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To:

Members of the General Purposes and Finance Committee
and remainder of the Council for information

AGGPF100

14 June 2005

Dear Sir/Madam,

A Meeting of the **General Purposes and Finance Committee will be held at The Grove, 25 St. John's Street, Hythe, on Monday next 20 June 2005, at 8.00 pm** when your attendance is requested.

Yours faithfully

Clerk to the Council

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To sign the minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held 18 April 2005.
3. To note any declaration of interest made by Members in connection with an Agenda item. The nature of the interest must be specified.
4. Public Participation Period.
5. Accounts for payment.
6. Grant Aid Applications 2005/6.
7. Revital Hythe Update.
8. Outturn figures year ending 31 March 2005.
9. Proposed Extinguishment of Highway Rights – land adjoining 3 Braehead, Hythe.
10. New Forest, Eastleigh and Test Valley South PCTs – Community Services Strategy.
11. Service Level Agreement – The HANDY Trust.
12. Any other urgent business concerning the Committee.

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

AGENDA NOTES FOR 20 JUNE 2005

Item 6 Grant Aid Applications 2005/6

Attached is a spreadsheet showing the applications received and the recommendation of the Grant Aid Working Party.

Member's views are requested.

Item 7 Revital Hythe – Update

Report on Update attached. Please note that a volunteer from the Parish Council is required under the heading Hotel and Tourism.

Member's views are requested

Item 8 Outturn Figures for year ending 31 March 2005

Attached are the outturn figures for the last financial year.

The Council summary sheet shows an overall underspend of £12,184 and an increase in income of £14,481 giving a total increase in funds available to the Council £26,665.

It is proposed that this money should be allocated as follows.

Market Town Healthcheck, the current project is funded from balances and initially was for a period of year. This is due to end at the 30 September 2005, however Members will be aware, that despite the efforts of the coordinator, public involvement has been difficult to achieve and overall progress has not been as anticipated. It is therefore proposed that £8,000 of the above amount be used to fund the contribution of the project up to March 2006. Any longer term funding will be considered as part of the budget process later in the year.

It is also proposed that £2,500 be allocated for the replacement of signs at The Grove building. This would reflect the new occupants of the building. Proposals will be put to the next meeting of the Accommodation Committee.

Members may also be aware that problems were encountered last year with the Christmas lights. A particular section of the circuit continually failed and as a result a large section of the High Street remained unlit during the Christmas period. Discussions have been undertaken with the Hythe Business Partnership with a view to upgrading the circuits to one or two circuits only linked into the public lighting system rather than to individual premises. However, this is an expensive job. Members are asked to consider jointly funding this project and as such to allocate £3,000 of the surplus to this activity.

It is proposed that the remaining balance is left in reserves until next year's budget process is undertaken or another project is identified.

Member's views are requested.

Item 9 Proposed Extinguishment of Highway Rights – Land adjoining 3 Braehead, Hythe

At the Council Meeting on 15 March 2004, Members considered a request for the extinguishment of highway rights on land adjoining 3 Braehead, Hythe. At that time the Council objected to the proposal as it was concerned that the vista of the road could be narrowed if permission was granted.

Since then the owners have been in contact with Nick Hunt at New Forest District Council and alternative proposals have been made which has resulted in the District Council having no objections to the proposals. As a result the Principal Engineer at Hampshire County Council has asked if we would give the matter reconsideration. Copies of the papers are attached.

Member's views are requested.

Item 10 New Forest, Eastleigh and test Valley South PCT'S – Community Services Strategy

As part of a reply concerning the "continued closure of the Hythe Medical Unit" the Council has been asked to comment on the draft Community Hospitals strategy. A copy of the document is attached.

Member's views are requested.

Item 11 Service Level Agreement – The HANDY Trust

At the meeting of the Amenities Committee on 6 June 2005 members were asked to give consideration to the draft SLA (attached).

It was agreed to accept the SLA in principal but requested that the cost commitment be considered by this Committee (Details will be circulated prior to the meeting).

It was also recommended that the nomination of trustees be dealt with at the next meeting of the Council.

Background

During 2001 the decision was taken to set up the HANDY Trust as a registered charity to take on the existing Council's Youth Worker and to provide a youth service to the parish. At the same time the HANDY Trust Advisory Group was set up which comprised representatives of Hampshire County Youth Service, the Parish Council, police and local churches. This group helped set up the Trust and advised the Trust on youth matters relating to the parish.

At the time of setup there was only one youth worker and the turnover of the Trust was around £22,000.

Over the last twelve months the Trust has expanded and has employed an additional part time youth worker dedicated to the Netley View area and a further part time youth worker has been employed to provide a youth service to the parish of Marchwood (this post is financially supported by Marchwood Parish Council and Dibden Allotments Charity). In the current year the turnover of the Trust is likely to be in the region of £40,000.

As the HANDY Trust is a separate stand-alone organisation the effect of the advisory group is limited. It is proposed that instead of having the advisory group, the Parish Council enters into a service level agreement (SLA) with the Trust, which would set the level of youth service to be provided within the parish. The SLA would also provide for two members of the Council to become Trustees of the HANDY Trust for three-year terms.

Members are asked to consider the draft SLA attached.