

**HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
General Purposes and Finance Committee  
held at The Grove, 25 St John's Street, Hythe  
on Monday, 20 June 2005 at 8 pm.

Members:                   \*Mr R Podesta (Chairman) – in the Chair

*Mr G Dawson	*Mrs B Smith
*Mr C Harrison	oMr D Smith
*Mrs M Robinson	*Mr M S Wade
*Mr M Short	*Mr S S Wade

\* Indicates attendance  
o Indicates apologies for absence

In attendance:           Mr D J Shimpe (Clerk to the Council)  
Mrs C Patterson (Minute Clerk)

Also present:             Mr G Parkes  
1 Member of the Public

64/05   **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 14 April 2005, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

65/05   **Declarations of Interest**

Mrs S Wade declared an interest in Minute 68/05 as he is a trustee for Forest Front Nature Reserve. Mr Dawson declared an interest in Minute 73/05 as he is a trustee of the HANDY Trust. Mrs Smith declared an interest in Minute 68/05 as she is a trustee of the CAB and a member of Hythe and Dibden Twinning Association. Mr Parkes declared an interest in Minute 68/05 as he is Chairman of both Waterside Heritage and Hythe and Dibden Twinning Association. Mr Podesta declared an interest in Minute 70/05 as he is the owner of a shop in Hythe. Mrs Robinson declared an interest in Minute 68/05 as she is a Committee Member nominated by the Parish Council on Victim Support and a Member of the Twinning Association and in Minute 72/05 as she is a Member of Options, nominated by New Forest District Council and Hants Partnership Trust, appointed by the government.

66/05   **Public Participation Period**

There were no questions from Members of the Public.

67/05   **Accounts for Payment**

The Clerk submitted a Schedule of Accounts for payment, together with a supplementary list.

**1. 1384 – Rates**

Clarification was sought over which parts of the building this Council pays rates for.

The Clerk confirmed that all tenants pay for the parts of the building they occupy.

**2. 1376 – Topsoil**

The Clerk advised Members that the topsoil had been added to the allotments as an ongoing programme of improvements due to a lot of soil being washed away in previous years.

**3. 1387 – Grove Alarm phone bill**

The Clerk confirmed that this item related to the Alarm and phone bills at The Grove.

#### 4. General

RESOLVED

That, subject to the above, accounts as detailed in Vouchers 1359 – 1425 inclusive, totalling £68974.66, be approved and paid.

#### 68/05 Grant Aid Applications 2005/2006

Consideration was given to the allocation of Grant Aid, in conjunction with the recommendations of the Grant Aid Working Party.

RESOLVED

That grants be made to the following organisations for the amounts stated from the 2005/2006 Grant Aid budget:-

1. CAB	£1220
2. Community First Direct	£1030
3. Friends of Forest Front Nature Reserve	£ 390
4. Waterside Heritage	£ 250
5. Waterside Scrapstore	£ 100
6. Jones Lane Residents Assn	£ 200
7. MODCATS	£ 100
8. N. F. Victim Support	£ 250
9. Butts Ash Comm Assn	£ 375
10. Vitalise	£ 106
11. Hythe & Dibden Twinning Assn	£ 190
12. Hythe & Dibden Short Mat Bowls Club	£ 100
13. Topaz Club	£ 200

(Mrs Robinson, Mr S Wade, Mr Parkes and Mrs Smith declared an interest in this item but remained in the meeting)

#### 69/05 RevitalHythe Update

Consideration was given to the update on the progress of the RevitalHythe Group.

Some Members were concerned that although they knew the initial aims of the Market Town Healthcheck, they were unsure of what contribution they could make now that it was progressing. It was also felt that more people needed to be encouraged to become involved to provide a diversity of ideas, although it was appreciated that this was proving to be difficult.

RESOLVED

1. That a document is produced for Members advising them of the requirements of the Market Town Healthcheck.
2. That Mrs Smith be the Council's representative on the Tourism Group.

#### 70/05 Outturn figures year ending 31 March 2005

Consideration was given to the outturn figures for the year ending March 2005 and how to allocate the remaining funds available to the Council of £26,665.00

RESOLVED

1. That the Market Town Healthcheck be funded until September 2006 and the Clerk prepare a report on the implications and benefits for a future meeting.
2. That replacement signs be provided at The Grove at a cost of £2500.

3. That the Christmas lights circuits be upgraded with a contribution of £3000.

(Mr Podesta declared an interest in this item and left the meeting during consideration thereof. Mr M Wade took the Chair)

71/05 **Proposed Extinguishment of Highway Rights – land adjoining 3 Braehead, Hythe**

Consideration was given to the extinguishment of Highway Rights on the land adjoining 3 Braehead, Hythe following a request to reconsider the matter from the Principal Engineer at the County Council.

Concern was expressed that this would set a precedent for other properties in the area to alter their curtilage to match this and that there would be no benefit to council tax payers if this work is funded by the County Council.

RESOLVED

That the Principal Engineer at Hampshire County Council be asked why County Council funds are being used in this manner, with a copy letter being sent to the County Councillor.

72/05 **New Forest, Eastleigh and Test Valley South PCT's – Community Services Strategy**

Consideration was given to the draft Community Hospital Strategy which was included with a response from the New Forest Primary Care Trust on the continued closure of Hythe Minor Injuries Unit.

Concern was expressed that permanent closure of the Unit would be a false economy so it was agreed that this Council and the local community must be seen to support the re-opening of the Unit.

RESOLVED

That the New Forest Primary Care Trust be thanked for sending the draft document for comment, but advised that this Council will look forward to receiving the formal consultation document. They should be further advised that the re-opening of the Minor Injuries Unit is still of great importance to the Community who need to be informed of the present position.

(Mrs Robinson declared an interest in this item, spoke, but did not vote)

73/05 **Service Level Agreement – The HANDY Trust**

Consideration was given to the Service Level Agreement for the HANDY Trust.

It was agreed that whilst the SLA is acceptable in principle, the work of the Youth Worker has evolved since the position began and, therefore, the specification needs updating. It was suggested that a Reference Group meet up 6 or 12 monthly for a strategic exchange of ideas between the Trust and the Parish.

The Clerk advised Members that he felt that his position as a trustee of the HANDY Trust left him with a conflict of interests.

RESOLVED

1. That this Committee supports the SLA in principle.
2. That the Clerk to the Council should not be a trustee of the HANDY Trust.
3. That an amended SLA be brought to the next meeting of the Committee which the Youth Worker be invited to attend.

(Mr Dawson and the Clerk declared an interest in this item and left the meeting during consideration thereof. However, the Committee felt that the Clerk was needed to help in their discussions and invited him to re-join the Meeting)

74/05 **Hythe Promenade Refurbishment**

Members were pleased that work had begun on the refurbishment of The Promenade, but asked that a sign be erected to inform residents of what to expect.

It was agreed to investigate the matter.

The Meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Chairman

Date

mngpf100