

Autumn News 2018



The newly approved landscape design for the entrance to Shore Road beach

Autumn Meeting - a summary

In his introduction, Chairman Bob Lister welcomed PBHA members to the October meeting and also three guest speakers, Andrew Brown, Operations Manager, Tourism and Corporate Communications for Bournemouth and Poole; Jacqueline Wood, Beach Hut Manager, Seafront Services and Councillor John Challinor, Poole's Portfolio holder for Economy, Culture and Leisure.

Bob commented on recent communications with the new beach management team and was delighted to report that he has found them to be positive and approachable. These are changing times and it will be increasingly important to keep in touch. New membership leaflets promoting PBHA are to be mailed to all Poole tenants with their 2018 beach hut bills in November, hopefully encouraging more to become members. Finally, Bob asked members to consider joining the committee. Anyone with financial skills might like to consider becoming Treasurer due to the impending resignation of Jack Crewe.

Autumn meeting continued

Jacqueline Wood was introduced, she has recently been appointed to the new role of Beach Hut Manager for the entire seafront for the current shadow authority which will be officially merged in April 2019. She described her background in private sector tourism and leisure. She admitted being new to the public sector and is getting to grips with local authority procedures. Ultimately, she plans to streamline services and she will be responsible for strategy and raising standards.

She is keen to promote good communications and will be the point of contact for beach hut tenants. Currently, invoices for Bournemouth tenants are sent by email and she encouraged Poole members to supply their email addresses to avoid costly postal charges and to provide a means for prompt communication.

One of her first tasks includes looking at the waiting list to ensure that reported numbers are in fact accurate. Jacqueline can be contacted at jacqueline.Wood@Bournemouth.gov.uk

Thanks to all those who came to our Autumn meeting at St Aldhelm's church hall in October. Our guests, Andrew Brown and Jacqueline Wood from Bournemouth Seafront Services outlined some of the plans for the merged operation with Poole. A summary of the meeting is included for information. Please encourage your 'neighbours' who may not be PBHA members to join us as we aim to support all our members during these changing times with regular news via the quarterly newsletter and website.

Keep up to date with our news at www.poolebeachhuts.co.uk

Bob Lister, Chairman

tel: 07980 928752 or email bob@sunwiser.co.uk

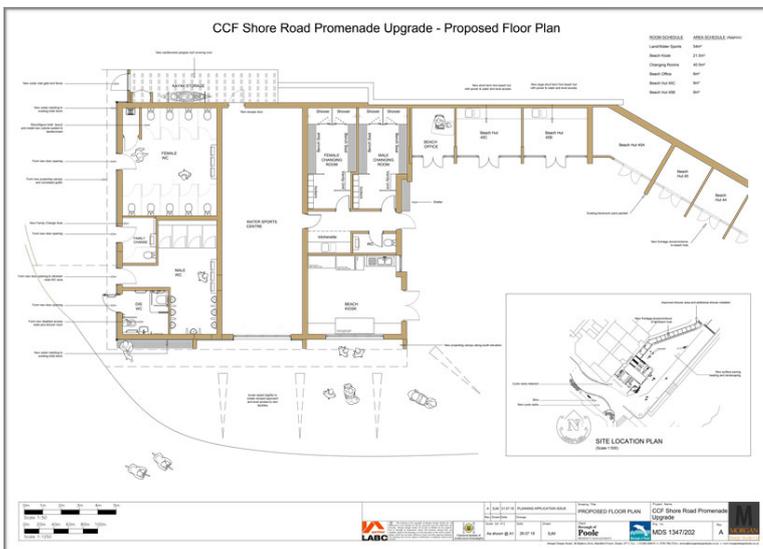




Andrew Brown was introduced - he explained his responsibilities for tourism and beaches for Bournemouth and Poole. His role is diverse as he has eleven and half miles of seafront to maintain and administer. His responsibilities include managing the entire Ranger service. He has close relationships with the lifeguards, land train staff and catering concessions and operatives. He currently reports to two portfolio holders in Bournemouth and Poole. This will change after the merger and the May elections in 2019 when 120 councillors will reduce to 76. In Bournemouth, a recent success has been the introduction of self-catering beach lodges with more planned.

There are currently three live projects in Poole which he is helping to deliver. At Shore Road, a plan to improve the 'public realm' (pictured on page 1) has been approved. Works including refurbished toilets, two new beach huts, landscaping and new seating is expected to be completed by next summer - floor plan below.

Andrew Brown can be contacted by email andrew.Brown2@bournemouth.gov.uk



At Branksome Chine, a recent consultation resulted in overwhelming support for some of the project funding to be diverted to improvements to the toilets which are currently in a poor condition.



Plans for improving Canford Cliffs are still on hold due to the cliff stability plan which will be reviewed in November.

For more information on Poole seafront projects visit <https://seafront.pooleprojects.net>



Cllr John Challinor (pictured page 4) was introduced. He is portfolio holder for Poole's beaches and leisure he is also a Parkstone councillor. He explained that following the merger with Bournemouth and Christchurch, Poole's council tax will not increase beyond government guidelines. Christchurch council tax will be frozen until Bournemouth and Poole catch up to the same level.

Over the next five years government funding to the new authority will be reduced by £36 million so there is huge pressure on finances and all income streams are being looked at in order to preserve essential services including childcare and social care.

Questions/comments from the floor included ...



1. Beach drains at Branksome Dene have been flooded all summer and nothing done despite repeated reports.

AB response - a start has been made on drainage issues. The system at Branksome has been rodded but problems still exist. He admitted that maintenance to infrastructure in Poole has been neglected also the high numbers of people using all facilities has strained the system this summer.

2. Poole residents are waiting for clarification re waiting list, it seems that non residents are offered huts.

AB response - Only council tax paying residents are offered tenancy of Poole beach huts.

3. Will there be rent refunds after absence during refurbishment?

AB response - tenancy agreement states refunds only offered after four weeks of non access based on the time of year when this occurs. Other refunds only occur when physical access to huts is unavailable.

4. Is there a drone policy?

AB response - No policy exists. Drones are governed by CAA guidelines

5. The area around Branksome Dene community room and the steps is very neglected.

AB response - this will be dealt with.

6. Branksome Dene gents toilets closed despite the community room being continually in use. Graffiti and poor state when open.

AB response - noted. Current contract with Churchills is being looked at with the intention of ultimately bringing the service in-house as Bournemouth. This would improve communication for reports of damage and misuse of facilities.

7. Who is responsible for accepting the beach back after the Sand Polo? This year cable ties and jagged wood was found.

AB response - after the merger all events will be dealt with by a joint team who are responsible for health and safety, cleansing, toilets etc. The safety advisory group include representatives from licensing, Fire & Rescue Services, SW Ambulance Service. They can challenge organisers to deliver safe events and can veto applications. The fee for the Sand Polo will be reviewed at the end of the three year contract to ensure the authority is obtaining appropriate value for money.

8. Has a timeline been established for new block of two storey huts at Shore Road?

AB response - not yet we will know more in November.

9. BBQs are limited to after 6pm in Bournemouth, can we have the same in Poole?

AB response - this is advisory only but signs will go up in Poole in 2019.



Bob Lister thanked guests for attending and speakers for their valued contribution.

New double sided advisory banners installed on the seafront this summer sponsored by Poole Beach Huts Association



POOLE BEACH HUTS ASSOCIATION

ADVANCE NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The sixth Annual General Meeting will be held at Merley Community Centre, Harrier Drive, Merley, Wimborne BH21 1XE on 30th January 2019 at 7.30 for 8pm start

Refreshments will be provided on arrival, please note the room will not be available beforehand.

Guest speakers will be invited to speak on topics of interest and details will be supplied in due course. We look forward to welcoming as many members as possible. If anyone would like to serve on the committee next year please let me know.

Val Arbon, Secretary
v.arbon@sky.com

31st October 2018

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

Treasurer, Jack Crewe, 9 Frankland Crescent, Poole BH14 9PX or (01202) 746792

