

**HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Amenities Committee  
held at The Grove, St John's Street, Hythe  
on Monday, 8 July 2002 at 7.45 pm.

Members:                   \*Mr G Parkes (Vice Chairman) – in the Chair

oMr B Dash	*Mr M Short
*Mr G Dawson	*Mr D Smith
oMr C Harrison	*Mrs K Wade
*Mr R Leavey	*Mr M Wade
oMrs M McLean	*Mr S Wade
*Mr J Ramsbottom	

\* Indicates attendance  
o Indicates apologies for absence

In attendance:           Mr D J Shimpe (Deputy Clerk to the Council)  
Mrs C Patterson (Minute Clerk)  
Mr S Spencer (Foreman)

Also present:             Mrs C Gradidge  
2 Members of the Public

91/02   **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Committee held on 20 May 2002 and 10 June 2002, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

92/02   **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

93/02   **Public Participation Period**

Mr Uglow began by advising the Committee that, further to the problems with motorcycles accessing Public Play Areas, he had made a list of all the entrances to Forest Front Open Space, which he would pass on after the Meeting. He then raised the following matters regarding the Forest Front Play Area:

**(a) Goal Posts**

The Goal Posts had recently been removed from the area and local children wished to know why and whether they would be replaced. It was also thought that the addition of a cricket pitch would be useful.

The Foreman advised that the posts had developed faults below ground and had been removed for safety reasons. At present, there was nothing in the budget to allow for replacement.

RESOLVED

That the matter be referred to the Play Equipment Working Party.

**(b) Litter**

The question was raised as to who was responsible for collecting the litter from the Hardley Lane area.

The Deputy Clerk advised the Committee that the current lease arrangements had been updated.

## RESOLVED

That this matter be considered further when the new arrangements regarding liability and responsibility have been assessed.

94/02 **Flag Pole – The Grove**

Members discussed the possibility of locating a flagpole on the front of The Grove or in the grounds, or possibly both.

## RESOLVED

That detailed costings be obtained and the matter placed on a future agenda.

95/02 **Report of Play Equipment Working Party**

Members considered the Report of the Play Equipment Working Party

## RESOLVED

1. That the District Council be asked to consider the possibility of the Dibden Bottom Farm Play Area being re-designated for infill housing with the capital receipt being used to provide a new equipped play area else where in the locality;
2. That discussions continue with Applemore College until plans for the use of the site are finalised;
3. That further investigations continue to be made into alternative site to the Applemore college site;
4. That the proposals for Noads Way Play Area be progressed.

96/02 **Dog Warden Service - Patrol Report**

Members studied the Report from the Dog Warden Service and noted the recommendation that consideration be given to issuing Fixed Penalty Notices at Forest Front Nature Reserve due to heavy fouling in that area.

## RESOLVED

- (a) That the matter be discussed with the Friends of Forest Front.
- (b) That the costs of installing the necessary signs and the renewal of the dog walk signs be investigated.

97/02 **Village Maintenance Resource**

A Member enquired as to the present hours spent maintaining the pleasant appearance of Hythe Shopping Centre on areas which were not necessarily this Council's responsibility, but which were, perhaps, easier for Parish Council Staff to maintain than seek and advise owners of their responsibility.

The Foreman advised that, at present, approximately 5 hours a week are spent on performing such tasks, but this may be increased during the autumn.

98/02 **Gully Clearing**

It was reported that the District Council had not yet cleared the surface water gullies in Hythe Shopping Centre.

## RESOLVED

That the District Council be approached to establish when the work would be undertaken.

99/02 **Car Parking**

A Member expressed concern that the long term parking spaces in Hythe were being taken up by commuters and causing problems for those wishing to park and shop in the local shops. It was considered that it would be difficult to prevent people from using these spaces, but better signing was required to direct drivers to other car parks which may have spaces.

It was also thought that the disabled parking spaces could be in the wrong place as they were often empty whilst "orange badge" holders parked in ordinary spaces.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the District Council be approached to provide alternative direction signs.
- (b) That the District Council be requested to provide the results of the recent parking survey held in the Parish.

The Meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Chairman

Date

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