

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Hythe and Dibden Parish Council
Held at The Grove, 25 St. John's Street, Hythe
On Monday 6 November 2006 at 8 pm

Members: *Mrs B Smith (Chairman) – in the Chair

*Mr J Bennett	*Mr R Podesta
*Mr G Dawson	*Mrs M J Robinson
oMr R Guy	*Mr M Short
*Mr C Harrison	*Mr D Smith
*Mrs M McLean	*Mr M S Wade
*Mr G Parkes	*Mr S S Wade

* Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

In attendance: Mr B Dash – Hampshire County Councillor
Ms S A Maitland (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
Mrs C Patterson (Minute Clerk)

Also present: 6 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press

292/06 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

293/06 **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 25 September 2006.

(a) Minute 230/06

It was clarified that the change in criteria for adult care provision was only at the consultation stage at that time.

(b) Minute 233/06

A member asked for an update on the situation regarding the use of masking tape to secure planning notices by the District Council.

The Deputy Clerk agreed to pursue the matter and Mr Parkes agreed to take the matter to the next meeting of the Planning Development Control Committee.

(c) General

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Council held on 25 September 2006 be signed
by the Chairman as correct.

294/06 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman advised members that the construction of a Pegasus signal controlled crossing at the Heath Hotel roundabout on the A326 will commence during the week beginning 20 November 2006 with an expected completion date of February 2007.

295/06 Reports of the County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish

Mr Dash praised all those involved in ensuring that the Pegasus crossing on the A326 can go ahead.

A temporary solution to the traffic problems in the West Street/Jones Lane area is to be made before yellow lines are put in during the next financial year.

The drawings for the Pylewell Road Cycle Route have been approved by the safety audit and are due to go before the District Council for consideration. Mr Savage has agreed to address a future meeting if necessary.

The average annual exclusion rate of pupils from schools is 20-30 per year. In the New Forest this year it was 5 which is a tribute to headteachers, behaviour support units and the voluntary sector who work with young people.

296/06 Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish

The Planning Development Control Committee is waiting for a housing guidance paper from central government. The PPS 3 will replace the PPG 3.

The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act has now been invoked which will enable local councils to issue Fixed Penalty Notices instead of going through the courts. Penalties will gradually be introduced during the spring for repeated offences. Members were unhappy at this relaxed approach and it was agreed to put the possibility of the Parish Council invoking the Act on a future agenda.

The New Forest is one of the safest places in the country to live but it does have problems with anti-social behaviour.

The New Forest Environmental Protection Liaison Committee is to have themed meetings on such matters as climate change and water quality.

The Community Safety Operation Group has sent a letter of appreciation to the Handy Trust's Youth Worker in response to all the work done in the community.

£9000 has been set aside for small grants applications. £1500 has been given to the Newlands Park Youth Shelter to help provide lighting.

Various agencies are working towards resurrecting the SNAP discos.

It is expected that there will be 12 PCSOs for Hythe and Fawley when they are introduced next year.

The pager scheme which enabled local shops to inform each other of potential problems has been taken out of Hythe and moved to another town in the area as Hythe did not face enough problems.

Mrs Robinson has met with Mr D Yates of the District Council concerning the sea wall at the Britannia Gate Estate (Min 285/06). He is to clarify with the Environment Agency on the condition of the wall and who is responsible for its upkeep.

The South East England Development Agency is looking into the future use of RAF Hythe. It is looking hopeful that there is a future for the site as employment land.

A Local Government White Paper published last week will have far reaching implications for local councils and needs considering in a detailed manner.

297/06 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies

Mr S Wade is involved in altering some minor points on the plans for the West Street/Jones Lane traffic safety plans.

The Road Safety Committee will issue tutor packs to students at Brockenhurst College on 6 November 2006 concerning youth driving.

From 1 December 2006 there will be more spot checks on drink driving, the use of a mobile phone when driving, the use of seat belts etc. Those who are caught breaking the law will be offered the choice of a fine or attendance on a Police course.

Mr S Wade spoke of a document on water abstraction which he had been given as a member of the New Forest Consultative Panel which he agreed to leave in the office for viewing.

There has been some discussion on whether the National Park Authority should apply for World Heritage Status. As only one area per country can be nominated annually and it takes approximately 4 years to progress at a cost of £400,000, the general consensus of opinion is that the New Forest should remain on the DEFRA list for the time being but not progress the matter.

As there are 27 miles of coastline in the New Forest National Park, DEFRA has asked all agencies to combine their efforts to protect them.

Planning enforcement is taken very seriously by the New Forest National Park Authority.

The Chairman of the New Forest National Park Authority has changed.

The Dibden Allotments Charity held a successful Open Day recently. Discussions will soon take place over which of the 5 potential applications will join the shoe and gardening schemes.

The Hythe Youth Club AGM was held on 16 October 2006 where it was announced that things are going well with a one to one drop in centre, Families Matters, a gym and Sports in the Parks being some of the activities running. However, more help is always needed.

The Friends of Forest Front met recently with Sandy Phillips of the Forestry Commission. It was agreed that the close proximity of cables to trees alongside the track means that the trees will need cutting back. It has not been decided how this will be financed.

298/06 **Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports**

Mr M Wade asked Mr S Wade whether the Police training courses for drivers would include those caught on speed cameras and whether offenders would still get penalty points on their driving licence if they attend a course.

Mr S Wade replied that it not been covered in such detail but he believed that it was intended for offences such as the use of seat belts, mobile phones and child seats.

299/06 **Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26**

There were no questions under standing orders 25 and 26.

* * * * *

At this point the Meeting adjourned to allow a Public Forum to be held.

Fixed Penalty Notices

Mr Uglow referred to an article in the Lymington Times newspaper and asked that the Parish Council take on the responsibility for issuing Fixed Penalty Notices before the New Year.

It was explained that such a decision would need to be taken at a future meeting of the full council but agreed to write to Mr Maskall at the District Council enquiring how quickly the matter could be implemented for the benefit of the community.

Application for Petanque Court

Mr Dash asked why planning permission was needed for a petanque court.

Mr Parkes replied that any change in the condition of ground such as from grass to gravel requires planning permission.

* * * * *

The Council Meeting then resumed.

300/06 **Reports of Committees**

(a) Planning Committee – 25 September 2006

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 25 September 2006.

(i) Apologies

It was agreed to amend the minutes to indicate that Mr M Wade had given his apologies for non attendance at the meeting.

(ii) General

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 25 September 2006 be received and adopted.

(b) Planning Committee – 9 October 2006

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 9 October 2006.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 9 October 2006 be received and adopted.

(c) Amenities Committee – 9 October 2006

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 9 October 2006.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 9 October 2006 be received and adopted.

(d) Planning Committee – 23 October 2006

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 23 October 2006.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 23 October 2006 be received and adopted.

(e) General Purposes and Finance Committee – 23 October 2006

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 23 October 2006.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 23 October 2006 be received and adopted.

301/06 **Accounts for Payment**

The Clerk submitted a schedule of accounts for payment, together with a supplementary list.

(i) Voucher 2735

It was clarified that repairs were made to the Forest Front Skate Park.

(ii) General

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 2707 - 2739 inclusive, totalling £30,861.48, be approved and paid.

302/06 Consideration of Councillor C Harrison's motion to New Forest District Council

Consideration was given to the motion which was put to the last meeting of the District Council and referred by them to the next Full Cabinet Meeting on 6 December 2006 stating that the on-street parking problems in Hythe are caused by the introduction of the £80 parking clock and calling for it to be withdrawn from the Hythe area.

It was suggested that some members attend the meeting of the Cabinet and that the motion be supported with photographs of the problems caused.

Concern was expressed that a request to abolish the £80 charge in Hythe Car Parks may affect the funding which the District Council provides for the Hythe Ferry.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council write to the District Council supporting Councillor Harrison's motion advising them of its concerns over the withdrawal of funding for the ferry.

The meeting closed at 9 pm.

Chairman

Date

Mncou102