

## Minutes of the Meeting of Hythe and Dibden Parish Council

Held at The Grove, 25 St Johns Street, Hythe  
on Wednesday 12 August 2015 at 8.00pm

p Cllr C Harrison (Chairman)  
p Cllr Mrs M McLean (Vice Chairman)

### Councillors:

p P Armstrong  
p J Binns  
a M Bovey  
p E Davey  
p Mrs J Fowler  
p T Johnson

### Councillors:

p G Parkes  
p D Poole  
p M Short  
p A Wade  
p M Wade

p = present  
a = apologies

### In Attendance

p Cllr Mr W Andrews (NFDC)  
a Cllr Mrs K Crisell (NFDC)  
a Cllr Mr P Fawkes (HCC)  
a Cllr Mrs B Thorne (NFDC)

7 Members of the public

### Officers in attendance

Mrs S Bennett (Clerk to the Council)  
Mrs B Edwards (Minute Clerk)  
Mr M Kendall (Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor)

### 90/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made.

### 91/15 MINUTES

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 8 July 2015.

### RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Council held on 8 July 2015 be signed by the Chairman as correct.

**92/15 ACSO ACTIVITY – PARKING AT SCHOOLS**

Louise Brearley, Accredited Community Safety Officer (ACSO), gave a presentation to Members on a proposed pilot to reduce parking issues at schools within the parish. Cllr Armstrong highlighted that School Pastors could be a sustainable approach for this project

**RESOLVED**

That the pilot project, facilitated by the ACSO service, be agreed and undertaken.

**93/15 PUBLIC FORUM**

Mr B Uglow asked whether any enforcement action would be taken with regard to the 20 mph speed restriction along part of Shore Road. The Chairman of the Council responded that he would direct the Clerk to the Council to make enquiries.

Mr Uglow commented that he had not seen the New Forest Sustainability Appraisal on a Council agenda. The Chairman of the Planning Committee responded that it had been an agenda item at the Planning Committee meeting on 12 August 2015.

Mr Uglow also commented that any new build housing could be accommodated in small hamlets within the New Forest in clusters of 6 to 10 and also on the scrubland at Forest Front, Netley View which is owned by the Forestry Commission.

**94/15 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman thanked Louise Brearley, Accredited Community Safety Officer for her assistance in dealing with the arson issues.

The Chairman informed members that he had attended a meeting of the New Forest Association of Local Councils (NFALC) where he was informed that in future the community police team would not be operating on a 24 hour basis. The Chairman had also volunteered the Clerk to the Council to be the Treasurer of NFALC.

The Chairman advised that members who receive any complaints from residents of damage caused by trees on parish owned land should, in future, immediately refer such claims directly to the Clerk to the Council.

The Chairman informed members that a section of the top rail on the railings along the Promenade had been examined by NFDC and an additional section was due to be added.

The Chairman had attended the official opening of Hythe and Dibden Football Club's new facilities at Clayfields.

95/15 **REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Malcolm Wade attended a meeting at Hampshire County Council (HCC) on 16 July 2015 where he asked the member for Economy, Transport and the environment whether HCC would continue to support Hythe Ferry as the current agreement is currently being renewed. Cllr Wade was advised that the support would be continued.

The Project Integra Partnership, which includes HCC, Veolia and other Hampshire Authorities, now has to export some paper to China for recycling due to the closure of a number of UK paper mills.

96/15 **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Daniel Poole attended the opening of the new home of Hythe and Dibden Football Club along with Cllrs. Bovey, Davey and Binns. The Chairman of the Football Club paid tribute to the efforts of the Parish Council and asked that his thanks be passed on.

Cllr. Poole has been invited to join a Steering Group at NFDC regarding the ongoing plans for the revitalisation of business and industry in the area and the potential development of a new retail outlet in Hythe as part of the project. It has been requested that details of the new retail outlet be kept confidential at present. To avoid further rumours or speculation, the Executive Director of NFDC has issued the following statement:

"Following the withdrawal of Morrisons Supermarkets from negotiations last year, we now have two retail operators interested in the development of the site in question".

Cllr. Poole informed members that he will endeavour to update the Parish when further information becomes available.

James Binns responded to the question posed by Cllr. Wade at July's council meeting regarding the shortfall in the budget and which services are likely to be cut; the figures contained in the Medium Term Financial Plan (Report B) from the Cabinet Meeting held in February which addresses the shortfall are provisional, pending confirmation of funding figures from central government.

The maintenance programmes of various services account for a large parts of the budget. These programmes will be reviewed if the funds are not available, although as the proposed maintenance programmes are quite comprehensive, it is felt that they could be delivered over a longer period without significant detrimental effect, thus reducing the shortfall. However, this is not confirmed and all options will be looked

at. Additionally, there was a significant under-spend of £303,000 in the year 2014/15 which will help to reduce the shortfall in the 2016/17 and 2017/18 period.

The Cabinet, along with officers at NFDC, are beginning the process of looking at how the current projected financial gap can be closed and are committed to protecting front line services.

Cllr. Binns has been involved in a number of talks and correspondence with regard to Totton College to try to ensure that the interests of the young people within the parish are met.

Cllr. Binns informed members that a complaint in respect of excessive noise from Dibden Golf Club required no further investigation as it was found that the noise was in fact coming from a residential property in Ocknell Drive.

The Butts Ash Wood Project has received a portion of a £33,000 grant from NFDC's Health and Leisure department.

Peter Armstrong updated Members on the works at Netley View.

Cllr. Armstrong has received more training on planning and how requirements will impact the district and parish over the coming years as regards quotas of housing to be provided and attended a tour of NFDC's housing sites and care facilities, including some within the parish.

Cllr. Armstrong attended a Planning Committee meeting on 12 August 2015 at which the application for 1 Butts Ash Avenue was refused.

Alex Wade informed Members that the residents of Lawrence House were in favour of decommissioning. However, the residents of White Lodge are not so happy.

Bill Andrews advised that the new Chief Executive of NFDC is Bob Jackson who will take up his role from 24 October 2015.

NFDC is working on a poster campaign for 'Leave Nothing but Footprints', a joint initiative between NFDC, the New Forest National Park Authority and the Forestry Commission. Litter removal across the District costs NFDC over £250,000 per year.

Cllr. Andrews has a Community Engagement Grant of £600 and asked Members for suggestions/requests, in writing.

#### 97/15 **REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Mike Short attended the annual general meeting of the Butts Ash Community Association on 14<sup>th</sup> July when it was reported that savings of £1500 had been made, primarily through utility changes. During the

past year improvements have been made to the front garden and the heating system.

Grants totalling £1500 have been received from various sources which funded the improvements and a 5 year plan is in place to enable St. Anne's to be put on a firm footing.

A work day has been arranged for Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September. Anyone wishing to assist with tasks such as gutter cleaning, weeding, hedge cutting and painting are asked to turn up on the day.

Cllr. Short attended his first meeting of Waterside Heritage. The exhibition held during the Waterside Arts Festival was well attended. The same exhibition was also used during the History of the Waterside exhibition held at Lepe Country Park on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> July. A further exhibition is planned for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> September at Fawley Church showing the role of Calshot in the build up to and during the First World War.

The next meeting of Hythe and District Historians will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2015 at the Community Centre in Hythe. The topic will be 'The 18<sup>th</sup> Century Forest' by Peter Roberts.

An open day at the Heritage Centre will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

Eric Davey updated Members on Parish Council requirements for bird netting to be undertaken by Hythe and Dibden Woodland and Waterside Group.

Maureen McLean informed Members that the Handy Trust were in the process of recruiting two additional detached youth workers, one for Marchwood and one for Fawley.

98/15 **QUESTIONS TO DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES ARISING FROM THEIR REPORTS**

Malcolm Wade asked James Binns what service areas the maintenance programmes included. Cllr. Binns responded that the programmes included maintenance across the Council.

Alex Wade asked Dan Poole whether there were retailers interested in development within the parish. Cllr. Poole replied that he was unable to disclose anything further.

99/15 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE CHAIR OF COUNCIL**

There were no questions raised.

**100/15 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 8 July 2015.

**RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 8 July 2015 be received and adopted.

**101/15 MEMORIALS**

Members debated the report and considered the gift of a memorial bench from the Waterside Poppy Group (WPG) and the preferred location for installation.

**RESOLVED that**

- a) the gift from the WPG be accepted.
- b) the preferred location for installation is within the the new war memorial area at Hythe War Memorial Hospital

**102/15 MEETING TIMES**

The Chairman of the Planning Committee reported to Council on the views of the Planning Committee with regard to meeting times.

Council debated the report and **RESOLVED** that

- a) planning meetings are to remain on the second Wednesday of each month starting at 6.45pm.
- b) future full council meetings are held on the third Monday of each month starting at 7 p.m

**103/15 FORMAT OF REPORTS**

Members considered a report from the Chairman regarding the format of reports at council meetings.

**RESOLVED that**

- a) the approach set out under paragraph 2.0 of Appendix 5 be adopted from September 2015 for a trial period of 3 months.
- b) a review is undertaken once the trial period of 3 months has ended.

- c) the provision of improved information on the website for a trial period of 6 months is agreed.
- d) a review is undertaken on the trial period of 6 months has ended.
- e) The Clerk to check whether Council can require a reporting member of a primary council to report in writing.

104/15 **WORKSHOP**

The Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor briefed Members on the progress of work to consider workshop improvements and refurbishment.

105/15 **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

Members considered a report from the Clerk to the Council regarding Christmas lights provision within the parish.

RESOLVED that

- a) the transfer of £1817.30 from general reserves to the Christmas Lighting budget (3800/3) be agreed.
- b) the formation of a working group to develop a new Christmas Lighting strategy for 2016 - 2019 be agreed.

Councillors McLean, Binns, Poole and Short volunteered for the working group.

106/15 **ACSO VEHICLE**

The Clerk to the Council briefed Members with regard to the condition of the Parish Council vehicle pool and the opportunity to exchange the current ACSO vehicle for a more suitable one at the same time as replacing the Maintenance Supervisor Vehicle.

RESOLVED

That the opportunity to exchange the ACSO vehicle be progressed.

107/15 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

RESOLVED

That at 10.00 p.m standing orders be suspended to allow the meeting to continue.

108/15 **AUDIT**

The Clerk to the Council reported on the approval of the Annual Return for 2014/215 by the external auditor.

RESOLVED

That the report on the Annual Return for 2014/2015 be noted.

109/15 **FINANCE 2015 - 2016**

Consideration was given to the Bank Reconciliation for June 2015 and the Schedule of Payments for the period 2 July 2015 to 31 July 2015.

RESOLVED that

- a) The Bank Reconciliation for June 2015 be noted.
- a) Accounts as detailed totalling £57,699.71 be approved and paid.

The meeting closed at 10.01 p.m.

Chairman

Date

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