

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 February 2006 at 8.06 pm

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

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

* Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

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

Also present: 7 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press

369/05 **Declarations of Interest**

Mrs Robinson declared an interest in Minute 377/05 (e) as she is the Chair of Hampshire Partnership NHS Trust.

370/05 **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 19 December 2005.

(a) Minute 311/05

Mr Dash advised Members that this item should read that funding had been sought for the crossing on the A326 at Dibden Purlieu rather than funding is available.

(b) General

RESOLVED

That, subject to the above, the Minutes of the Council held on 19 December 2005 be signed by the Chairman as correct.

371/05 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman announced that the Post Office in Dibden Purlieu had opened its new premises today and had been fully utilised.

Hampshire County Council has asked for nominations of Parish Council Chairmen to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party on 13 July 2006. Six Chairmen will be chosen from the nominations to attend.

372/05 **Reports of County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish**

The County Council Budget increase is expected to be 4.7%.

Adult care services are likely to experience significant cuts with increases in charges and service withdrawals. There is also a possibility of reduced day care facilities for the elderly and disabled.

The granting of funding has been taken away from Local Authorities. The Direct Schools Grant has increased by 6.7% so that the Key Stage 3 performance can be improved along with personalised primary learning and additional early years provision.

There is to be more involvement in the provision of key worker housing and an investigation into the way new housing is provided without an infrastructure.

The County Council wishes to look into the provision of transport in the Waterside.

A study is taking place into occurrences of speeding past the Church in Langdown Lawn.

373/05 **Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish**

The Crime and Disorder Panel reported that 20 yellow cards have been issued by the Accredited Community Safety Officers so far but no Fixed Penalty Notices.

A document issued by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister called "The Future" details aims of making the Code of Conduct clearer and changes to the declarations of interest. The method of dealing with complaints over private conduct will now be dealt with at local level and passed upwards to the Standards Committee if it is of a very serious nature.

There will be a legally enforceable ban on the placing of garden waste in pink or clear bags and the sale of grey garden waste bags will cease. All householders will be able to purchase a garden waste sack or use the household tip.

The Environment Protection Liaison Meeting was recently held at Marchwood Incinerator. The Manager is happy to show parties of up to 15 (aged 13+) around the facility.

The District Council has requested that they be advised of any problems encountered with anti social behaviour which can be attributed to licences not being enforced.

The Crime and Disorder Panel are holding an audit report on CCTV. It is difficult to evaluate its success as there is no definitive proof. This is also the case with Community Safety Officers, as there is no benchmark it is difficult to evaluate their effectiveness.

The District Council currently employs 2 ACSOs from the County Council and would like to employ 2 more but it is felt that a Service Level Agreement needs to be set up first to ensure that funds are used effectively.

The District Council are considering an approach from the County Council regarding bidding for the maintenance and provision of street lighting. A Private Finance Initiative is being considered but the implications for the District Council need to be assessed before a decision is made.

The budget increase for the District Council part of the Council tax will be 2.75% making it £140.99, although some internal adjustments may need to be made.

An application has been made to demolish Trafalgar House.

The General Purposes and Licensing Committee expect their revenue to increase by 0.84% over the next year. Concern was expressed over the savings put forward which are mainly from the removal of the bid for Enforcement Officers as this could cause problems in the future with the introduction of the 2005 Gambling Act.

In future MPVs will not be licensed to carry more than 4 passengers unless each passenger has direct access to a door without the need to climb through the rear sector or to lower a seat first.

A bid will be made for the use of the Citizens Panel regarding a survey in relation to the impact of the Licensing Act 2003 and issues relating to user satisfaction of the taxi service.

374/05 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies

The National Park Authority has supported the Consultative Panel's decision to update its constitution and the Panel is now looking for an independent Chairman. The National Park Authority is now supporting the Consultative Panel.

The National Park Authority Policy Advisor indicated that there will be a need for the New Forest Access Forum to take on new members.

The construction period for the Lyndhurst/ Ashurst Cycle Route will be about 6 or 7 months.

The Bag it and Bin it campaign will continue after the Forestry Commission agrees a way forward.

The District Council will soon receive a lottery allocation of £294,680.48 for the development of free open access play provision. The allocation will be in addition to existing funding and used on projects which fit well with the local play strategy.

375/05 Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports

Mrs Robinson asked Mr Dash whether he was aware of the conflict between charging adults for care in their own homes and the White Paper which intends to switch the care from hospitals into the home.

Mr Dash replied that he was only talking about cuts to bring allocation of services into funding for the year.

Mr Dawson asked Mr Harrison what would constitute an "unlawful act" in the new code of conduct for councillors.

Mr Harrison replied that this had not been specified.

Mr Dawson asked Mrs Smith whether consideration had been given to the fact that making it difficult to dispose of some waste would result in more flytipping. He is aware of a free recycling scheme in Ealing, London which even includes meat.

Mrs Smith replied that due to the restrictions imposed over foot and mouth disease it would be difficult to include meat in any recycling scheme. However, the new garden waste bag scheme has worked well in other parts of the District and both the Flytipping Working Party and the Environment Agency are aware of potential problems.

Mr Wade asked about rumours that wheelie bins may be introduced in the District.

Mrs Robinson replied that a small group of individuals had looked at the possibility informally and placed a small query in a local newspaper. She felt that this may have started the rumour but information had been given to the Working Party that over 80% of people do not want wheelie bins.

Mrs Smith replied that this topic comes up on an annual basis but the initial cost is enormous and the amount of waste produced usually increases by around 10%. A District Council Citizen Panel Survey revealed that 72% of householders wish to retain plastic sacks.

376/05 Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26**A Dibden Purlieu Community Hall**

Mrs Smith asked whether the Chairman was aware that the Community Hall in Dibden Purlieu is going from strength to strength after initial concerns over losing the facility and thanked the Parish Council for the assistance which it had given. She left a newsletter for information.

B Promenade Improvements

As the Promenade Improvements are almost complete the Chairman was asked what security arrangements had been made to ensure its safety.

The Chairman advised that Hythe Centre Advisory Group are looking into CCTV for the village.

C Dumping

A Member asked whether the Chairman was aware of rubbish being dumped behind John Boots Music close to South Street Car Park.

The Clerk replied that the area was private land but he would investigate the matter.

D Heatherstone Avenue

Mr Dawson asked whether the Chairman was aware that contractors are finally cleaning Heatherstone Avenue 10 weeks after the completion of gas works. He has set up a meeting regarding the reinstatement of the area.

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

A Heatherstone Avenue

Several residents addressed members on the subject of Heatherstone Avenue which has been subject to gas works recently. Dismay was expressed at the way in which the "Horseshoe Green" had been used for storage and dumping of materials, the state in which the road and verges had been left and the lack of intention to properly reinstate the area.

As the contractors are doing a lot more work in the area it was considered imperative that this job is completed properly to ensure that standards are maintained throughout the Parish.

It was agreed to pursue this matter with both the contractors and the County Council's Highways Department. Mr Dash also agreed to pursue the matter strongly with the County Council.

B Netley View

Mr Uglow stated that he had recently walked through the Netley View estate and found a lot of rubbish and autumn leaves which needed clearing up.

Mrs Smith stated that she is due to walk the area with an officer soon and will flag up any problems.

C Footpath No. 3

Mr Cox expressed concern at the condition of Footpath No. 3 which is at the start of the Solent Way and attracts many visitors to the area.

It was his understanding that the County Council had agreed to close the area to motor vehicles when the area at Hart Hill was made into a road. Unfortunately this had not happened and, as predicted, the area was now a target for arson, dumped vehicles and had been cut up by 4 wheeled drive vehicles so that it is impossible to walk on.

It was agreed to pursue the matter although Councillors Dash and Dunsdon have already requested a swift resolution.

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The Council Meeting then resumed.

377/05 **Reports of Committees**

(a) Planning Committee – 19 December 2005

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 19 December 2005.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 19 December 2005 be received and adopted.

(b) Planning Committee – 9 January 2006

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

RESOLVED

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

(c) Amenities Committee – 9 January 2006

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

RESOLVED

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

(d) Planning Committee – 23 January 2006

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

RESOLVED

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

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

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

RESOLVED

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

(Mrs Robinson declared an interest on Minute 359/05 but there was no discussion on this item.)

378/05 **The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Area Environment Groups – Changes to the Area Environment Groups**

Consideration was given to a copy of a report issued by the Environment Agency concerning the new structure of Area Environment Groups.

RESOLVED

That the Environment Agency be asked whether the Parish Council can be of any assistance in this matter and that it be kept informed of any local issues.

379/05 **Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 1914-1942 inclusive, totalling £25,750.97, be approved and paid.

The Meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

Chairman

Date
Mncou96