

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 8 September 2008 at 8 pm.

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

*Mrs M McLean	*Mr D Smith
*Mr R Newell	*Mr P Vickers
*Mr G Parkes	*Mr A Wade
*Mr M Short	*Mr M 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 W Binns
Inspector K Leckey (Hythe Police)
1 Member of the Public

174/08 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 14 July 2008, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

175/08 **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 raise at the end of the meeting.

176/08 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

177/08 **Public Participation Period**

There were no questions from members of the public.

178/08 **Discussion with Inspector Leckey from Hythe Police Station**

Inspector Leckey attended the meeting to update members and answer any questions they may have.

As the Parish has been sponsoring PCSO Andy Mansbridge for over 12 months as the dedicated officer for Hythe and Dibden, Inspector Leckey distributed the incidence of crime statistics for Hythe in comparison with the rest of the Waterside, New Milton and Ringwood. Members were delighted to note that problems in Hythe were considerably less than in the other areas and expressed the hope that this level of performance could be maintained.

It was agreed that the reduction of incidence of crime in Hythe and Dibden is due to the partnership between the Police, Police Community Support Officer, the Accredited Community Safety Officers, the HANDY Trust and various other organisations who work together for the benefit of the community.

In response to a question, Inspector Leckey advised the meeting that PC Mansbridge is trying to revive the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme which has been somewhat neglected in recent years. There has been a slow response, mainly due to the difficulties encountered in contacting previous organisers and interested parties, so it was agreed that an updated article should be run in the Parish Picture.

Following complaints by the residents who live around Noadswood School about responses to the 101 number at a previous meeting, Inspector Leckey was asked whether the Police had received many complaints.

Inspector Leckey was not aware of many complaints from that area but reiterated the need to persevere with calls so that they are logged and "hot spots" identified.

179/08 **Community Safety – review of current contract arrangements**

Accredited Community Safety Officers

The Committee considered a review of the service provided by Hampshire County Council and its successful impact on reducing anti-social behaviour.

Consideration was also given to whether to extend the service of the Accredited Community Safety Officers when the current service with Hampshire County Council expires in 2009.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the Accredited Community Safety Officer service with Hampshire County Council be extended for a further 3 years.
- (b) The Clerk to the Council, negotiate arrangements for additional cover on Saturday evenings, within the next six to nine months.

Police Community Support Officer

Consideration was given to whether to extend the service of the Police Community Support Officer when the current agreement ends in July 2009.

RESOLVED

That the service of the Police Community Support Officer be extended for a further period of 2 years.

180/08 **Quality Parish and Town Council Scheme – Application for re-accreditation**

Consideration was given to whether to seek re-accreditation as a Quality Parish Council for a further 4 years.

RECOMMENDED

That this Council seek re-accreditation as a Quality Parish Council for a further 4 years.

181/08 **Training – Statement of Intent**

Consideration was given to the draft Statement of Intent in respect of training. Suggestions were made that improvements could be made by including sections on equal opportunities and partnership working which should encompass economic development and community safety.

RECOMMENDED

That the draft Statement of Intent be adopted subject to it being amended to include equal opportunities and partnership working.

182/08 **Results of Hotel Survey**

Consideration was given to the results of the Hotel Survey provided by Douglas Grant Associates Ltd as part of the market town healthcheck.

Members regretted that no significant progress could be made but were encouraged by the report and agreed to continue to support any initiatives that resulted from it.

RESOLVED

That the results of the hotel survey be noted.

183/08 Grant Applications 2008/2009

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 2008/2009 Grant Aid budget:-

CAB	£5335
Community First Direct	£1125
Friends of Forest Front Nature Reserve	£ 425
Waterside Heritage	£ 275
Jones Lane Residents Assoc	£ 100
New Forest Disability Info Service	£ 300
Hythe & Dibden Short Mat Bowls Club	£ 100
Oakhaven Hospice Trust	£ 600
Girlguiding – Hythe District	£ 100
Waterside Bowling Club	£ 250
Cruse Bereavement Care	£ 250

184/08 Speed Limit Reminders (SLR) and Speed Indicator Devices (SID)**Speed Limit Reminders**

Following advice from the District Council that the County Council are due to issue revised guidance on the purchase and use of Speed Limit Reminders it was agreed to clarify the position before making a decision.

Speed Indicator Device

Consideration was given to the request from the District Council for the funding of a sleeve to allow the deployment of a SID at Deerleap Way and Sizer Way.

Whilst members were happy to comply with the request at Deerleap Way it was felt that other sites such as Whitewater Rise should take priority over Sizer Way.

RESOLVED

That funding be granted for the installation of a sleeve to allow the deployment of a SID at Deerleap Way but that the District Council be asked to consider other locations such as Whitewater Rise in preference to Sizer Way.

185/08 Hampshire Association of Local Councils – Annual General Meeting – 27 September 2008

Consideration was given to sending a second delegate to attend the Annual General Meeting of Hampshire Association of Local Councils.

It was agreed that continued membership of the Hampshire Association of Local Councils should be discussed on a future agenda.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk circulates an email asking for volunteers to attend the Annual General Meeting of Hampshire Association of Local Councils.

186/08 Supported Bus Services in Totton and Waterside area

Consideration was given to a request from Hampshire County Council for contributions towards additional bus services.

RESOLVED

That this Council will not contribute towards additional bus services at this time.

187/08 **Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 4191 and 4221 - 4299 inclusive, totalling £51,982.26, be approved and paid.

188/08 **Whitewater Rise**

Members expressed concern at a road closure at Whitewater Rise due to a narrow section of the road being dug up. It was felt that the whole road need not have been closed with better traffic management and that the diversion was very poorly signed.

The Clerk advised the meeting that complaints had already been made to Highways Division which had made assurances that the work would be finished this week.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Chairman

Date

Mngpf129