voting: Unanimous

Proposed: Cllr McCormack

Seconded: Cllr Grace

187. Update about the Neighbourhood Plan

Members received a verbal update from the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group's Chairman about the undergoing works of the Working Group.

The Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG) informed Members about the public consultations that would take place on 5th November (Saturday) and 7th November (Monday) under the arches of the Old Town Hall. The Chairman reported that the Working Group was making good progress and was busy working on various themes including Open and Green Spaces, Design and Heritage, Getting About, Town Centre and Place Making. The Chairman highlighted that the Working Group was in close contact with the BCP and that the Group was welcoming BCP officers to the meetings to exchange knowledge and experience. He also informed Members about the ongoing Design Code and Shopfront Guidance studies undertaken by external consultants (Design West and AECOM respectively). He stated that the proposals for car park and traffic management consultancy would be brought forward into the next Resources Agenda.

Members questioned the relation of the Neighbourhood Plan with the emerging Local Plan. The Chairman explained that the Working Group was carefully considering the BCP's emerging Local Plan in close contact with the responsible officers. He confirmed it was expected that the Christchurch Neighbourhood Plan would influence the emerging Local Plan.

The meeting ended at 19.25pm

CHAIRMAN

CHRISTCHURCH TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 December 2022 at 6.00pm at Christchurch
Library, Room 14, High Street, Christchurch, BH23 1AW

Present:-

Chairman:

Vice-Chairman:

Present:

Apologies: Cllr Mrs S Bungey, Cllr V Charrett, Cllr A E Coulton, Cllr C A Gardiner, Cllr W Grace, Cllr G R Jarvis, Cllr R D Luscombe, Cllr S McCormack and Cllr Mrs S Spittle.

Officers present: Zeynep Aktuna, Democratic Services Officer
Vanessa Ricketts, Interim Town Clerk

Members of the
Public present:

Members of the
Press present:

247. Inquorate Meeting

With no Members present, the Interim Town Clerk declared that the meeting was inquorate and therefore could not go ahead.

The meeting ended at 6.02 pm

CHAIRMAN

Notes of the Quomps Task & Finish Group meeting

held at Old Town Hall on 21 November 2022 at 10.30am

Attendees

Councillors: Cllr S Bungey, Cllr A Coulton and Cllr S McCormack

Residents: Adrian Dwyer, Karen Edser, Cllr Lane, Jane Lane, and Mike Webber

BCP Council: Tom Powell and Jon Weaver

BID: Christina Pengelly

Christchurch Residents Association: John Pendrill

Event Organizers: Philip Lowery and Elliot Walker

Other invitees: Cllr P Hall

Officers: Zeynep Aktuna (Democratic Services Officer), James Atkinson (Project Officer) and Vanessa Ricketts (Interim Town Clerk)

Item	
1	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Sarah Traynor and Cllr M Cox</p>
2	<p>Notes of previous meeting</p>
3	<p>Matters arising from the previous minutes</p>
4	<p>Christchurch Borough Council's 'Use of Open Spaces Policy'</p> <p>Attendees considered the current restrictions on CBC's Use of Open Spaces Policy. The Interim Town Clerk (ITC) advised that the Policy was quite restrictive due to the Covenants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>No more than 35% of days in any calendar month to be occupied by events.</i> - <i>No events are to run consecutively - there is to be at least 5 clear days between events.</i> - <i>No event to be more than 10 days in length.</i> - <i>No buildings on the land except a Bandstand and three shelters (Temporary tents allowed for periods not exceeding 12 days a year)</i> <p>The Use of Open Spaces Policy identifies the areas where commercial uses (category H) could be held: Stanpit, Arena (Two Riversmeet), Barrack Road (available only for Funfair for no more than 2 weeks in any calendar year – no other commercial events),</p>

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	<p>Bernard's Mead, Iford Bridge Land (B and C), Mudeford Wood Recreation Ground and Christchurch Quay.</p> <p>The Council to formulate an equitable policy based on CBC's Use of Open Spaces Policy. The new policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To identify the events to be prioritized in the Quomps - To identify the events that can be moved to other locations (Barrack Road Recreation Ground, High Street, Stanpit, Mudeford Quay, Watermans Park etc.) - To provide clear definitions regarding different type of events - To identify the communication channels to be used to inform the residents about the events (website, social media, noticeboard, letter dropping etc) - Calendar of events to be updated and published on the website and social media - BCP to ensure that events are managed within the License
<p>5</p>	<p>Ideas and proposals</p> <p>Residents present at the meeting raised concerns over:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication: The lack of effective communication with the residents regarding the events in the Quomps. - Compliance with the License - events' failing to comply with the license. - Clashing of the events - too many events at the same time. - Scale of events and lack of clear/quiet zones. - Noise/vibration generated by the events & noise from people attending/leaving the events. - Generators' impact (noise, smell, smoke) - Outdoor cinema <p>Food Festival</p> <p>Attendees considered the idea of moving the Food Festival from the Quomps to the High Street.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Philip Lowery advised attendees about the organizers' concerns over holding the Food Festival in the High Street. He explained that significant crowding, the volume of stalls, the high volume of visitors and the lack of exit rooms from the High Street would make High Street less appropriate and less safe for the Food Festival. He added that the BCP's licensing and safety management aspects made it clear that the High Street was not appropriate/sustainable to host the event. - Philip Lowery suggested that making the Food Festival smaller would bring some financial sustainability questions. Considering the Food Festival's role in raising the profile of

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	<p>Christchurch, Philip Lowery suggested that it would be massively retrograde step for Christchurch to take it back to the High Street.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Karen Edser raised concerns due to the length of the events (4 days) and stated that the organizers did not contact the residents regarding the Food Festival. Philip Lowery said he was sorry as the residents felt that way as they did their best to work with the residents and they dropped letters to all the neighbouring houses. He stated they would be happy to further communicate with the residents to understand what they can do to make it better for the future events. – Adrien Dwyer stated that the Food Festival changed in nature in the recent years and raised a concern over the increasing dominance/prevalence of the drink/alcohol stalls on the food festival. Philip Lowery highlighted that they were trying hard to limit the alcohol and to make sure that the alcohol was not overriding the events. <p>Pre-Pandemic Model</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cllr Lane suggested that we should go back to the pre-pandemic model where things were much easier, simpler, and more acceptable to local residents. He referred to a day where there were three events going on at the same time: Funfair, Yoga, and the Car Show. Cllr Lane clarified that he did not have an issue with the Yoga, but he disapproved the three events going on at the same time. – The Interim Town Clerk suggested that the CBC’s Policy would effectively address the “Pre-pandemic model”. <p>BCP Council’s role on the events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Jon Weaver acknowledged that 2022 (post-pandemic period) was overloaded with events and that Festival Coast Live (and the screens) were additional activities which would not happen in the next year. – Cllr Bungey highlighted the uniqueness of Christchurch and its difference to Bournemouth and Poole and stated that not every event would be appropriate for Christchurch. Cllr McCormack suggested other sites in Christchurch could be identified to move some of the events from the Quomps. Elliott Walker mentioned that moving the events from the Quomps could move the problem to the other areas. – Jon Weaver stated that BCP was sensitive to the fact that Christchurch was different and smaller. He explained that the BCP was trying to distribute the events in BCP in an equitable and balanced way. He also highlighted that they used to

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	<p>receive complaints from Christchurch residents when they did not put the screens in Christchurch.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Jon Weaver confirmed that BCP would not want various events to clash – and understood and respected residents’ frustration. – Tom Powell stated that the Food Festival, Stompin’ on the Quomps and Christchurch Carnival were the only events scheduled for the next year and that it would be entirely up to the Town Council to decide which events they want to keep in the Quomps. – Jon Weaver mentioned the Kings Park example they were working closely with the Councillors about the type of events that would be welcomed by the community. – Jon Weaver advised attendees about BCP’s on-call system, available 24/7, which was dedicated to investigating issues/complaints regarding the events and that they would act at the moment they receive the complaint. <p>Events’ role on town centre’s vitality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cllr Coulton underlined that the events were critical in bringing people to Christchurch and in keeping the local economy alive. – Christina Pengelly supported this view and highlighted that Christchurch must be treated the same as Bournemouth and Poole. She highlighted that Christchurch businesses did support the events happening in Christchurch. She stated that moving the events form the centre would be detrimental for the shops and local economy. <p>Attendees also discussed other issues such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The musicians (‘buskers’) performing without any license & enforcement issues – The need to review the permitted decibel level – Generators impact on the residents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The use of silent generators ○ Noise, smokes and smell coming generators – The use of Bandstand & supporting brass bands to play on the Bandstand – Planters around the bandstand that prevent people seeing the bandstand <p>Next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CTC to draft the policy based on CBC’s Policy – CTC to circulate the draft policy to the Members of this group – CTC to consider the draft policy on Full Council Committee (of 16 January 2023) for approval/consideration

Item	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- CTC to send the approved Policy to BCP- During the reviewal of the policy, BCP to hold the event applications (as policy in review)- BCP ensures that all applications come to CTC. <p>Meeting closed 12.21pm</p>