



Date 6 March 2025
Location Highcliffe Sailing Club at 7 pm

Present	Steve Alves	Chairman
	Paul De Jonghe	Vice Chair
	Louise Heybourne	Secretary & Environment Rep.
	Linda Lawrence	Treasurer
	Sara Webb	Head Road Rep (apologies)
	Meg Ward	Membership Secretary
	Sara Luder	Social Secretary
	Kevan Ward	Web Master
	Charles Newman	Forum Editor
	Cllr Stuart Perry	Christchurch Town Council (CTC)
Apologies	Sarah Webb	Head Road Rep
	Cllr Paul Hilliard	Bournemouth Christchurch Poole (BCP)
Guest	John Ward, All Saints Church Fund Raising Team	

1.0 Welcome and Review by Chairman

Agenda displayed electronically. All minutes available on website.

Correction to The Forum in issue 247, page 23, which went to print before the committee received notification on the **2025 Blue Flag for Friars Cliff beach** which has been sponsored by Jo & Ron from The Beach Hut Café, for which we thanked them for their support to the community

2.0 Review of 2024

- Beach Safety (zoning/buoys) – ongoing
- Off road area entrance at intersection Seaway Avenue and Penny Way – review of entrance barrier - ongoing
- Neighbourhood Plan - ongoing
- RNLI signage on beaches – lots of errors requiring corrections and has been flagged up to BCP.
- Anti-Social Behaviour Team – committee have right information for communication and contacts for future incident reporting. Cllr Perry was very supportive during the Traveller encampment.
- Launch of Heritage Boards commissioning event – FCRA Vice Chair gave a good talk attended by previous employees at the site and followed by lunch at the Sandpiper.
- Social events organised included a Chilli supper, Summer Solstice picnic, Quiz Evening at the Haven House, wine tasting at Highcliffe Sailing Club, Christmas Carols at the beach raising £360 added to Beach Hut Café fund for Macmillan.

Annual General Meeting

- Funding the Highcliffe School bird watching camera and feeder.
- Water Treatment visit by members of the committee to see the local treatment sewage works.
- Bat monitoring capability to support conservation

3.0 Action List

Water Quality - ongoing issue and FCRA have offered CH&MS to help with water testing cost but no response received to date.

Beach Safety – Ben Feeney of Seafront Services planning to carry out a beach zone trial by 1st May for water craft.

Beach Access – barrier located at bottom of Seaway is going to be repositioned to enable delivery lorries to safely park off road.

Crime Report - car stolen from the drive of a local road with a low loader, need crime number to add to the FCRA list.

Speeding in Bure Lane - down graded priority as no resident support to take any further.

Beach Maintenance - FOI request by Charles & Sara to establish the amount of money spent on our beach, not currently maintained - ongoing challenge.

4.0 Online membership report

Communication with residents inviting to sign up to Direct Debits – ongoing, but currently approx. ¼ of houses signed up.

5.0 Councillor Update – Cllr Perry, CTC

Licensing application for The Raft – lot of collaboration and the owners attended CTC planning committee. CTC has planning statutory consultation but not for licensing. The Raft have since withdrawn their application.

Draft Local Plan draft not adopted, what does that mean in terms of our neighbourhood plan? Inspectors report to be formally responded to by BCP.

Staff news, new Town Clerk, Mina Becket starting on 6 May, Deputy Town Clerk, Elizabeth Murray and Zeynep Aktuna has role as Assistant Town Clerk.

Looking After Project - combination of organisations within Christchurch and designed to bring people together, who need some assistance of some kind. Meeting in CTC library 5 April, 10 am to 4 pm.

6.0 Committee Election - Committee members stand down.

Election invite open to residents - no offers received.

Previous members offer to stand for re-election.

Annual General Meeting

Residents VOTE: **In Favour**

Vice Chair thanks:

- All residents for support and in recognition of what the Committee does.
- Sara Luder for organising social events and leading on the production of new logo. Sara also initiated the Go Cardless and Direct Debit system.
- Meg for the overhaul of the membership database and supporting new direct debit system.
- Kevan Ward for work on website and part-time gardener at Steamer Point (joke).
- Linda Lawrence taken over as Treasurer.
- Charles for accolades for Forum showing further improvements.
- Louise dual role Secretary and Environmental, the gap is still with the secretarial role do contact Steve if you can help.
- Thank Sarah Webb, in her absence, takes 1150 forums around quarterly to the Road Reps.
- Road representatives, who kindly give up their time to liaise with each road distributing forums
- Jim Brown and Team at Highcliffe Sailing Club. Adrian and helpers running bar, unsung heroes.
- Councillors, Stuart, Paul, Lesley for a productive relationship with FCRA.
- Steve Alves, who devotes an enormous amount of time behind and in front of the scene, provides a lead to the Committee.

6.0 **Finances** - Presented by Treasurer

Balance - 01/01/24		18,054
<hr/>		
Receipts	Advertising	3,132
	Subs (525 households)	2,711
	Deposit Interest	249
	Total Receipts	<hr/> 6,092
Payments	Magazine costs	4,184
	Donations	100
	Other	955
	Total Payments	<hr/> 5,239
Excess of receipts over payments		853
Balance - 31/12/24		<hr/>18,907

Annual General Meeting

Last year we made a profit to go into the reserves for purchases or donations and it is prudent planning to be able to produce a couple of forums from reserves.

7.0 Memorial Bench

2024 grant application for bench turned down by CTC, FCRA ask residents if they wish to support a “Less we forget bench”.

(a) Cancel the idea or

(b) Fully Fund - £2,106

Location – site near to heritage signs or on green.

Residents VOTE: **In Favour (b)**

8.0 FCRA Rules Amendments

Reviewed by committee. Main rules no change. Minor changes such as Year starting 1st April. Terminology changes such as officers, road wardens etc. The formal/core roles were identified. Draft emailed out to residents prior to meeting and on website re planned amendments.

Residents VOTE: **In Favour**

9.0 Social Events for 2025 – Presented by Social Secretary

1. 15 March - St Patricks Day Event, Highcliffe Sailing Club event.
2. 1 April – Bird Walk in the Nature Reserve.
3. 4 April – Coffee morning and Tombola for the Church rebuild fundraising team at The Beach Café.
4. 19 June – Summer solstice picnic (weather dependent).

10.0 FCRA Community Awards

Reflect the breadth of ways that people contribute to our community and each award winner receives a certificate and voucher for The Beach Hut Café.

Awards go to:

Mike Bird

Nominated for significant support given to a neighbour going through serious medical care, providing transport and companionship.

Marion Crawford

Volunteered to help with 2023 FCRA Carol Singing and improved quality of singing for 2024.

Sonja Ware

Hinton Admiral Station Master for going above and beyond her duties and made waiting for a train at Hinton Admiral Station a very special experience.

Phil Harris

Annual General Meeting

For the amount of time and effort that goes into maintaining verges in Seaway Avenue and providing water for the dogs.

Anne Jacobs

Has lived in Friars Cliff since 1950. Stepped up at short notice to take over FCRA Chair in 1960s and continues to support our activities to this day. Volunteers at the Regent Centre. A long member of Congregation at All Saints. Fundraising and helping to write the history of the All Saints Church.

11.0 Guest Speaker, John Ward & Team, All Saints Church Fund

John has been a resident of 13 years in Friars Road and many years ago Chair of FCRA. July 2022 All Saints Church burnt down and John has attended to ask for residents help.

John is the Chair for the fundraising group, working closely with Church Wardens and Vicar. They Commissioned a company called Church Grants, experts in getting trusts of which there are 800 trusts around the country, resulting in one pledge of 50k, one donation 14k and 5 rejections. The company provided details of local businesses for sponsors, patrons and a list of wealthy people.

In October granted re-build planning permission.

Phase 1 - Launched appeal to congregation with amounts totalling £75k so far. Now looking into the local community, for example placed collection box at local chemist.

Phase 2 - A wine tasting event at Christchurch Harbour in early February attended by Councillors and local business people. Sally put together events, 75 attending Captains Club for a lunch and speaker, Mike Andrews on Sunday 9 March. Also have quiz night planned, an event linked to smuggling with further fundraising events in the pipeline.

At the end of March out to tender for the builder and the site is being cleared. The build costs are £5-6 million. The Church has ecclesiastical insurance but need to raise between £350-400k in a year. A donation of any amount from FCRA would be wonderful. A Three-minute video was played of All Saints after the fire. The Church was built in 1869.

12.0 AOB

- Next meeting invited Sarah Rogers, Lead Officer in Licensing from BCP.
- A peaceful demonstration with regard to water quality of our rivers has been organised by CH&MS for the next BCP council meeting and the invite is extended to all residents to attend.
- Ed Turner of the Haven House Inn had planning permission to enclose the sundowner deck refused. We should/could write in to support the next application when made.

Annual General Meeting

- A35 Bypass is closed on 14 to 17 March.
- BCP Local Plan not adopted and affects the Neighbourhood Plan which has a fallback position to align policies to existing Christchurch & East Dorset 2014 document.
- June Meeting will be more interactive with residents as December, we will endeavour to toggle between formal presentations and interactive.
- Christchurch Civic Centre sell-off – A BCP asset to be sold, the sale proceeds will help to balance the budgets. The site includes paths, pedestrian routes, disabled routes, cycle routes, public access from Christchurch to Two Riversmeet, the Bowling Alley, Stanpit Marsh and beyond.
- Is the access from Two Riversmeet to Christchurch Town Centre going to be preserved? The answer is no/unclear, BCP are selling site as is. Three weeks of correspondence and no response from Millie Earl, Leader of BCP Council! OS Map of existing public right of way shown to residents. Informally for last 30 years since Civic Offices existed the public have walked down to the Marina, to the wildlife areas along the car park and now there is no access East to West through the point of sale. Have BCP informed prospective purchaser? there is a legal obligation to keep footpaths. Two Riversmeet Leisure Centre were informed 2 days before closure, 100 car park spaces out of 300 spaces gone. The area also forms part of National Cycling Sustrans Route 2.
A local walking group use the route monthly from Christchurch Quay to Stanpit Marsh - can resident email FCRA the group contact details?
- MCA - no update.

Meeting Closed 9 pm