

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Amenities Committee
held at The Grove, St John's Street, Hythe
on Monday 13 November 2006 at 8 pm.

Members: *Mr C Harrison (Chairman) – in the Chair

*Mr J Bennett	oMr R Podesta
oMr R Guy	oMrs B Smith
*Mrs M McLean	*Mr M Wade
*Mr G Parkes	*Mr S Wade

* Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

In attendance: Ms S A Maitland (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
Mrs C Patterson (Minute Clerk)
Mr S Spencer (Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor)

Also present: Mr M Short
4 Members of the Public

311/06 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 9 October 2006, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

312/06 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

313/06 **Public Participation Period**

Ewart Recreation Ground

Some residents living close to Ewart Recreation Ground advised members that although they are still experiencing problems with anti social behaviour, these have lessened due to the colder and darker evenings. Other issues including the position of the spring, the cost of the security guard and the areas from which users are drawn were raised.

Members assured the residents that every effort is being made to combat the problems although no immediate solution can be found, however an item on the Agenda may provide an alternative option.

314/06 **Vandalism Report – 26 September 2006 to 1 November 2006**

Consideration was given to the Vandalism Report for the period 26 September 2006 to 1 November 2006.

RESOLVED

That the Vandalism Report for the period 26 September 2006 to 1 November 2006 be noted.

315/06 **Ewart Recreation Ground Play Area**

(a) To note a brief review of comments made at the informal meeting of the residents within the vicinity of the Play Area on 3 October 2006

Members noted the review of comments made at the informal meeting of residents.

(b) To discuss the option of creating a fenced, ornamental park (Minute 257/06 (4) refers)

Consideration was given to the creation of a fenced ornamental park around the Ewart Recreation Ground Play Area in order to alleviate some of the problems which have occurred there.

Concern was expressed over whether the footpath should be enclosed within the fence, in which case it would be closed off at night. There was also some discussion over the finer points of a planting design, but it was agreed that construction would need to be started in the Spring so time was important and planning permission and consent from the landlord should be sought as soon as possible.

It was suggested that two different planning applications be submitted showing the footpath inside and outside the fenced area and a final decision made if permission is granted and a press release issued to explain to residents the reason why this has been done.

RESOLVED

That the plan for an enclosed ornamental park be progressed with two plans submitted for planning permission showing the footpath inside and outside the fenced area and the landlord's consent sought.

(c) To discuss the arrangements for security and the cable runway (Minute 257/06 (1&2) refers)

Consideration was given to the arrangements for security and the cable runway.

RESOLVED

1. That the arrangements for security and the cable runway remain as at present but officers be delegated to vary the hours of the static guard in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the committee if necessary before the next meeting.
2. That the cost and value for money of two more security firms be investigated.

316/06 **Hythe and Dibden Sports Club – Expiry of Lease at Ewart Recreation Ground**

Consideration was given to the negotiation of a new lease for the use of Ewart Recreation Ground by Hythe and Dibden Sports Club.

RESOLVED

That a Working Party comprising Mr Harrison, Mr M Wade, Mr Parkes and Mr Bennett be formed to negotiate the new lease for the use of Ewart Recreation Ground by Hythe and Dibden Sports Club.

317/06 **Bowling Green – viability of project – current status (Minute 125/06 refers)**

Consideration was given to the results of a survey in the Parish Picture to determine whether residents would make use of a Bowling Green if one was provided in the Parish.

RESOLVED

That the provision of a Bowling Green in the Parish should not be pursued.

318/06 **Forest Front Open Space – update on floodlight provision (Minute 255/06 (a) refers)**

Consideration was given to the reinstatement of the electricity supply at Forest Front Open Space with new vandal proof switchgear housing being used.

Members were advised that the Council's insurers, Zurich Municipal, had recommended that the current vandalism at the site be monitored for up to 3 months.

RESOLVED

That the level of vandalism be monitored at Forest Front Open Space and the matter reviewed at the committee meeting on 12 February 2007.

319/06 **Play Field Working Party**

Consideration was given to the formation of a Play Field Working Party and its aims.

RESOLVED

1. That Mr Harrison, Mr Bennett, Mr M Wade and Mr Parkes form a Play Field Working Party.
2. That the aim of the Working Party be to identify areas in the Parish which will enable it to satisfy the immediate and future needs for youth football in the community.

320/06 **Tree Management Programme (Minute 275/05)**

Members noted the Tree Management Programme Report and accepted the schedule of inspections.

RESOLVED

That the Tree Management Programme and Schedule of Inspections be accepted.

321/06 **Budget 2007/2008**

Consideration was given to the draft Budget Paper for 2007/2008.

1. Ewart Recreation Ground Fencing

It was agreed to put aside funding for the proposed fenced ornamental park at Ewart Recreation Ground.

2. Parish Hall

Clarification was sought on the budgeted income for the Parish Hall.

3. General

RESOLVED

That, subject to the above, the proposed income and expenditure relating to this Committee as shown in the Budget Papers for 2007/2008 be agreed and recommended to the Council for adoption.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

Chairman

Date

Mname115