

## Christchurch Town Centre Development

These are Questions and Answers between ACRA and CBC, following representations made to ACRA by a number of residents:

**ACRA:** *Which Council Committee authorised spending £200,000 on these consultants?*

**CBC:** It is nowhere near £200k. Resources Committee agreed a Growth Budget at its meeting in February 2014. The figure for the consultants is much less than this and is currently an issue of commercial confidence.

**ACRA:** *Why was the full Council not involved?*

**CBC:** Full Council did receive and agree the minutes of the Resources committee and confirmed the budget.

**ACRA:** *Why these consultants, who appear to have zero local knowledge?*

**CBC:** That is an opinion not a fact. They consult and discuss extensively with local people and organisations. Being external they come in and provide an objective view.

**ACRA:** *Why such a short period of public consultation, particularly after years of inactivity?*

**CBC:** The exhibition is only the first phase and arranged to stimulate ideas and discussion, **more consultation will follow.**

**ACRA:** *Why is Bargates - a bigger problem than the High Street - excluded?*

**CBC:** This is an opinion again. However Bargates is not excluded and is considered as part of the Town area.

**ACRA:** *What plans for the Magistrates Court site?*

**CBC:** DCC Looking at selling the site, Police looking at selling their site along with some private sector land for development. We [CBC] might also be involved re Pit site car park.

17 October 2014