

**HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Amenities Committee  
held at The Grove, St John's Street, Hythe  
on Monday 12 November 2007 at 8 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
oMr M Short	oMr M Wade

\* Indicates attendance  
o Indicates apologies for absence

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

Also present:             2 members of the public

400/07 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 8 October 2007, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

401/07 **Declarations of Interest**

Mr Jones declared an interest in Minute 405/07 as a client of his had submitted a bid for the provision of a lighting control box. Mr Guy declared an interest in Minute 408/07 as he is an allotment holder.

402/07 **Public Participation Period**

There were no questions from members of the public.

403/07 **Notification of matters to be raised at the end of the meeting**

There were no matters mentioned.

404/07 **Vandalism Report – 25 September – 26 October 2007**

Consideration was given to the Vandalism Report for the period 25 September to 26 October 2007.

RESOLVED

That the Report be noted.

405/07 **Forest Front Floodlighting (Minute 187/07 refers)**

Consideration was given to the proposal to reinstall floodlighting in Forest Front Skate Park further to the record of vandalism for the six week period leading to the end of October as resolved in Minute 187/07.

Members were concerned at the amount of vandalism in that period and felt that residents should be made aware of the problems.

RESOLVED

1. That no further action be taken in the investigations to reinstall floodlights at Forest Front Skate Park.

2. That residents be advised via a press release of the problems and consequences of vandalism.

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

406/07 **Removal of Play Equipment – Cathay Gardens and Shore Road Play Areas**

Consideration was given to the way forward following the removal of play equipment from Cathay Gardens and Shore Road Play Areas.

A member advised the meeting that he had recently seen some particularly robust and reasonably priced equipment in another area and offered to give the details to the Deputy Clerk.

RESOLVED

That up to £9000 be used to purchase a new piece of equipment for Shore Road Play Area.

407/07 **To receive the notes and consider the recommendations of the Play Equipment Working Party meeting held on Thursday 25 October 2007**

Consideration was given to the notes and recommendations of the Play Equipment Working Party meeting held on Thursday 25 October 2007.

Members were impressed with the layout of the new play area in Challenger Way and the efforts to keep it a challenging park rather than a more rigid play area. The Deputy Clerk advised members that a letter would be sent to local residents requesting ideas and comments and inviting them to join the working party.

RESOLVED

That the notes and recommendations of the Play Equipment Working Party meeting held on Thursday 25 October 2007 be received and adopted.

408/07 **Allotments**

**(a) Allotment Improvements**

Members noted the improvements which are being made to the allotment sites this autumn.

**(b) Spraying of Mares Tail on Parish Council Allotments**

Consideration was given to the request of an allotment holder to spray his plot with pesticide to combat Mares Tail, contrary to the council's policy statement relating to chemical applications on public areas.

RESOLVED

That the allotment holder be advised that this council is not willing to spray his plot with pesticide in order to combat Mares Tail.

**(c) Allotment Provision**

Consideration was given to the provision of additional allotments in the parish and the feasibility of entering a partnership with Dibden Allotments Charity if additional allotments could be provided on land adjacent to their existing plots in Claypits Lane.

Members had concerns over who would be eligible to work these allotments and whether this parish would be subsidising residents of parishes who do not provide allotments.

RESOLVED

That the ownership of the land adjoining the allotments in Claypits Lane be established before any further investigations take place.

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

409/07 **Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005 – Dog Control Orders**

Consideration was given to a letter from New Forest District Council asking for comments on how best the District as a whole can respond to the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 – Dog Control Orders.

Members felt that no major problems are encountered in the parish but the opportunity should be taken to establish a consistent approach.

RESOLVED

That the District Council be advised that this parish favours option 4 – that New Forest District Council declare a Dog Control Order for fouling on the whole of the district, including Town/Parish Council land and for any other specified offences, as necessary.

410/07 **To consider a request to hold a wedding reception in The Grove Garden**

Consideration was given to a request from a member of the public to hold a wedding reception in the gardens of The Grove.

Whilst members supported the idea in principle there were concerns over disruption to tenants of The Grove, particularly those with entrances at the rear, during the erection and taking down of the marquee and toilets, reparation of the grounds afterwards, security in grounds which are normally open to the public and protection of the flooring in the Council Chamber.

RESOLVED

That members' concerns be conveyed to the member of the public who made the request in the hope that answers can be provided in time for the next meeting of the Amenities Committee.

411/07 **Proposed Budget 2008/2009**

Consideration was given to the draft Budget paper for 2008/2009.

RESOLVED

That the proposed income and expenditure relating to this Committee as shown in the Budget Papers be agreed and recommended to the Council for adoption.

The meeting closed at 9 pm.

Chairman

Date

Mname124