

Christmas Lights

Concern was expressed that there may not be any Christmas Lights this year.

The Clerk explained that the existing lights are coming to the end of their useful life and it is expensive to install them due to health and safety implications. It has been suggested that individual retailers provide their own trees/lights and investigations are already being made.

NFDC Policy on Change of Use

Mr Parkes advised members that no response had yet been received from the District Council regarding the current ratio of usages.

Hythe Promenade

Mrs Smith expressed concern that the Promenade has been open for almost a year and major events have yet to be held there.

The Clerk advised members that a blanket licence for the area is being investigated but there are concerns over taking the onus away from the District Council.

RAF Hythe

Mrs Robinson praised the work done by the Parish Council to ensure that RAF Hythe remained a site of employment, in particular that done by the Market Town Co-ordinator.

RESOLVED

That the notes of the Hythe Centre Advisory Group held on 27 March 2007 be noted.

540/06 **Notes of the Arts Working Party held on 19 March 2007**

Consideration was given to the notes of the Arts Working Party held on 19 March 2007.

A member expressed a doubt over the ability of a Parish Council to purchase art work and it was agreed to investigate the matter.

RESOLVED

That the notes of the Arts Working Party held on 19 March 2007 be noted.

541/06 **Update on Public Buildings**

- The Grove
- Clayfields
- Parish Hall
- Workshop
- Pavilion Shore Road

Consideration was given to the update on Public Buildings.

The Clerk advised members that problems had been encountered with obtaining tenders for the installation of the disabled ramp at the Parish Hall. Tenders had been sought on two separate occasions from eight different contractors. On each occasion only one tender was received.

A local contractor, R. Duell who has undertaken work for the Council on previous occasions, had now quoted a figure of £26,000 which was £8,000 less than the original tenders and the National Lottery had awarded a grant of £10,000 to be utilised before August so it was agreed to go ahead with the project.

RESOLVED

That the update on Public Buildings be noted.

542/06 Community Safety Service UpdateACSOs

Members were pleased to note that whilst there are still problems around the Parish, the ACSOs seem to be attending and dealing with them.

More calls are being redirected to the mobile phones of the ACSOs and members were keen to stress that people who call these numbers should continue to do so to keep the ACSOs informed of problems.

PCSOs

Consideration was given to the draft Service Level Agreement between the Parish Council and Hampshire Police concerning the PCSOs.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk continue negotiations with Hampshire Police based on this SLA and conclude the agreement.

543/06 Annual Review of Business Risk Assessment and Insurance ArrangementsRisk Management

Consideration was given to the updated schedule of risks.

A member queried what risk assessment had been undertaken regarding the ACSOs. The Clerk advised members that risk assessments and insurance for the ACSOs are covered by the County Council who are their employers.

Members were advised that, should a loss of communications systems in The Grove be suffered, a contingency plan has been agreed by the Council and a copy is held off site.

RESOLVED

That the schedule of risks be agreed.

Insurance

Consideration was given to the schedule of insurance.

The Clerk advised members that the equipment at Play Areas is not insured for damage or loss and that it would cost in the region of £4000 per annum to do this. He suggested that an extra percentage allowance in the budget for replacement would be the best way of dealing with this.

RESOLVED

1. That the schedule of insurance be agreed.
2. That when next year's budget is considered an extra percentage allowance be added to the Play Equipment Budget to allow for replacement.

544/06 NALC – Financial Update – March 2007

Consideration was given to the NALC Financial Update March 2007.

RESOLVED

1. That the report be noted.
2. That a working party consisting of the Chairman of the Council and Chairmen of Committees be formed to undertake the review of Internal Audit and report back to the committee.

545/06 **Proposed Revision to HAPTC Constitution and Standing Orders**

Consideration was given to the proposed revision of the HAPTC Constitution and Standing Orders.

RESOLVED

That the proposed revision of the HAPTC Constitution and Standing Orders be noted.

546/06 **HAPTC – Continuing Relationship with NALC**

Consideration was given to whether HAPTC should withdraw from NALC.

Members felt that it is right to review the position regularly, but this council uses NALC quite often.

RESOLVED

That the situation should remain as it is at present.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Chairman

Date

Mngpf116