



SAMRA Newspage

Issue 7
February 2018

STANPIT AND MUDEFORD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Hi everyone,

SAMRA is still operating without a Chairman, Secretary or Editor. So, with heavy hearts, we are calling an Extraordinary General Meeting to dissolve the Association on Friday 16th March at 7pm.

For many years we have struggled to fill committee posts, but now our numbers have dwindled to a point where the workload is no longer viable.

It's not just us - Associations and committees everywhere are struggling to get the next generation on board.

Perhaps, in all honesty, Residents' Associations have had their day. With the advent of the internet, Council Services are so much more accessible. Planning applications can be seen online, along with minutes and actual video podcasts of council meetings.

But it will be a sad day and an end of an era to see SAMRA go.

Council Restructuring

We are still awaiting the Secretary of State's decision on the future of Dorset. Will Christchurch be forced to create a Unitary Council with

Bournemouth and Poole or will Dorset retain the two-tier system?

In the likelihood that we will amalgamate with B&P, Christchurch Borough Council (CBC) is undertaking a **Community Governance Review**.

Recently, SAMRA and other Residents' Associations (RAs) were invited to the Civic Offices to discuss the possibility of creating Parish and Town Councils or extending the existing ones in Burton and Hurn. This process needs to be initiated before CBC potentially ceases to exist in April 2019. We need to consider the most suitable way of representing our community in the future. Now this could be a Village Council, or we could be part of larger Town Council, or we stay as we are. Local Councils are the first tier of local government and are statutory bodies, so will be able to represent us at a higher level. The Councillors are independently elected. There may be a cost (precept) added to our council tax, but this will depend on exactly what the local council is responsible for.

For comparison, one of the largest local councils, Salisbury City Council, was formed when Wiltshire was restructured in 2009. They look after local services including parks and

NOTICES

SAMRA EGM MEETING

Friday 16 March 2018

7pm-9pm

Stanpit Village Hall



open spaces, public conveniences, allotments, churchyards, pay & display car parks, trees & benches, community centres and various other assets. So hopefully we could achieve something similar.

SAMRA has until the 23rd of February to make a submission (or not) for its members. We will be discussing the prospect with the other RAs to formulate a reply. Obviously, the decision on Dorset will influence whether this even goes ahead at all.

We have setup a survey on the SAMRA website to get opinions.

Should Christchurch create a Town Council?

Details and more information on:
www.samra-christchurch.com.

Hospital Matters

The 18 week target from referral to treatment remains challenging through to March 2018. The Trust continued to achieve the national targets for diagnostic and cancer waiting times and is also benchmarking well against the England average. The first week in January was particularly challenging for A&E waiting times.

An assurance was given that guidance **for safe staffing** produced by the Care Quality Commission and NHS England is being met within The Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Proposed Merger - The Trust is continuing to complete a draft of the Patient Benefits Case for initial discussion with and feedback from NHS Improvement, the regulator of NHS trusts and foundation trusts.

Clinical Services Review - Discussions with NHSI to fund the initial support and design work continue. The Full Business Case to secure funding for the reconfiguration of the Royal Bournemouth and Poole Hospital sites is unlikely to be submitted to HM Treasury before the end of 2019. It would seem unlikely that any building work would commence before 2020

The Hospital Trust is to oversee the creation of an employee development program. The staff turnover rate continued its downward trend and the joining rate is up on this point last year.

As part of the Clinical Services Review proposals there is to be a stand-alone Community Hospital with beds within the grounds of the Royal Bournemouth Hospital. Christchurch Hospital will provide a community hub without beds.

Derek

Planning

Noisy Lobster upper floor extension
For the third time in as many years, a planning application to add an upper floor to the restaurant has been submitted to the council. This one is on a smaller scale and less intrusive but has still seen many objections.

Beagles Site– Stony Lane

A new variation of application for a food store and retail units has been submitted for this site. CBC rejected redevelopment plans several times. The last one was eventually granted on appeal, awarding costs to Beagle saying the council had acted *'unreasonably'*. However, Morrisons subsequently pulled out of the deal. Details can be found online with planning reference number: 8/17/3413/CONDR.

Avon Beach

Work is well underway for the Avon Beach Promenade Enhancement Scheme. The £4,000K+ construction will see the promenade raised by 900 mm (3ft) and widened by 1.5m (5ft). The retaining wall will also be higher to protect the cliffs and road structure above. Hopefully, work will be complete by Easter and the beach itself will remain open to the public. But in the meantime, we do hope all those beach huts in the car park are displaying a valid ticket! ☺

Local Events

Christchurch Health Walks.

Every Wednesday at 10:45am.
Meet at the Sandpiper Pub.
Just turn up and walk.

Stanpit Village Hall.

Wine Tasting Evening – Friday 9th
March at 7:30pm. Tickets £12.
Call Aline on (01202) 986220

Mudford Wood Community Centre.

Quiz – Wednesday 24th February.
Skittles Night – Saturday 17th March.

For more information visit the SAMRA Website at:

www.samra-christchurch.com

SAMRAMAIL

keeping you up-to-date with what's happening

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SEND TO samraxch@ntlworld.com with SAMRAMAIL and your name in the Subject field please.

COUNCILLORS' SURGERIES

On the first Saturday of each month except August

Purewell & Stanpit Ward:

10-11am

St. John's Church, Purewell.

Mudford & Friars Cliff Ward:

10.30 – 11.30

Please ring your councillor for details