

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, 15 September 2003 at 8.10 pm.

Members: *Mr S S Wade (Chairman) – in the Chair

*Mr R Guy	*Mr M Short
*Mr C Harrison	*Mrs B Smith
oMr R Podesta	*Mr D Smith
*Mrs M Robinson	oMr M 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
1 Member of the Press

197/03 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 28 July 2003, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

198/03 **Declarations of Interest**

Mr Smith declared an interest in Minute 205/03 as he is the Council's representative on Butts Ash Community Association. Mrs Smith declared an interest in Minute 205/03 as she is a member of the Waterside Arts Committee and the Waterside CAB Management Committee. Mrs Robinson declared an interest in Minute 205/03 as she is the Council's nominee to New Forest Victim Support. Mr Harrison declared an interest in Minute 200/03 as he is employed by ABCO Windows.

199/03 **Public Participation Period**

There were no questions from members of the public.

200/03 **Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 239-288 inclusive, totalling
£59027.93, be approved and paid.

(Mr Harrison declared an interest in this item, but remained in the
meeting)

201/03 **Financial Monitoring – 1 April 2003 to 31 July 2003**

Members considered the Financial Monitoring Information which the Clerk intends to provide quarterly. It was agreed that it will be a useful aid to rethinking and prioritising resources.

Members noted the current financial position.

202/03 **Protocol for Working Arrangements between New Forest District Council and Local Parish and Town Councils – Developers Contribution – Open Space**

Members considered the above document which was adopted by the District Council in April 2003.

It was felt that it would be useful for the Clerk to see the original 106 agreement in order that an overview of the process could be followed.

Members noted the protocol.

203/03 **Public Open Spaces – Lytton Road, Hythe**

Members considered the offer from the District Council to transfer the freehold of the above land to the Parish Council along with £2266.66 towards its future maintenance.

It was anticipated that the land would require 35 man hours to maintain annually on dedicated visits.

RESOLVED

That the offer be declined.

204/03 **Handling Complaints**

Consideration was given to the “Code of Practice for Local Councils Handling Complaints” which has recently been re-issued by NALC.

RESOLVED

1. That the Code be adopted and replace the one currently as Appendix B in the Council’s Standing Orders.
2. That all Members be considered a sub-committee for handling complaints from whom 3 may be drawn when required.

205/03 **Grant Aid Applications**

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

Consideration was also given to a proposed amendment to the grant aid application policy and procedures.

RESOLVED

1. That the Grant Aid Working Party reconsider the proposed amendment to the policy and procedures.
2. That grants be made to the following organisations for the amounts stated from the 2003/2004 Grant Aid budget:-

a)	CAB	£1150.00
b)	Hythe Youth Club	£ 250.00
c)	4 th New Forest East (Hythe) Sea Scouts	£ 150.00
d)	Hythe and Dibden Youth FC	£ 250.00
e)	Jones Lane Residents Assoc.	£ 200.00
f)	N F Victim Support	£ 250.00
g)	New Forest Dis. Inf. Service	£ 250.00
h)	Friends of Forest Front Nature Reserve	£ 360.00
i)	Waterside Heritage	£ 200.00
j)	Hants Ambulance – First Responders	£ 450.00
k)	Hythe League of Friends	£ 250.00
l)	Jack and Jill Playgroup	£ 100.00
m)	Marcella House	£ 150.00
n)	Oakhaven Hospice Trust	£ 500.00
o)	Butts Ash Community Association	£ 500.00

(Mr Smith, Mrs Smith and Mrs Robinson declared an interest in the above item, but remained in the meeting)

206/03 **Christmas Lights 2003**

Consideration was given to the proposal to allocate a further £750.00 towards Christmas Lights this year.

RESOLVED

That £750.00 be allocated towards Christmas Lights.

207/03 **Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils – 56th Annual General Meeting 2003**

Consideration was given to which Members should represent the Council at the above Meeting on 18 October 2003.

RESOLVED

That Mr S Wade be one representative and letters be sent to other Members requesting a volunteer.

208/03 **Crime Review Panel and Community Wardens**

Consideration was given to the nomination of 1 or 2 Members who could attend the Meeting of the Crime Review Panel on 18 November 2003 and participate in the debate. As District Councillors are entitled to attend anyway, it was suggested that those Members who are only Parish Councillors attend in order to ensure strong representation.

It was suggested that Hythe and Dibden would be an ideal Parish to act as a pilot for any scheme, especially as it has not benefited from any other crime prevention initiatives.

RESOLVED

- (a) That letters be sent to all "Parish only" Councillors inviting them to attend the Meeting.
- (b) That letters be sent to the Portfolio holder and the Chairman of the Review Panel offering this Parish as a candidate for any pilot scheme.

209/03 **A 326 Grass Cutting**

A Member requested that a letter be sent to the Street Cleansing Department congratulating them on the prompt way in which the A 326 was tidied following the mess left by verge cutting recently.

210/03 **Horseshoe Green – Heatherstone Avenue**

Further to recent discussions on the need to protect the Horseshoe Green at Heatherstone Avenue from cars parking (Minute 169/03), it was suggested that investigations could be made into declaring it a village green.

It was further suggested that official Parish "No Parking" signs could be erected to deter drivers from parking although the land is in private ownership.

The Meeting closed at 9 pm.

Chairman

Date

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