

Boscombe Area Forum, Monday 13-Aug-2007 7-9pm
Selwyn Hall, St Johns Church, Christchurch Road, Boscombe.

Royal Bournemouth & Christchurch Hospitals Trust public consultation

The NHS is structured to give hospitals a degree of independence over central government. To provide oversight and accountability, Governors were elected from residents by residents.

Residents can be a 'Member of the Trust' as part of its accountability to the public. The Secretary has a few forms, or find out more on the internet: <http://tinyurl.com/3xh9st>

The Trust is consulting on its strategy, called 'Healthy Futures'

- Tuesday 21st August, Selwyn Hall, Christchurch Road. 7.30pm-9pm
- Wednesday 5th September, Richmond Hill United Reformed Church, St Stephens Road. 7.30pm-9pm
- Tuesday 18th September, Henry Brown, Cunningham Crescent, West Howe. 7.30pm-9pm

Get the consultation document at one of the above meetings, by calling the Communications Department (01202 704271) or from the internet: www.rbch.nhs.uk (the link to Healthy Futures is on the left)

Springbourne Fire Station

Handles the whole south east of Bournemouth from the Centre to Iford. Springbourne do about 2,000 calls a year. It is the busiest station in the area because of the number of people living in a fairly small area. It has one fire engine.

40-50% of fires in the area are kitchen related, such as a faulty appliance or unattended cooking.

The Fire Service has two roles: 'intervention' - putting out fires, and 'prevention,' such as coming to meetings and other activities.

Fire service will come to anyone's home and provide FREE advise about how to make your home safer. While visiting they'll provide:

- Smoke detectors: about £5 each. They'll fit them for free, if you need one.
- Safe mains adapters: three way block adapters are not safe; the weight of the plugs etc makes them hang out of the socket. They'll replace any adapters one-for-one with safer strip adapters

Arson: The Fire Service is putting up signs up if an area is being subjected to Arson attacks - if you see the signs, be vigilant and report anything suspicious.

The fire service inspects **houses in multiple occupation** (HMOs) along side Environmental Health, but is only responsible for common areas. A re-inspection regime for HMOs will

come in force in due course.

Pet rescues: Fire Service will always come along if the RSPCA asks them. If a resident calls, the service will usually send out someone to assess the situation prior to

Lifts: if someone is trapped in a lift and is in distress then the fire brigade can be called. But as a rule, it is the job of lift engineers.

Bournemouth Centre for Community Arts (BCCA)

A resident advised that it would shortly be boarded up and closed. Bournemouth Theatre in Education has been told to move out by 20th August.

The forum sought a series of actions:

- A proposal was properly proposed, seconded, and passed: 'That the Committee write to the Chief Executive to express the Forum's views that the Council's consultation on the closure of the BCCA has been insufficient.'
- That an officer be asked to come to the Forum to explain the decision.
- That the Forum be consulted on potential future uses of the site.
- That the Forum be properly consulted on future closures of facilities affecting residents in Boscombe East and Boscombe West. It was expected that the Forum would have genuine input, so that would require consultation before the decision had been made.

Action: Letter to be written to the Chief Executive

Boscombe Pier regeneration

A series of questions and issues were raised

- Why so few facilities at the Sea front? Why do we only have one ice cream van and refreshment van at the Pier?
- There are a lot of empty units in Boscombe. Residents are here all year round: how will the reef, restaurants, surf shops etc at the seafront improve the area for the rest of the area? The condition of the Precinct, for example.
- Residents' parking: shoppers and users of the seafront heavily use the roads off Sea Road.

The forum sought someone at a future Forum meeting who could answer questions about the seafront scheme, but mainly who could address the wider strategy.

Constitution of the area forum

Various changes to the draft constitution agreed at the meeting.

Paragraph 5: Meeting discussed the need to have an appeals process and other rules if someone were excluded from the meeting. Paragraph shall be shortened to just 'Attendees of meetings shall conduct themselves in a reasonable manner.'

Paragraph 6: The Forum expressed a view that six forum meetings a year was desirable. Current constitution stipulates 'at least' four forum meetings and an AGM 'in addition'. This provides for some flexibility if a meeting has to be cancelled, for example.

'Committee membership' section (paragraphs 14-19)

Members of the committee may be unelected by a proposal to a quorate Forum meeting.

Paragraph 16: First sentence to be revised 'No-one may stand for election to the committee for more than three consecutive years.'

Paragraph 33: Changes to the constitution to be made only at the AGM, and require two-thirds of the members to vote in favour.

'Finance' section (paragraphs 35-39)

Forum stipulated that the Constitution require a financial report, including balance, from the treasurer at every Forum meeting.

Paragraph 40: To be revised to read 'At the AGM, the Forum may elect a post of Honorary President for a year, in recognition ...'

Items for future meetings

- Transition towns (such as Stroud; Lewes) - see <http://transitiontowns.org>
- NM environment theme group: paint up some of the litter bins; looking for local artists; Forum to input / provide approval.
- Healthy living: Representative from Healthy living board sought.
- What is Council doing about air pollution resulting from increased traffic resulting from flats being built?
- Council Seafront Services: Not enough seats between the two piers
- Council Seafront Services: Work on the Pier is creating disruption / inconvenience for visitors; such as an audio announcement that it is a building site.
- Police: Late night public disorder; clashes between 'gangs' en-route between Boscombe and Bournemouth. Seems to have got worse in the last six weeks.
- Strategy of Council re: Boscombe. Lack of consultation, lack of information: either the next meeting or a definite date.

Forum's attention was drawn to proposed changes to planning law - see <http://planningdisaster.co.uk>