

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the
Hythe and Dibden Parish Council
Held at The Grove, 25 St. John's Street, Hythe
On Monday 12 May 2008 at 8 pm

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

*Mr J Bennett	*Mrs M Robinson
oMr R Guy	*Mr M Short
*Mr G Jones	*Mr D Smith
*Mrs M McLean	*Mr B Uglow
*Mr R Newell	oMr P Vickers
*Mr G Parkes	*Mr A Wade

* Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

In attendance: Mr D J Shimpe (Clerk to the Council)
Mr S Spencer (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
Mrs C Patterson (Minute Clerk)

Also present: Mr B Dash – Hampshire County Councillor
Mr C Harrison – New Forest District Councillor
Mrs B Smith – New Forest District Councillor
Mr S S Wade – New Forest District Councillor
20 Members of the Public

1/08 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

2/08 **To elect the Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year**

The Chairman began the meeting by thanking the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and staff of the Council for the excellent service they had provided during the year.

RESOLVED

That Mr M Wade be elected as Chairman of the Council for the forthcoming Council year.

3/08 **To receive the Chairman's Declaration of Office**

Mr M Wade signed his Declaration of Office.

4/08 **To elect the Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year**

RESOLVED

That Mr Smith be elected Vice Chairman for the forthcoming Council year.

5/08 **To appoint the following committees**

RESOLVED

That the following committees be appointed for the coming Council year:-

(a) Amenities

Mr J Bennett	Mr D Smith (ex officio)
Mr R Guy	Mr B Uglow
Mr G Jones	Mr A Wade

Mrs M McLean
Mr M Short

Mr M Wade (ex officio)

(b) General Purposes and Finance

Mrs M Mclean
Mr R Newell
Mr G Parkes
Mrs M Robinson
Mr M Short

Mr D Smith (ex officio)
Mr P Vickers
Mr A Wade
Mr M Wade (ex officio)

(c) Planning

Mr R Guy
Mrs M McLean
Mr G Parkes
Mr M Short
Mr B Uglow

Mr D Smith (ex officio)
Mr P Vickers
Mr A Wade
Mr M Wade (ex officio)

6/08 **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 10 March 2008.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Council held on 10 March 2008 be signed by the Chairman as correct.

7/08 **Public Forum**

Travellers at Shore Road

Mrs Weston spoke on behalf of many members of the Curlew Drive and Tern Close, Curlew Walk Residents Association who were present at the meeting concerning the travellers who have been living at the side of Shore Road for the past year.

Whilst appreciating that the councils involved have followed the correct procedures to move the people on it is obvious that it is not working and Mrs Weston asked for help in ensuring that they are moved out of Hampshire and that this situation does not occur again.

Many concerns were raised including the dangerous position the vehicles are parked in, the fact that they are untaxed and uninsured, the emptying of chemical toilets into the sea rather than public toilets as agreed and the fact that the public money spent on the case seems to be unrecoverable.

The meeting was advised that the Police, County Highways Division and the County Gypsy Sites Officer are all dealing with the aspects of the case which concern them and a Notice to Quit Order was served on Friday 9 May 2008.

It was agreed that the relevant authorities should be invited to attend the General Purposes and Finance Committee meeting on 9 June 2008 and any questions which the public would like to put to them should be sent to the Clerk in advance of that meeting.

8/08 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman had no announcements to make.

9/08 **Reports of the County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish**

Mr Dash and Mr Newell had attended a Transport Seminar at New Forest District Council earlier in the day. Tendering for the area was discussed but with an expected increase in fuel costs of 40% and as actual increases are already running at 66% there was a general feeling of despondency.

The Select Committee are meeting to discuss gravel extraction on 21 June 2008 although the final decisions will not be made known at that time.

Mr Dash advised members that he would leave a copy of a Consultation Paper on local decision making in terms of expenditure with the Clerk for viewing if desired. It covered Hazel Blears' ideas on local people voting on budgets, spending priorities etc.

10/08 **Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish**

The District Council's new Corporate Plan is in place with little change in priorities although a commitment has been made to improve partnership work with Parish Councils. A promise is also being made to engage with the public to help shape services and empower communities.

Meals on Wheels which are now known as "Community Meals" have had the price for 2008/2009 fixed at £3 per meal with the cost split equally between the District Council and the County Council. The County Council is to carry out a review of the efficiency of Community Meals with the full co-operation of the District Council.

The Major Repairs Allowance for 2008 has been set for £3,317,000. £100,000 will be set aside for off road parking.

A tenancy management team has been formed with tenancy conditions being reviewed and renewed.

It can cost up to £20,000 to evict council tenants.

In the year to March 2008 11,000 traffic penalty notices were issued for parking etc. Of these, 4000 appealed and 150 were allowed. A suggestion was made that some of the funds collected from traffic fines are used for improving transportation in the area.

From April 2008 a draft bill with a more unified approach to planning regarding listed buildings will simplify matters. Listed building matters will be dealt with by the Local Planning Authority as opposed to ministers. There will also be an opportunity to discuss plans with English Heritage.

The Green Audit is looking at ways of reducing the carbon footprint of the District Council's fleet of company vehicles (yellow fleet) and private cars driven on council business (grey fleet). Among improvements on offer are drive smarter courses and route planning.

The Green Audit is to look into how the District Council operates its buildings – offices, leisure centres etc – in a bid to reduce its carbon footprint.

There are some concerns over the efficiency of the 101 contact number.

There are lessons to be learned from the investigation into the Buncefield fire.

The District Council is to consider its CCTV provision soon and a decision over Hythe is imminent.

11/08 **Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies**

The Friends of Forest Front Nature Reserve for the Disabled are to hold an Open Day at the end of June to raise public awareness.

12/08 **Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports**

Mr A Wade asked who scrutinises the District Council Budget.

Mrs Robinson replied that the Corporate Overview Panel scrutinises the District Council's budget, although such an enormous remit makes the system unworkable. The Portfolio holder chooses to use the Final Accounts committee.

13/08 **Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26**

Mr Dash wished to ask the Parish Council's representative on the New Forest National Park Authority why the NPA was not more proactive in seeking to reduce the number of cars in the New Forest but was advised that there is no representative on the NPA.

14/08 **Reports of Committees**

(a) Planning Committee – 10 March 2008

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 10 March 2008.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 10 March 2008 be received and adopted.

(b) Planning Committee – 7 April 2008

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 7 April 2008.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 7 April 2008 be received and adopted.

(c) Amenities Committee – 7 April 2008

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 7 April 2008.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 7 April 2008 be received and adopted.

(d) Planning Committee – 14 April 2008

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 14 April 2008.

Minute 604/07

Members were advised that any member would be welcome to join the working party.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 14 April 2008 be received and adopted.

(e) General Purposes and Finance Committee – 14 April 2008

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 14 April 2008.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 14 April 2008 be received and adopted.

15/08 **To appoint representatives to serve on Outside Bodies**

RESOLVED

That the following representatives on Outside Bodies be appointed for the coming Council year:-

1. **Age Concern (New Forest East)**
Robert Newell
2. **Butts Ash Community Association**
David Smith
3. **Friends of Forest Front**
Jonathan Bennett
4. **Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils**
Chairman or Vice Chairman of Council or nominated substitute
5. **Hythe and Dibden Twinning Association**
Brenda Smith
To be nominated
6. **Hythe and Dibden Woodland and Waterside Group**
David Smith
7. **Hythe Centre Advisory Group**
Chairman of Council
Maureen McLean
Maureen Robinson
Graham Parkes
Mike Short
Paul Vickers
Graham Jones
Stan Wade (District Councillor)
Brian Dash (Hampshire County Councillor)
Plus Representatives from Hythe Business Partnership
8. **Hythe Youth Club Management Committee**
Graham Jones
9. **Local Representatives for Transport Liaison/Hythe Ferry User Group**

Roger Guy
David Smith
10. **New Forest Sports Council**
Alex Wade
11. **New Forest Consultative Panel**
Alex Wade
12. **New Forest District Association of Local Councils**

Chairman or Vice Chairman of Council or nominated substitute.
13. **New Forest District Council Environmental Protection Liaison Committee**

Mrs M McLean
Mike Short
14. **New Forest Road Safety Council**
David Smith

15. **Community First New Forest**
Graham Parkes
16. **St Andrew's Centre Management Committee**
Roger Guy
17. **St. John's Hall Management Committee**
Graham Parkes
18. **The HANDY Trust**
Mr. M. S. Wade 3 year appointment ends 30 November 2008
Mrs M. McLean 3 year appointment ends 30 November 2008
19. **Waterside Citizens Advice Bureau Management Committee**

Mr Roger Guy
Mr Mike Short (Substitute)
20. **Waterside Heritage Trust**
Jonathan Bennett
21. **Waterside Joint Councils Group**
Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Council
Chairman of the Planning Committee
22. **Waterside Youth Steering Group**
Alex Wade
Maureen McLean
Maureen Robinson
Malcolm Wade

16/08 **Protocol for Attendance of Non-committee Members at Committee**

Consideration was given to the revised protocol for attendance of non-committee members at committee.

RESOLVED

That the protocol for attendance of non-committee members at committee should be adopted as presented and remain outside the Council's Standing Orders.

17/08 **Internal Audit Report (Interim) 2007/08**

Consideration was given to the Interim Internal Audit Report for 2007/2008.

RESOLVED

That the Interim Internal Audit Report for 2007/2008 be accepted and the proposed response to the Action Plan agreed.

18/08 **Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 3940-4035 inclusive, totalling £53,376.13, be approved and paid.

The meeting closed at 9.06 pm.

Chairman

Date

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