Parking charges - legal challenge

Poole Beach Huts Association has joined forces with twelve other residents and business associations known as the Sandbanks Parking Group to seek legal advice for challenging the council's new on-street parking charge policy for roads near the beaches.

The group has met with a barrister to discuss launching a judicial review. The parking scheme which was shelved in June has since been scaled down and was approved by councillors in December.

Bob Lister said: "A packed meeting was held at the North Haven Yacht Club and there was a unanimous vote to pursue legal action. The council has admitted introducing charges as a revenue-raising exercise which is against government regulations."
Plans have been approved for nearly 100 new beach huts as part of the council's £5.4m seafront improvement scheme.

Five planning applications for new seafront facilities and beach huts at Canford Cliffs, Branksome Dene and Flaghead Chine were submitted in December.

The council had to rethink the original scheme of building 178 new huts due to biodiversity and cliff ownership issues. The revised scheme proposes 89 new huts with four more at both Branksome Dene and Flaghead Chines.

102 dated concrete huts are proposed for rebuilding replaced by two-storey huts and a further 22 refurbished alongside improvements to catering and toilet facilities. Five different new hut sizes and types are proposed to offer wider choice.

Staff changes at the Beach Office includes news that Tracey was married in November and is now Mrs Tracey Adams - our congratulations to her.

Beach Warden, Kenneth Standing will be retiring at the end of March. Kenny has worked for the council for 46 years in a number of roles including positions in Transportation Services and Museum Services. Tracey said: "Kenny has been a familiar face to many beach hut tenants over the years and we wish him well in his forthcoming retirement." His role will be filled by Kirsten Bellamy who has been a seasonal warden for the last three years.

In other news, Tracey confirmed that so far 50 beach huts have been refurbished at Branksome Dene Chine with PVC cladding and privacy screens. Improvements at the rear double block will be completed by the end of March.

Good news for Shore Road tenants, the toilets will be refurbished before the start of the season with new doors, hand dryers and refreshed interior and exterior paintwork.

**Beach events planned for this summer**

Volleyball championships - 30 June/2 July - Sandbanks Beach

British Sand Polo Championship - 7/8 July - Sandbanks Beach

British Handball Championship - 4/7 August - Canford Cliffs Beach

18ft Skiff Racing - 23/24 September - Shore Road Beach

For more news you can follow Poole Beaches on [Facebook](#).
Did you know that Poole will be hosting European Maritime Day in May this year?
This prestigious event is one of the largest maritime events in Europe and this is the first time it had been hosted in the UK.

A two day conference will be held at Poole Lighthouse on 18-19 May. It is expected to attract influential people from across Europe involved in progressing maritime policy including industry leaders, policy makers, academics and scientists.

Hosting European Maritime Day is a unique opportunity for Poole and Dorset to achieve international attention from the marine community as well as the local community benefitting from the family-focussed maritime festival based on Poole Boat Show at Poole Quay.

The Festival was launched at the London Boat Show in January.

Other Poole Tourism events this year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mini-steam Day</td>
<td>13 May</td>
<td>Poole Quay 10am - 5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harry Paye Day</td>
<td>17 June</td>
<td>Poole Quay 12 - 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dream Machines</td>
<td>Tuesdays April to September</td>
<td>Poole Quay 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quay for my Car</td>
<td>Fridays July &amp; August</td>
<td>Poole Quay 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Breeze</td>
<td>Thursdays 27 July &amp; August</td>
<td>Poole Quay 7pm</td>
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For more information visit pooletourism.com
Review of the AGM
The Association's fifth Annual General Meeting was held on 1st February at Merley Community Centre.

Chairman Bob Lister reported on a busy year for the PBHA outlining its activities and achievements. Treasurer Jack Crewe led the formal part of the AGM including the election of committee positions. These remained the same as last year and are listed below:

Chairman: Bob Lister (pictured)
Vice-Chairman: Martin Stevens
Secretary: Lyn Thomas
Treasurer: Jack Crewe
Social Secretary: Yvonne Hartwell
Newsletter Editor: Julie Snow
Ordinary members: Janet Coy and Cheryl Atterton

Anthony Rogers, Recreation and Communities Manager (pictured) updated members on the details of the plans to build 97 two-storey beach huts at Canford Cliffs starting in September.

He explained that the promenade between Flaghead Chine and Canford Cliffs Chine will need to be closed for safety reasons during the construction period and a temporary walkway will be provided on the sand. A mobile toilet block will be installed and the Flaghead Chine toilets will remain open.

Existing tenants who will be affected by the demolition and rebuild will be given a 'rent holiday' and refunds will be arranged for those who have paid in advance. They will be contacted by letter and advised of the date by which they will need to clear and vacate their huts. The Council will endeavour to accommodate the wishes of those tenants in terms of the reallocation of the new huts.

The construction programme is likely to take nine months and will include a new cafe replacing the existing ice cream kiosk and improvements to toilet facilities.

Other topics covered included maintenance work at Branksome Dene Chine and the announcement of the date of this summer's barbecue in June.

Questions and comments from the floor included hut rental payments arrangements, catering provision on the beaches, traveller incursion and parking charges. Responses were supplied by our guests Anthony and Tracey Adams who were thanked for their attendance and support.

The minutes of the AGM can be found on the PBHA website www.poolebeachhuts.co.uk
Sub-letting your hut

Have you ever thought about letting your hut for a few weeks?

The Council allow a maximum of 56 days per year and set rates from £35 per week in the winter to up to £199 per week in July and August.

If you would like help in finding prospective sub-tenants you can submit details of your hut on our website poolebeachhuts.co.uk just go to the Rent/Swap section for information.

You must notify the Beach Office if you decide to go ahead and please read the Ts and Cs on boroughofpoole.com/beaches

Swapping your hut

Perhaps you've thought of moving to a different location? If you can find another tenant in a hut you would prefer, the Council may be agreeable to a swap for an admin fee of £50.

Our website is a great place to find a suitable tenant so let us know if we can help.

A reminder from our Treasurer - £5 subs for this year are due now. Renewing members need not complete a form just identify yourself with your hut number when paying by bank transfer ... Lloyds Sort Code: 775024. Account: 32480860 and please just confirm by email that a payment has been made.
Thank you!

Date for your Diary

**Summer BBQ - 14th June**

Branksome Dene Community Room

Tickets £10

All Welcome!

For more information about the Association visit www.poolebeachhuts.co.uk or contact Chairman, Bob Lister 07980 928 752 or email bob@sunwiser.co.uk