

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 20 December 2004 at 8 pm

Members: *Mr D Smith (Chairman) – in the Chair

*Mr J Bennett	*Mr R Podesta
oMr G Dawson	*Mrs M J Robinson
oMr R Guy	*Mr M Short
*Mr C Harrison	*Mrs B Smith
oMrs M McLean	*Mr M S Wade
*Mr 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: 5 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press

355/04 **Declarations of Interest**

Mrs Smith, Mr M Wade, Mr S Wade, Mrs M Robinson, Mr C Harrison, Mr G Parkes declared an interest in Minute 363/04 item (f) Community Warden. Mrs Smith declared an interest in Minute 357/04 as she is an allotment holder.

356/04 **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 15 November 2004.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 15 November 2004 be signed by the Chairman as correct.

357/04 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman announced that the Complaints Sub-Committee had considered a complaint from an allotment holder. The Sub Committee did not uphold the complaint.

(Mrs Smith declared an interest in this item but remained in the meeting)

358/04 **Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish**

Mrs Robinson and Mr M Wade are to sit on an informal working group set up by the District Council to shadow the remit of the New Forest National Park Authority and look at those issues most relevant to the District Council such as tourism, recreation and planning.

The Langdown Lawn Housing Application has gone back to the design and planning application stage as the original energy efficient design was too expensive.

The provisional District Council grant from central government is expected to be 3.3%.

The Administration has underspent by approximately £300,000 on this time last year.

The Council Tax is expected to come in under the capping limit, therefore fees and cuts will have to be reconsidered.

There is no financial commitment to extend CCTV and plans for CCTV in Hythe and Dibden and New Milton have been cancelled.

Mrs Smith and Mr S Wade attended training on Licensing Matters.

The Garden Waste Recycling Scheme will continue regardless of whether the Government reduce the targets for levels of recycling for local authorities.

359/04 **Reports of the County Councillor on County Council matters concerning the Parish**

Langdown Junior School has been removed from Special Measures less than a year after being placed under them and is now among the top group of schools in Hampshire. The Junior School will merge with the Infant School in January 2005 to form The Waterside Primary.

Mr Dash has asked for a refuge to be placed in the road at Bramshott Hill as there is nowhere for pedestrians to walk.

The Cycleway in Hythe has been approved, but it appears that there is no money remaining in the budget.

Mr Dash has requested that lorries are banned from using South Street.

Further to two arson attacks on Hampshire Schools, an evaluation is currently being carried out for the provision of sprinkler systems.

Mr Dash has written to the Managing Director of South West Trains requesting that he re-examine the possibility of a Park and Ride at Hythe, linking to the Chandlers Ford/Totton line.

The provisional cash increase in the budget is 4.9%

360/04 **Questions to District and County Councillors arising from their reports**

It was suggested that the road at Bramshott Hill also required signs stating "No Footway".

Mr Dash agreed to pursue the matter with the Area Surveyor.

361/04 **Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies**

The New Forest has a very high incidence of drinking and driving.

The Southampton Airport and Community Stakeholders Conference monitored the effect of altered flight paths over the past year and concluded that there was no discernable difference between Phase 1 and Phase 2.

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council Representatives the Rail Officer agreed to talk to the Waterside Councils on the subject of extending the Chandlers Ford/Totton line to Marchwood or Hythe.

The Friends of Forest Front are asking for volunteers for their Working Party on 8 January 2005.

362/04 **Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26**

A. Gate at Shore Road Playing Field

Members were advised that concern has been expressed over the locking of the gate at Shore Road Playing Field.

The Deputy Clerk advised members that the gate had been installed as a temporary measure to prevent travellers camping on Council land. Enquiries are presently being made for the provision of a gate which will allow cars through but not caravans.

B. Post Office Closures

Clarification was sought over the possibility of Post Office closures in the Parish.

The Chairman had not heard of any closures, but confirmed that he would actively campaign against closures should it be necessary.

C. Hythe Hospital Minor Injuries Unit

Concern was expressed that the Minor Injuries Unit at Hythe Hospital has still not reopened after a year of closure.

It was agreed to write and ask for a planned programme for reopening.

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

Minor Injuries Unit

Mr Dash advised that previous correspondence with Hythe Hospital had indicated that specialist nurses were being trained and the Unit would be open from October. However, when he wrote again in October he was advised that the Hospital had encountered difficulty in recruitment.

Orchids – Forest Front

Mr Uglow felt that grass cutting was stopped too early to allow the orchids to flourish.

Shipping container – Hythe and Dibden Football Academy

Mr Uglow thanked the Council for the assistance given to the Football Academy with their plans for siting a shipping container at Shore Road Playing Field. Unfortunately it was not yet on site due to delays by the District Council.

Drain – Frost Lane

Mr Uglow advised of a drain which is overflowing whenever it rains in Frost Lane.

A Member advised of a Response Unit provided by the District Council which reacts very quickly to these problems.

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The Council Meeting then resumed.

363/04 Reports of Committees**(a) Planning Committee – 15 November 2004**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 15 November 2004.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 15 November 2004 be received and adopted.

(b) Planning Committee – 29 November 2004

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 29 November 2004.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 29 November 2004 be received and adopted.

(c) Amenities Committee – 29 November 2004

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 29 November 2004.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 29 November 2004 be received and adopted.

(d) Planning Committee – 6 December 2004

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 6 December 2004.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 6 December 2004 be received and adopted.

(e) General Purposes and Finance Committee – 6 December 2004

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 6 December 2004.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 6 December 2004 be received and adopted.

(f) General Purposes and Finance Committee – 20 December 2004

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 20 December 2004.

RESOLVED

(i) Minute 349/04

That Minute 349/04 1. be amended to continue "consulting the public for their views.....on a Community Warden Scheme"

(ii) General

That the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 20 December 2004 be received and adopted.

364/04 Accounts for Payment

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

1. Voucher 1088

A Member queried the high cost of the maintenance of the workshop alarm.

The Clerk confirmed that quotations are still being sought for a different contract.

2. Vouchers 1102-1105

Clarification was sought over these payments.

The Clerk advised that this represented the distribution of donations collected at the Christmas Lights turn on event in Hythe.

3. General

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 1086 – 1118 inclusive, totalling £18102.46, be approved and paid.

365/04 **Budget and Precept 2005/2006**

Consideration was given to the budget papers for 2005/2006.

RESOLVED

1. That the budgets for the Amenities and General Purposes and Finance Committees be adopted.
2. The fees for the use of Council facilities be increased by 3%.
3. That the Council Precept upon New Forest District Council for the sum of £409,394 for the twelve months commencing 1 April 2005.

The Meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Chairman

Date

mncou87