

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 2 March 2009 at 8 pm

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

*Mr J Bennett	*Mrs M Robinson
*Mr W Binns	*Mr M Short
*Mr R Guy	*Mr D Smith
*Mr G Jones	*Mr B Uglow
*Mrs M McLean	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
oMrs B Smith – New Forest District Councillor
*Mr S S Wade – New Forest District Councillor
2 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press

450/08 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

451/08 **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 26 January 2009.

(a) Minute 392/08

A member asked whether the proposed letter to the Lymington Times had been sent and published.

The Clerk advised members that it had.

(b) Minute 395/08

A member asked whether the letter to Save Solent Surgery had been sent as she understood it had not been received.

The Clerk responded that he believed it had been sent but would investigate the matter.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Council held on 26 January 2009 be signed by
the Chairman as correct.

452/08 **Public Forum**

There were no questions from members of the public.

453/08 Chairman's Announcements

The Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Chairman of the Council have attended a presentation where they received the Quality Council certificate from the Chairman of Hampshire County Council, Michael Woodall.

The Chairman read a response from Councillor Ken Thornber relating to a letter concerning the alterations to the A326 to the meeting. It stated that the Parish Council will be contacted when any plans are finalised if they impact on the parish.

Residents adjoining Langdown Lawn Recreation Ground sent in a petition which will be considered by the next meeting of the Amenities Committee concerning the non renewal of licences.

454/08 Reports of the County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish

After some debate about whether the level of reserves would justify no increase in the County Council tax precept, the increase has been set at 1.9%.

A cut in the government grant to the Police Authority of £10 million has resulted in a 4.8% increase in that part of the precept and probable cuts in backroom staff.

£450,000 has been allocated to make improvements on the A326. There will be varying speed limits of 40 and 50 mph in places. Mr Dash agreed to pass the details to the Clerk.

Further to the consultation the proposals for use of heavy goods vehicles on the Hythe to Marchwood Road have been agreed and will be progressed by Highways Division subject to plans to quieten traffic noise at Normandy Way, Marchwood.

The County Council are to address the issue of parking on grass verges, footpaths and pavements.

455/08 Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish

Council tenant rent has gone up by 5.8% which equates to an extra £4.26 a week. There are concerns that this will mean more people requiring Housing Benefit.

The Council tax increase means that a band D property in the parish will pay £223.15 including the Parish Council element.

To achieve this figure almost £1 million has been taken from reserves and £1.1 million of capital expenditure has been delayed. Further economies are being sought due to the decrease in income from investments, planning services and leisure services.

There have been grave concerns over the handling of the court case concerning the floor coverings in Leisure Centre Sports Halls. There will be a joint scrutiny meeting between the Corporate Overview and Leisure Services Review Panels to assess the matter.

Regret was expressed that the Hythe Promenade project has also been blighted by an overspend of £115,000.

The Standards Committee has rejected any increase in councillors' allowances.

Further to Sea Ventures Ltd going into administration there are concerns over any future tenants at Hythe Marina adhering to planning permission. Meetings have been held with the planning department at the District Council.

Of the 37 Town and Parish Councils in the District Council 22 had a higher percentage increase than this Council.

Several District Councillors announced how they had allocated their £500 grants:-

Mr Harrison has given £500 to the Horrill Centre for a Wii console and games and for percussion instruments to help dementia patients.

Mrs McLean has given £250 to Wildground School towards a sensory garden and £250 to Waterside Children's Centre.

Mr S Wade has given £250 to the Friends of Forest Front.

Mr M Wade has given £500 to the HANDY Trust.

456/08 **Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies**

The Friends of Forest Front Open Day in January was very successful and thanks are due to the volunteers who cleared a lot of the area. Thanks were also expressed to the Parish Council's maintenance team for clearing a lot of brambles.

457/08 **Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports**

There were no questions asked.

458/08 **Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26**

Mr Short asked whether the Chairman was aware that the Lymington Times was better informed than the Parish Council as it had already published details of the proposed alterations to the A326.

The Chairman thanked him for the information.

Mrs Robinson asked whether the Chairman was aware of a meeting being held that evening by two of the medical practices in the parish concerning proposed changes in the way they are set up and run and asked whether the Parish Council had been formally informed.

The Chairman responded that no information had been received but suggested that a letter be sent informing them that the Council would like to be included in the process.

459/08 **Reports of Committees**

(a) Planning Committee – 26 January 2009

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 26 January 2009.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 26 January 2009 be received and adopted.

(b) Planning Committee – 9 February 2009

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 9 February 2009.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 9 February 2009 be received and adopted.

(c) Amenities Committee – 9 February 2009

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 9 February 2009.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 9 February 2009 be received and adopted.

(d) Planning Committee – 16 February 2009

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 16 February 2009.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 16 February 2009 be received and adopted.

(e) General Purposes and Finance Committee – 16 February 2009

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 16 February 2009.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 16 February 2009 be received and adopted.

460/08 **Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Hythe Hospital Workshops

Consideration was given to the nomination of a representative to attend the workshops at Hythe Hospital.

RESOLVED

That Mrs McLean represent the Council at Hythe Hospital Workshops with Mr A Wade nominated as her deputy.

461/08 **Accounts for Payment**

The Clerk submitted a schedule of accounts for payment.

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 4706-4718 inclusive, totalling £8,386.86, be approved and paid.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Chairman

Date

Mncou121