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To: Members of the Amenities Committee

Mr J Bennett

Vice Chairman

Mr B Uglow

Mr R Guy

Mr A Wade

Mr G Jones

Mr M Wade

(ex officio)

Mrs M McLean

Chairman

Mr D Smith

(ex officio)

Mr M Short

and remainder of the Council for information

AGAME129

27 May 2008

Members of the Amenities Committee

are hereby summoned to attend the **AMENITIES COMMITTEE** to be held in **The Grove, 25 St John's Street, Hythe on Monday next, 2 June 2008 at 8.00pm**

Yours faithfully

Clerk to the Council

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 April 2008.
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. Notification of any other urgent business to be raised at the end of the meeting.
6. To review the Council's security patrol arrangements (Minute 351/07 refers).
7. Vandalism Report 27 March 2008 to 16 May 2008.
8. To receive and adopt the notes of the Play Equipment Working Party meeting held on 8 May 2008 (attached).
9. Youth shelters – Forest Front and Noadswood School.
10. Provision of additional allotments.
11. Any other urgent business concerning the committee.



HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

AGENDA NOTES

AMENITIES COMMITTEE – 2 June 2008

Item 6 To review the Council's security patrol arrangements (Minute 351/07 refers)

At a meeting of this committee on 8 October 2007 Members considered details of a tender process for the provision of security patrols, after discussion the following was

RESOLVED

1. That Lowes Guarding Service continue to lock the Noads Way Play Area at the previously agreed times.
2. That the Accredited Community Support Officers continue to include Ewart Recreation Ground regularly on their patrols.
3. That the matter be reviewed in six months unless any major problems occur in which event the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman of the committee be delegated to take the appropriate action until the matter can be discussed at the next meeting.

Noads Way Play Area continues to be locked by Lowes Guarding Service and no major incidents have been reported.

The Council's dedicated ACSO's have continued to patrol Ewart Recreation Ground and keep details of their visits. The attached graphs provide a summary of the logs kept from 9 October 2007 until the end of April 2008 a period of 196 days.

Wednesday evening's attract a large number of young people from all over the parish to Ewart Recreation Ground to attend the youth club. As a result incidents have been reported and dealt with by the community safety team when they are on site.

New rules regarding membership of the youth club have been introduced and visitors signing into the club are requested to have their hand stamped. This allows for the members to be supervised and identified if necessary.

As a further way of engaging with the young people on youth club nights members of staff from the Youth Club have been assisted by members of Hythe and Dibden Sports Club to provide sporting equipment for the young people to use under supervision on the grassed area by the club. During the winter period the sports club allowed the use of their security lights to illuminate the area. This is to try and deter a migration of young people from the youth club to the play area.

In addition to the data contained in the graphs it has become apparent that problems with anti social behaviour occur more at times when the dedicated ACSO's and Police Community Support Officer are not on duty. On these

occasions the police have been attending incidents of anti social behaviour when operational requirements permit.

In order to reflect the current need for patrols on a Wednesday evening at Ewart Recreation Ground discussions have been taking place with Hampshire County Council to reorganise the ACSO's shift pattern for a trial basis. The discussions have been encouraging and it looks likely that an agreement will be reached within the current Service Level Agreement.

Various other areas where young people congregate have from time to time been subjected to anti social behaviour. These areas are identified as hot spots and are targeted by the various community safety partners including the ACSO's, PCSO's and police.

This approach is proving very successful and the areas tend to go quiet. The current information sharing and collaborative working amongst the partners with regard to anti social behaviour suggests that this situation can be maintained and even improved upon if required.

Members are therefore recommended to

1. Maintain the current level of private security provision currently employed at Noads Way.
2. Agree to the continued monitoring of anti social behaviour and provide delegated powers to the Clerk and Chairman of this committee to take appropriate action until the matter can be discussed at the next meeting of this committee.

Item 7

Vandalism Report 27 March 2008 to 16 May 2008.

The following is a list of the vandalism suffered for the period shown.

Shore Road Play Area

A backstay was broken off a football post; the damage has since been repaired.

Cost to the Council £10.00

Forest Front Nature Reverse

The contents of a dog bin were daubed on to a number of benches and signs. The affected items were cleaned and disinfected.

Cost to the Council £20.00

Beechwood Pond

A sign post was damaged and a guard rail was loosened on the foot bridge. The post has been removed and the guard rail has been repaired.

Cost to the Council £10.00

Jones Lane Skate Park

A section of safety barrier was removed from one of the ramps. The barrier was bolted back into place.

Cost to the Council £10.00

Forest Front Skate Park

A large amount of bottles and glasses had been smashed over the skate park and the surrounding grass areas. The glass was collected and the area made safe.

Cost to the Council £10.00

Tates Copse

A new dog bin has been purchased, to replace the one reported at the last meeting.

Cost to the Council £190.30

The total confirmed cost of vandalism for the period shown is £250.30

Comparison

The total cost of vandalism for this financial year is £250.30 Compared to £1004.50 in the previous financial year.

Item 8 To receive and adopt the notes of the Play Equipment Working Party meeting held on 8 May 2008 (attached)

The notes of the Play Equipment Working Party held on the 8 May 2008 are attached.

Members are asked to consider and adopt the notes.

Item 9 Youth shelters Forest Front and Noadswood School

As part of the Youth Involvement Strategy young people at Netley View have requested that the shelter at Netley View Skate Park is fitted with a weather proof screen on three sides. Ann McDonald (Handy Trust) is currently working with the Council to agree the improvements prior to work commencing. Budget provision has been made.

Young people from Dibden Purlieu who have tended to congregate at Tesco Express, North Road and at a shelter provided at Orchard Junior School for waiting parents have requested that they are provided with a shelter in the local vicinity.

Investigations are taking place by the Handy Trust into the type of shelter required by the young people. In addition the Council has had preliminary discussions with the Headmaster at Noadswood School to determine a possible location within the school grounds for the shelter.

Feedback from all sides has been positive, and the next stage will be to consult with any nearby residents prior to requesting designs for the shelter. Results of the consultation will be brought back before the committee at a later date.

Members are requested to note the report.

Item 10 **Provision of allotments**

At present the Council provides 141 plots at 3 different sites in School Road, Jones Lane, and West Street. In addition to this Dibden Allotment Charity provide 12 plots at their site in Claypits Lane, Dibden.

All available plots are occupied with a waiting list for Parish Council plots consisting of 64 parish residents, 16 non parish residents and 9 who would like an additional plot. The current turnover rate means that a prospective tenant from the parish can be waiting approximately 2 years. A non parish resident is unlikely to receive a plot.

The waiting list contains people resident outside of this parish however it is explained at the time of applying that residents from within this parish's boundary take preference. The applicants are encouraged to lobby their respective authorities to supply new or additional allotments.

In order to help satisfy demand the Parish Council has been seeking alternative sites to provide more allotments. Land adjacent to the existing site at Claypits Lane has been identified in the Local Plan as suitable for allotments.

A letter seeking the landowner's views on allowing the Council to provide another allotment site on the land has been sent, the Council is awaiting a response.

Members are asked to note the report and to consider whether they want to continue to accept non residents of the parish as applicants for allotments.

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