

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 April 2010 at 8 pm.

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

oMr J Bennett	*Mr D Smith
*Mr R Guy	*Mr B Uglow
*Mr G Parkes	*Mr P Vickers
oMr M Short	*Mr A 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: 3 Members of the Public

640/09 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 8 February 2010, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

641/09 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

642/09 **Public Participation Period**

Hardy Drive Public Open Space

Mr Brown of Hamilton Mews, adjacent to the Hardy Drive Public Open Space, spoke of the concerns he and other residents have had over the past 20 years about the neglect of the Hardy Drive Public Open Space which they understood was to have been landscaped when they bought their homes.

They welcomed the Parish Council's interest in the matter and asked that they assisted in resolving the following objectives:-

1. To secure the 2 areas of open space for the benefit of local residents through the Section 106 agreement.
2. To ensure guaranteed access to the larger area of woodland with a pedestrian right of access via Hardy Drive.
3. To re-open the pedestrian route through the woodland to allow access to the bus stop and post box on Frost Lane.

It was agreed to take these points into consideration when the matter was discussed later on the agenda.

643/09 **Notification of matters to be raised at the end of the meeting**

There were no matters mentioned.

644/09 **Beechwood Way Pond – to consider the continued use of lifebuoys (Minute No. 219/09 refers)**

Consideration was given to the continued use of lifebuoys at Beechwood Way Pond.

Members were keen that the use of lifebuoys at the pond should continue but it was suggested that the use of an alarm to show when the lifebuoy had been removed from its casing would be a useful addition.

RESOLVED

1. That the use of lifebuoys at Beechwood Way Pond should continue.
2. That the installation of an alarm on the lifebuoy be investigated and actioned unless the cost is prohibitive.

645/09 Youth Involvement Strategy – to consider a request for the provision of a dirt bike track

Consideration was given to a request from the Youth Involvement Strategy to provide a dirt bike track.

Whilst members were keen to provide an outdoor facility which would be well used by youngsters there were concerns over the projected costs and uncertainty that there are any suitable sites in the area.

It was suggested that once a suitable site is identified, consultations with residents and potential funding could then be investigated.

RESOLVED

That investigation into a suitable site for a dirt bike track continue.

646/09 Allotments - to receive a verbal update

Further to a request from members for him to investigate the matter, Councillor Vickers updated the meeting on the current position on the provision of new allotment sites.

In the 20 year Local Development Framework which was adopted by New Forest District Council last year allotments are classified as agricultural land. The next phase of the Local Development Framework requires potential housing sites, employment land, amenity land and agricultural land to be nominated through the Sites and Development DPD. If the Parish Council were to nominate potential sites for new allotments a consultation on the matter would automatically be triggered.

It was agreed that potential allotment sites in and around the Parish should be identified and nominated through the Sites and Development DPD.

It was further agreed that sites in the Parish that are covered by the New Forest National Park should also be identified so that they can be nominated when NPA plans reach a similar stage.

Councillor Vickers was thanked by the committee for his report.

647/09 Hardy Drive Public Open Space – to note an update on the current condition of the land

Consideration was given to the update on the current condition of the land at Hardy Drive.

Members were keen to progress the matter as quickly as possible and it was suggested that the District Council be asked to provide a suitable timescale and end date for the scheme.

RESOLVED

That the update into the current condition of the land at Hardy Drive Open Space be noted and the District Council asked to provide an end date for the works to be completed and the land transferred to Parish Council ownership.

648/09 Play area safety inspections – to receive an update on the training of Maintenance Operators

Members were advised that Lee Ofield and Ian Anderson had both undertaken and passed the Register of Play Inspectors' International Exam for Operational Inspections.

As it is acknowledged to be a very challenging exam it was agreed that both members of staff should receive a letter of congratulations from the committee.

649/09 Whitewater Rise Public Open Space – to receive an update on a recent safety inspection

Consideration was given to the update on the recent safety inspection in Whitewater Rise Public Open Space.

RESOLVED

That the update on the recent safety inspection in Whitewater Rise Open Space be noted.

650/09 Netley View Youth Club – Land south of Cedar Road

Consideration was given to continuing to investigate the possibility of providing community facilities on the land to the South of Cedar Road and the adjacent Esso land following the closure of the Blackfield and Langley Sports and Social Club.

RESOLVED

That the possibility of providing community facilities on the land to the South of Cedar Road and the adjacent Esso land continue to be investigated.

The meeting closed at 9 pm.

Chairman

Date

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