

**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 28 July 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 G Parkes	oMr P Vickers
	*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 C Harrison – New Forest District Councillor  
Mrs B Smith – New Forest District Councillor  
Mr S S Wade – New Forest District Councillor  
2 Members of the Public  
1 Member of the Press

127/08 **Declarations of Interest**

Mrs McLean, Mr M Wade, Mrs Robinson and Mr Parkes declared an interest in Minute 138/08 as they are New Forest District Councillors.

128/08 **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 16 June 2008.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Council held on 16 June 2008 be signed by the  
Chairman as correct.

129/08 **Public Forum**

Pyros Environmental Ltd – Hazardous substances

Mr Cox expressed concern over the way in which the issuing of permits for the handling of hazardous substances by Pyros Environmental Ltd has been handled by the relevant bodies.

The figures in the public domain seem sketchy and the controlled quantities seem to have been operating for the last five years on consent given in 1994. Mr Cox has been in contact with the County Council to clarify matters but has concerns and asked the following questions:-

1. Is there or is there not a significant increase in hazardous substances on site?
2. Who checks both amounts and range?
3. Why is Hampshire County Council, as the authorising body for consents, not on the District Council's Environmental Committee?
4. Why is the plant still operating on out of date consents and why is the Health and Safety Executive so slow?
5. Has the Environmental Protection Committee been made aware of the situation?

The Chairman advised the meeting that the Environmental Protection Committee had conducted an in depth survey and concluded that whilst there are some bureaucratic issues there is no concern over public safety.

It was agreed to investigate the matter and reply to Mr Cox.

#### Gravel Extraction Consultation Meeting

Mr Cox advised the meeting that he had attended the recent meeting with the County Council concerning the proposed extraction of gravel from sites in the area and given the Parish Council's apologies for non-attendance due to the late lifting of the embargo.

He advised that some interesting points were raised, including the fact that sites which create employment should not be created within the hazard zone around Fawley Refinery.

#### Deer population

Mr S Wade advised the meeting of his concerns over the increase in the population of roe and muntjac deer in the area as they are not culled. Problems are occurring in gardens and allotments and also with road safety.

It was agreed to refer the matter to the Amenities Committee.

#### Maintenance of Parish

The Chairman read a letter from Mrs Smith in which she praised the maintenance team for the efforts put into maintaining the hanging baskets and flower beds in the parish along with the play and amenity areas. Even the finer details of keeping the brass plaques polished on benches ensure that the parish is a pleasant place in which to live and to visit.

#### Dibden Purlieu

Mrs Smith asked whether it would be possible to provide a clock in Dibden Purlieu, not only to enhance the area but also to help those using the bus service.

It was suggested that a clock would be a fitting memorial for Richard Ulrich and agreed to refer the matter to the General Purposes and Finance Committee.

Mrs Smith also asked whether the Post Office had agreed to move the Post Box to the other side of the road in Dibden Purlieu so that it would be close to the new Post Office.

The Clerk advised the meeting that the Post Office were not willing to relocate the Post Box.

#### 130/08 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman advised the meeting that the "Snow in Hythe at Christmas" project had won the South East Region Business and Economy category at the Action for Market Towns Annual Awards followed by the overall award which means that it will represent the South East of England in the National Awards in October 2008. The "Infofly" project received a commendation in the Youth category.

The Chairman advised members of his displeasure at originally being advised that he was unable to speak at the consultation meeting regarding gravel extraction in the area and then being advised that this decision had been reversed at 4pm on a Tuesday afternoon before the Thursday meeting.

As this meant it was too late for any of our councillors to alter arrangements and attend the meeting it was felt that this gave an unfair advantage to others who would have representatives speaking at the meeting. It was agreed to write to the County Council advising of the Parish Council's displeasure over this.

The Chairman advised members that the first Parish Fun Day will take place on 31 August 2008 at Clayfields Sports Centre between 10 am and 2 pm.

#### 131/08 **Reports of the County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish**

In the absence of the County Councillor, Mr Dash, his report was read by Mrs Robinson.

Forest Lodge Farm is still in the programme for gravel extraction but it will not be used for landfill for domestic waste.

After public consultation the new footway along Roman Road will soon be constructed on the forest side of the road. There will also be traffic calming measures implemented.

The Dibden Distributor Road Stage 3 has been abandoned.

Construction of the Horrill Centre is almost complete and it will be opened officially in October.

Mr Dash has previously asked the County Council to erect signs on the highway alerting motorists to the presence of deer but been advised that the matter is not an issue so signs are unnecessary.

132/08 **Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish**

There are 5500 people on housing waiting lists in the District.

There are 9 officers whose job it is to ensure that properties let out by private landlords and owner/occupiers are of an acceptable standard. Around 4272 homes are presently being let out which contain hazards.

Grants are available for people who are unable to pay for repairs. Changes to the disability facilities grant mean that a maximum of £30,000 can now be paid out and both the front and rear accesses can be adapted.

A balance will be made in the collection of rent arrears between those who are bad payers and those who are vulnerable and need support.

Problems have occurred in some sheltered accommodation since full time wardens were removed and Tunstall took over security, It has been agreed to monitor the situation and report back in 6 months time.

More changes are expected in sheltered housing in the District with moves to provide more extra care and enhanced care housing through a partnership with the District and County Councils.

The Sustainable Community Strategy Action Plan 2008/2009 has been approved. Some amendments have been made since the Parish Council made it's original comments.

The 6 month review of the Hythe Ferry Car Parking Scheme is currently taking place.

The current increases in fuel prices will have an expected impact on the District Council fleet of between £70,000 to £90,000 this year.

Energy prices for District Council accommodation such as sheltered housing are currently frozen until 2009 but reviews will be undertaken to ascertain the impact an increase in cost will have after that.

Following complaints over the lack of street signs in the centre of Hythe 8 new signs are due to be erected.

It has been confirmed that Hythe will have CCTV installed.

The Crime and Disorder Panel has viewed a presentation on crime statistics for the District. Some partnership funding will go to the County Council.

133/08 **Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies**

The Standards Board has received 2 complaints about a Waterside councillor. A preliminary hearing has confirmed that the complaint should be heard by the next panel.

134/08 **Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports**

Mr Jones asked how wide the consultation area was for providing a pavement on Roman Road as some residents had told him they knew nothing about it.

Mrs Smith advised him that letters were hand delivered to houses along Roman Road and although very few responded there was a clear indication of 2-1 that the footway should be on the forest side. This was also considered the safer option as there would be no vehicular access necessary.

135/08 **Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26**

There were no questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26.

136/08 **Reports of Committees**

**(a) Planning Committee – 16 June 2008**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 16 June 2008.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 16 June 2008 be received and adopted.

**(b) Planning Committee – 7 July 2008**

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

RESOLVED

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

**(c) Amenities Committee – 7 July 2008**

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

RESOLVED

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

**(d) General Purposes and Finance Committee – 14 July 2008**

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

RESOLVED

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

137/08 **Casual Vacancy – Hythe East Ward**

Members expressed regret at the resignation of Councillor Robert Newell as a Parish Councillor and agreed to send a letter of thanks for the work which he had done for the Parish.

The Clerk advised members that an election would be held on 4 September 2008.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

**138/08 Proposed CCTV installations in Hythe**

Consideration was given to the provision of CCTV in Hythe following the agreement in principle by the District Council to install cameras.

It was suggested that Dibden Purlieu should be included in the plan after consultation with the traders.

RESOLVED

1. That a contribution towards funding for the provision of CCTV in Hythe of £4650 be allocated for 2007/2008.
2. That Mr Short, Mr Uglow and Mr Smith represent the Parish Council on the list of proposed stakeholders.
3. That the local ward member on the District Council be included on the list of proposed stakeholders.

**139/08 Proposed hosted Post Office at Clayfields Sports Centre**

Consideration was given to the report on the proposed hosted Post Office at Clayfields Sports Centre.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

**140/08 Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 4180-4220 inclusive, totalling £30,474.14, be approved and paid.

**141/08 Exclusion of Press and Public**

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972.

**142/08 Proposed hosted Post Office at Clayfields Sports Centre – Draft Contractual Terms between Parish Council and Post Master**

Consideration was given to the draft contractual terms between the Parish Council and the Post Master.

RESOLVED

That the draft contractual terms between the Parish Council and the Post Master for the proposed hosted Post Office at Clayfields Sports Centre be agreed.

The meeting closed at 9 pm.

Chairman

Date

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