

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 22 January 2007 at 8 pm.

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

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

* 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

395/06 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 27 November 2006, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

396/06 **Notification of any other urgent business to be raised at the end of the meeting**

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

397/06 **Declarations of Interest**

Mrs Smith declared an interest in Minute 401/06 as she is a trustee of Waterside CAB. Mr S Wade declared an interest in Minute 401/06 as he is the life president of the CAB committee. Mr Podesta declared an interest in Minute 409/06 and Minute 410/06 as he is a resident of Hythe Promenade. Mrs Robinson declared an interest in Minute 406/06 as she is a member of New Forest Local Strategic Partnership.

398/06 **Public Participation Period**

There were no members of the public present.

399/06 **Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 2840-2904 inclusive, totalling £87,781.37, be approved and paid.

400/06 **Final Accounts 2005/06 – External Audit**

Consideration was given to the Annual Return for 2005/2006 and the proposed level of fidelity guarantee insurance.

RESOLVED

That the completion of the audit process for 2005/2006 be noted.

And

Recommend

That the level of fidelity guarantee insurance be set at balances as at 31 March plus half the precept for the forthcoming year.

401/06 **Update on Public Buildings**

The Grove

Consideration was given to a letter from the CAB regarding the heat in their offices during the summer months.

It was agreed to ask the CAB to conduct a heat audit to see what heat is being generated in their offices and advise them that this council is not minded to install air conditioning in The Grove.

Clayfields

No further update.

Parish Hall

No further update.

Workshop

Members noted the arrangements for the ACSOs to park their vehicles in the workshop compound.

Pavilion Shore Road

No further update.

(Mrs Smith and Mr S Wade declared an interest in this item and left the meeting during consideration thereof)

402/06 **Community Safety Service Update**

Consideration was given to the Community Safety Service Update for October to December 2006.

A question was raised as to why there was a jump in joint patrols with police and other agencies in December 2006. The Clerk advised members that this was mainly due to training for new officers and patrols with agencies such as the Handy Trust.

A member asked whether the report could include the areas where offences are taking place in order to gauge the "hot spots". The Clerk advised that future reports should include more written narrative and the present "hot spots" are Water Lane, Oak Road Car Park and Hythe Village Centre.

There still appears to be some confusion over the use of the 101 telephone number and it is hoped that people who have phoned the number will be visited in the future.

Members were pleased to note the number of compliments which had been received about the service and it was suggested that a press release be issued and the local media be invited to accompany the ACSOs on patrol.

The Clerk advised members that 2 Fixed Penalty Notices had recently been issued to youths cycling in the precinct.

403/06 **Mobile CCTV**

Consideration was given to the purchase of a mobile CCTV system.

RESOLVED

That a mobile CCTV system be purchased at a cost of approximately £4000.

404/06 OAP Garden Waste Scheme

Consideration was given to a letter from New Forest District Council advising that they were no longer able to continue with the discount garden waste scheme for senior citizens.

Recommended

That the discount garden waste scheme for senior citizens be discontinued.

405/06 Improvements to Hart Hill right of way

Consideration was given to a letter from Hampshire County Council concerning improvements to the Hart Hill right of way.

Some concern was expressed by the lack of local knowledge displayed in the letter and it was agreed to make Councillor Dunsdon aware of these concerns.

RESOLVED

That the improvements to Hart Hill right of way be noted.

406/06 Your Future Matters – issues and options for the New Forest – A Public Consultation

Consideration was given to a response to the above consultation.

RESOLVED

That the Chairman of the Council and the Clerk be authorised to split the document into sections and distribute to members with specialist knowledge to complete.

(Mrs Robinson declared an interest in this item, remained in the meeting but did not take part in the discussion)

407/06 Notes of the meeting of the Art Collection Working Party held on 10 January 2006

Consideration was given to the notes of the meeting of the Art Collection Working Party held on 10 January 2006.

It was recommended that the US Base be invited to contribute to a commemoration of their time in the area.

RESOLVED

That the notes of the meeting of the Art Collection Working Party held on 10 January 2006 be noted.

408/06 Request for Footpath – From Beaumaris Gardens along Southampton Road

Consideration was given to a request from residents of Beaumaris Gardens for the provision of a footpath along Southampton Road.

As this council requested a footpath at the planning application stage and the request was refused members agreed that an indication of the number of residents who wanted a footpath was needed.

RESOLVED

That the local members, Mr S Wade and Mr Harrison conduct a survey of residents to ascertain how many wish for a footpath and then contact the District Council.

409/06 The Promenade – Vehicular Access

Consideration was given to the problem of traffic turning at the Promenade and the ways proposed by the District and County Councils of mitigating the problem.

Members did not feel that removing parking spaces would be beneficial and would disadvantage some members of the public. Various other measures such as rumble strips and ramps were dismissed as being too noisy for the residents of the Promenade.

RESOLVED

That officers continue to investigate ways of discouraging driving to the end of the road along the Promenade, partly by more aggressive signing.

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

410/06 **Hythe Promenade – Environmental Improvements – Stakeholders comments**

Members completed a questionnaire on the environmental improvements at Hythe promenade.

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

411/06 **Litter**

It was suggested that a letter be sent to the District Council praising the new street cleaning operative in Hythe for the excellent job he is doing.

A member advised of large amounts of rubbish which are accumulating along Southampton Road at the rear of Mountfield.

The Clerk advised members that Commercial Services Mobile Teams are due to review street cleaning.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Chairman

Date

Mngpf114