

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Amenities Committee
held at The Grove, St John's Street, Hythe
on Monday 4 June 2007 at 8.05 pm.

Members: * Mrs M McLean (Chairman) – in the Chair

*Mr J Bennett	*Mr D Smith
*Mr R Guy	*Mr B Uglow
*Mr G Jones	*Mr A Wade
*Mr M Short	*Mr M Wade

* Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

In attendance: Mrs S A Krynicki (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
Mrs C Patterson (Minute Clerk)
Mr S Spencer (Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor)
Mr P Eley (ACSO)

Also present: Mr R Newell
Mr G Parkes
Mr P Vickers
4 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press

50/07 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 2 April 2007, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

51/07 **Declarations of Interest**

Mrs McLean declared an interest in Minute 57/07 as she is a trustee of both Hythe Skate and Ride and Dibden Allotments Charity. Mr Jones declared an interest in Minute 58/07 as he has assisted a client in designing the new electricity control box.

52/07 **Public Participation Period**

Ewart Recreation Ground – Football dugouts

Mrs Summers asked whether members were aware that youths were congregating around the football dugouts in Ewart Recreation Ground during the evening.

The Deputy Clerk advised members that the licence issued to Hythe and Dibden Football Club stipulates that the dugouts should be removed after the last game of the season. Efforts are ongoing in attempting to enforce this matter.

Ewart Recreation Ground – Car Parking at cricket matches

Mr Dash asked whether members would consider lifting the byelaw which prevents the driving of cars on Ewart Recreation Ground to allow people, in particular the disabled, to sit in their cars and watch cricket matches.

Members were concerned as it would mean reversing a decision which was made following a health and safety risk assessment. It was agreed to investigate with the Parish Council's insurers whether this would be acceptable before putting the matter on a future agenda.

53/07 **Notification of matters to be raised at the end of the meeting**

Members advised the Chairman of matters which they wished to raise at the end of the meeting.

54/07 Vandalism Report – 24 March to 22 May 2007

Consideration was given to the Vandalism Report for 24 March to 22 May 2007.

RESOLVED

That the Vandalism Report for 24 March to 22 May 2007 be noted.

55/07 Ewart Recreation Ground**i) Play Area Consultation – update (Minute 516/06 (ii) refers)**

Members were updated on the results collated so far from the Play Area Consultation but advised that the final conclusions may be different as only half of the responses have been collated to date.

Although various ideas were put forward on collecting more data it was agreed to continue with the formation of a Working Party and allow it to progress as previously agreed.

ii) Recreation Ground Seat (Minute 513/06 refers)

Consideration was given to whether to reinstate the seat at the Recreation Ground further to requests from daytime users and in light of the fact that its removal does not appear to have affected noise levels in the evening.

RESOLVED

That the seat at Ewart Recreation Ground be replaced.

56/07 Noads Way Play Area – fencing

Consideration was given to a request to extend the existing fencing at Noads Way Play Area as access is now being gained through the garden of a householder.

RESOLVED

That the fencing at Noads Way Play Area be extended at a cost of £791.05.

57/07 Hythe Skate and Ride – request for funding

Consideration was given to a request for funding from Hythe Skate and Ride to install new equipment on the Jones Lane Skate Park.

Members agreed that this facility was very well used previously and were keen that it should be re-opened as soon as is practical.

Mr Vickers advised Mr Dash who was representing Hythe Skate and Ride of a potential source of further funding. Mr Dash thanked him and advised members that Hythe Skate and Ride were continuing to pursue other avenues for funding.

It was RECOMMENDED

That the General Purposes and Finance Committee agree funding to Hythe Skate and Ride up to a maximum of £24,000.

(Mrs McLean declared an interest in this item and left the meeting during consideration thereof. Mr Bennett took the Chair)

58/07 Forest Front Skate Park – to discuss floodlight provision (Minute 450/06 refers)

Consideration was given to the vandalism report for Forest Front Skate Park from January to mid May 2007 which was taken in order to assess the viability of allowing events to be held there under floodlights.

RESOLVED

That the situation continue to be monitored over the summer and the matter brought back to the committee in September.

(Mr Jones declared an interest in this item and left the meeting during consideration thereof)

59/07 **New Forest District Council's Project Management Framework**

Members noted the above document.

60/07 **Challenger Way (Cosworth Drive) Play Area – update (Minute 256/06 refers)**

Members noted the up to date position on the Challenger Way (Cosworth Drive) Play Area and suggested that the Working Party be asked to consider fencing the area.

61/07 **Ball games on small amenity areas**

Members considered their policy on ball games in small amenity areas bearing in mind that young people need fresh air and exercise but parents are reluctant to allow them out of sight of their homes at a young age.

RESOLVED

That this council will continue to allow ball games on small amenity areas and that any problems can be dealt with by the ACSOs.

62/07 **Policy Statements – to agree changes to existing policies**

Consideration was given to the changes to existing Policy Statements.

RESOLVED

That the changes to existing Policy Statements be approved and adopted.

63/07 **Tree management programme – update (Minute 275/05 refers)**

Members were updated on the tree management programme.

RESOLVED

That the report on the tree management programme be noted.

64/07 **Engagement with Youth**

Mr M Wade referred to the Youth Strategy which this Council had previously followed and suggested that it needed revisiting.

It was agreed to request that the matter be put on a future agenda of the General Purposes and Finance Committee.

65/07 **Improvements around Orchard School**

Members were advised of a letter from a resident of Marlborough Court which stated concerns about parking issues in the Orchard Schools area. Mr Short advised members that a scheme for improvements in on display in Orchard Infant School and that the residents of Marlborough Court should have been given a letter with this information. The Deputy Clerk was asked to pass this information on to the resident.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

Chairman

Date

Mname120