POKESDOWN COMMUNITY FORUM

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 31st JANUARY 2013

AT THE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

**Present:** Roxanne Kapperud (Chair), Andy Jones (Secretary), Insp. Chris Weeks, PCSO Chris Wilson, Cllrs David Smith, Jane Kelly, John Wilson, Linda Bailey & Chris Rochester.

Officers – Ben Smith, Caroline Reed, Penny Bonsor, Doreen Claydon & Brenda Colyer

**Residents/Traders:** 39

**Welcome & Apologies**

Roxanne welcomed everybody to the meeting. Apologies were received from Pam Ruthvan and Rob Saunders.

Roxanne thanked everybody for their help and support in making all the events that had taken place in Pokesdown during 2012 such a success. She stated that the Committee would continue to inform members of all up and coming events through newsletters, the website, facebook and twitter.

**Election of Committee**

Roxanne Kapperud (Chair), Pam Ruthvan (Vice-Chair), Rob Saunders (Treasurer) , Andy Jones (Secretary) and the following Officers – Ben Smith, Caroline Reed, Penny Bonsor, Doreen Claydon, Brenda Colyer, Elaine Nordon and Sarah Peters were all put forward for election and voted in unanimously.

**Police Update**

Insp. Weeks told the meeting that the total number of recorded crimes across the area was down by 30 in the past year which included 43 fewer violent crimes. Reported incidents of anti-social behaviour had also dropped by 199. However he informed that meeting that dwelling burglaries were up by 20 and that that there had been a significant increase in thefts from motors vehicles. Insp. Weeks stated that 2 males in Harcourt Rd and 2 in Seabourne Rd had been arrested for drugs offences in the past few months. He told the meeting that a Section 30 Dispersal Order was now in place in a number of roads in the area which allowed the police to move people on if they were causing problems. A copy of the Order was shown to the meeting.

Insp. Weeks advised residents that the police were still gathering the required evidence in connection with the 2 brothels at Atlas House and the property on the corner of Christchurch Rd and Morley Rd so that action could be taken against them as soon as possible.

PCSO Wilson stated that a number of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and Anti-Social Behaviour Orders were currently in force relating to incidents in Christchurch Rd and Seabourne Rd.

Concern was expressed by several residents regarding the on-going problem of street drinking and the resulting anti-social behaviour and criminal acts that were being committed. It was felt that the police should be doing much more to tackle this problem.

The closure of Boscombe Police Station Enquiry Office was raised. Insp. Weeks advised that this decision was reached due to very few visitors and the on-going need to make savings across the force. He re-iterated that Bournemouth Station Enquiry Office was manned 24/7 and that the police non-emergency number 101 could still be used to report issues.

Insp. Weeks stated that several arrests had been made in connection with drug offences that had been detected near the phone box on the corner of Stourvale Rd.

**Media Team Update**

Ben told the meeting that the PCF website had received around 5000 hits and that work was continuing to take place in order to provide all the relevant local news and information guides for the Pokesdown area. He advised that information was still being gathered in order to publicize as many local shops and businesses as possible.

Ben encouraged residents to have a look at the website and that he would provide a short presentation showing all its key functions at the next public meeting.

Ben advised that a significant number of people were now following the Forum on Twitter.

Caroline said that she would like to include a list of reliable local tradespeople on the website so that people would know who to contact instead of having to search the yellow pages and trust to luck.

**Events Committee News**

Brenda and Doreen asked if anybody had a cash tin and a raffle drum for forthcoming events. They would also appreciate help putting up and taking down stalls.

**Help & Care Presentation**

Lucy Cribb gave a short presentation on an advice, information and support directory for adults called Source which covers the Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset areas and is particularly relevant to those with care and support needs. She advised that Source had been produced by councils, voluntary organisations and focus groups consisting of a cross section of adults with care and support needs and their carers.

**New Forest Walk**

Following a short picture presentation on the New Forest area Caroline advised that Pam would be looking to organise a summer walk, possibly on a Sunday or Bank Holiday if anybody was interested. Further details to be provided in due course.

**AOB**

Cllr Kelly told the meeting that the Mello Mello premises had applied for retrospective planning permission in order to operate as a bar. She stated that both Cllrs and the police had concerns about this and urged residents to write in and object to the planning application.

Martin from Wessex Chorus said they were looking for new members and that if anybody was interested to pop along to the Metropolitan Church at 7 on a Tuesday evening for practice.

Roxanne stated that £489 remained from last year’s lottery grant of £22,470. The bank balance for the PCF stood at £1,238.83. It was also announced that there would be no membership fee for the current year.

Cllr Rochester advised that he had brought along some fridge magnets containing useful Police and Council contact numbers if people wished to take one.

**Next Meeting:** Roxanne informed residents that the next public meeting would take place on Thursday 30th May at 7.30 at the Metropolitan Church.

The meeting was brought to a close a 9pm.