

# Annual General Meeting



Date 19 March 2026  
Venue Highcliffe Sailing Club  
Time 7:00 pm

<b>Present</b>	Steve Alves	Chairman
	Paul De Jonghe	Vice Chair
	Linda Lawrence	Treasurer
	Meg Ward	Membership Secretary
	Sara Luder	Social Secretary
	Kevan Ward	Web Master
	Charles Newman	Forum Editor
	Cllr Paul Hilliard	Bournemouth Christchurch Poole (BCP)
	Cllr Stuart Perry	Christchurch Town Council (CTC)
	Sally Clifford	Stand-in Secretary
<b>Apologies</b>	Louise Heybourne	Environment Rep
	Cllr Lesley Dedman	Chairman BCP
	Sarah Webb	Head Road Rep

Approximately 80 people in attendance.

Before the meeting officially started, photographs of old Friar's Cliff, Highcliffe and Mundeford were shown on the screen.

## Introduction – Existing Committee

All committee members were introduced and the agenda run through.

Committee positions described and Head Road Representative role explained as Sarah Webb has stood down. Steve thanked Sarah for her diligent management of the Road Rep. network.

## Review of 2025

Achievements:

- Cleared Radome bases
- Installed memorial bench
- Installed Blue Plaque on WW2 pillbox
- Planter - more needed
- VJ day event

Grants to:

- Hengistbury Head Outdoors
- Seals
- parkrun UK
- FCRA shelter rebuild (BCP)

# Annual General Meeting

## Events:

- Tombola – All Saints
- Chilli Night
- Solstice picnic on the green
- Christmas Carols
- Persuaded BCP to do beach repair/recycle

## Local Awards (Sara Luder):

1. John Whiffen – for clearing, weeding and removing tree stumps
2. Ian Stevenson – for collecting photos, documents & maps of the local area and making available as a resource
3. Sam Stanbridge (postie) - for being caring, happy and a great support of local causes
4. Sarah and Daisy from Friar's Cliff Blue Tits – for offering inclusive community swimming group
5. Jo and Ron Smith - for Café as heart of our community, and support of local charities

## 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FCRA – recently discovered as in the magazine

Steve gave us a few events that happened in our world from 1946 – 2026 to give a taste of what was going on concurrently with FCRA.

Aerial photo of Friar's Cliff from 1927 – land owned by Bure Homage and the Castle.

## Councillor Update

Paul Hilliard updated on the rise in Council Tax and where it goes.

Parking and seafront services were two ways of getting some money back. All teams asked to look at their budget for this year as they need to save more money.

Groyne work happening in May / June.

Artwork, cycleways are bespoke funding – projects funded separately – such as the Gundimore Art Project.

Meeting about a month ago to discuss potholes – more this year than ever. Government will fund more if they can see improvement. So keep reporting!

Stuart (Christchurch Town Council) – have spent the last 6 months reviewing what they do and why. They have now a list of things to address. Plans being revised as part of a package. Any queries, please email.

# Annual General Meeting

## Finances (Linda Lawrence):

Lots of donations given out and we are keeping stable.

We continue with the advertising in the magazine, events and donations to help the local community. Any questions to Linda.

Balance 01.01.25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£18,907
Receipts	Advertising					£3,345			
	Subs					£3,858			
	Other					£289			
Deposit Interest						£315			
<hr/>									
Total Receipts						£7,806			
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Payments	Magazine costs					£3,653			
	Donations					£855			
	Other (Inc. Bench & plaque)					£3,366			
	Room hire					£100			
<hr/>									
Total Payments						£7,974			
<hr/>									
Excess of Receipts over Payments						-£167			
Balance 31.12.26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£18,740

Held at Lloyds Current a/c	£8,176
Held at Lloyds Deposit a/c	£10,564
Held in cash	£0

## All Saints Church - Options from Church fundraisers:

1. Furniture sponsorship (picture of items to purchase displayed)
2. AV equipment contribution
3. Stained glass window contribution

Committee donation recommendation for £2,000.00 - Proposed by Steve Alves, Seconded by Sara Luder.

A suggestion was for something specific – perhaps a dozen chairs?

People seemed to prefer giving a donation for the window.

**VOTE:** A vote was taken for furniture (8), general donation (5), or window (definite majority). So, donation towards the window of **£2,000.00 decided**.

## Social

- 31 March - Bird Walk – 06:45 am Visitors Hut, Steamer Point
- 23 April - Quiz Night – Haven Inn
- 19 June? - Summer Solstice – Picnic on the green
- 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration - tbc

# Annual General Meeting

## Heritage Installation

In front of Sandhills Holiday Park caravans by local artist, Matthew Byron.

## Stand down & Elections to Committee

Ann thanked the present committee members who have all been voted in for the next year. All re-elected with the exception of Sarah Webb.

## Any Other Business

- **Stuart** – update on planters – another 6 to come. Order not placed yet but going in as a large order for Christchurch.
- **Ann** – brought to the attention of the meeting that HHO has been burgled. Suggested giving a donation to help. However, **Steve** said we could consider in the future as we have given to them in the last year. *PS they were insured.*
- **Ann** – a Restaurant (Chicken and Blues) has dug up part of the pavement in Christchurch – can councillors help? **Paul H** answered and will look into it.
- **Sue Humphries** -Walk up to Highcliffe Castle – where there is water across the path. Could we do something to fill in with bark etc.? Steve answered – has been dealt with many times but not effective. **Steve** has approached Pennyfarthing but they can't do anything as it is an insurance matter. **Paul H** will look into. A matter for disabled access was brought up and suggested BCP look at it urgently.
- **Robert Pollard** – problems with waste collection. **Paul H** answered that it was extended sickness and holidays. There is now real-time monitoring on board vehicles so it should improve and be better next year.
- **Beach Groynes, sand and pebbles** - discussed briefly but is included in the magazine this month. Problems for swimmers and tourists who don't know the extent of the groynes. This will be continued and pressure put on the Council.

## Next Meeting 4 June

Guest speaker suggestions - RNLI Lifeguards and Hengistbury Head Outdoor Centre.

## Meeting Close

Steve thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8pm.