

**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 7 February 2005 at 8 pm

Members: \*Mr M Short (Vice 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  | oMr M S Wade      |
| *Mr G Parkes   | oMr 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: 11 Members of the Public  
2 Members of the Press  
Mr M Cox (New Forest Patient and Public Involvement Forum)  
Ms V Reid (New Forest Patient and Public Involvement Forum)

413/04 **Declarations of Interest**

Mrs Robinson declared an interest in Minute 415/04 as she is a non-executive director of an NHS Trust and in Minute 425/04 as she is a director of Victim Support Hampshire.

414/04 **Receipt of petition from local residents**

The Chairman received a petition from local residents concerning the dangers of crossing the A326.

Members and the public were made aware of the response received from Mr Thornber to this Parish's recent letter and it was agreed to request Mr Thornber to attend the public meeting which has been called for 8 March 2005 at 7 pm in St Andrew's Hall as well as officers from the County Council.

It was also agreed to ask that the safety study which is currently being carried out be completed in time for it to be discussed at that meeting.

Members were advised that signing advising drivers of pedestrians on the road will be in place in the next few weeks.

RESOLVED

1. That the Parish Council accept the Petition.
2. That the Petition be given to the County Council.
3. That the Parish Council support the Petition.

415/04 **Patient and Public Involvement in Health – Presentation by New Forest Patient and Public Involvement Forum**

Martin Cox, Chairman of the New Forest Patient and Public Involvement Forum, and Vivian Reid, Forum Support Officer, gave a presentation of the work of the Forum in the local area.

The basic role of the Forum is to provide a 2 way link between the community and the NHS so that each knows the views of the other. The Forum is able to monitor the quality of local health services and look at other issues in the local community which affect health such as social care, transport and housing on an overall basis.

The first problem the Forum is dealing with is the Out of Hours Service and in the future it hopes to investigate audiology and facilities for blood tests and the creation of patient groups at surgeries.

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

416/04 **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 20 December 2004.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 20 December 2004 be signed by the Chairman as correct.

417/04 **Chairman's announcements**

The Chairman announced that a letter had been received from the local MP, Dr Julian Lewis, congratulating the Parish on achieving Quality Status and commended the staff for their efforts in this achievement.

The Parish has received a grant of £3550 (50% of the total bid) from the Countryside Agency for work on a disabled access for The Grove and equipment for the Market Town Healthcheck.

418/04 **Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish**

Work is continuing on the New Forest Community Safety Strategy 2005/2008, although the New Forest is considered a safe place to live. However, fear of crime is a major concern.

The Crime and Disorder Review Panel considers that the amount of funding received in this area is comparable to other areas.

Concern is still being expressed over the amount of time it takes the Standards Commission to reach a satisfactory conclusion on complaints.

The Corporate Overview Scrutiny Panel is not working effectively. The Chairman will allow it the remainder of an 18 month period to improve.

The budget proposals will go before Council on 23 February and the District Council element of the Council tax is expected to be 4.79%.

The Housing Options Appraisal conducted by councillors and a tenants working party has concluded that the Council should retain its housing stock at present.

Mrs Robinson recently attended a conference organised by the Hampshire Strategic Partnership exploring the issues for Hampshire raised in the South East Regional Plan spatial planning document up to 2026. There is concern that Hampshire is not doing enough to retain its infrastructure.

Mrs Robinson recently attended the first meeting between the New Forest Primary Care Trust and the New Forest District Council liaison. She was assured that the intention is to re-open the Hythe Minor Injuries Unit, but the time for staff training had been underestimated. Concerns about the Out of Hours Service were also discussed. It is hoped that things will be running smoothly by the summer.

Mr Parkes had joined other members of the Planning Development Control Committee on a training day.

**419/04 Report of County Councillor on County Council matters concerning the Parish**

The Grant Equalisation Fund means that the proposed budget increase for 2005/2006 will be 3.5%.

The County Councillor gave the Clerk a copy of the SEERA - South East Plan Councillor Briefing so that members could have their own copy if desired.

The implementation of the Children's Act requires children's problems to be picked up early, therefore an elected member and senior officer must be responsible.

The Forest Education Centre is out of Special Measures.

**420/04 Questions to District and County Councillors arising from their reports**

Mr Harrison was asked how many cases the Standards Committee had handled in the last year and how many had been found guilty and what affect this had had on people standing as councillors.

He agreed to bring the figures to the next meeting.

Mr Dash was asked whether the Grant Equalisation Fund consisted of the extra £10 per household which has been taken in previous years.

Mr Dash replied that it was £10 taken every year.

**421/04 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies**

There were no reports.

**422/04 Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26**

There were no questions.

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

**Illegally parked caravan**

Mr Uglow asked what was being done about the illegally parked caravan and its spoil at the junction of Frost Lane and Shore Road.

The Clerk advised him that the District Council are looking into the problem.

**Minute 383/04**

Mr Uglow asked who had reported the construction of a sleeping policeman as it was not on public highway and had been suggested by the Forestry Commission.

Mr Parkes reiterated that he had been concerned over the clearance for emergency vehicles.

**Complaint to Police**

Mr Uglow told members that when a neighbour had phoned the police to complain about Forest Front being used as a racetrack he was advised that the police no longer bother to uphold local byelaws.

This was of great concern to members, particularly as Inspector Buckle had once again asked people to report all incidents at a meeting between police and local traders this week. It was suggested that Mr Uglow ask the neighbour to contact Inspector Buckle and that the matter is put on the next agenda for the quarterly police meeting.

**Litter**

Mr Uglow suggested that litter is getting worse, particularly in the area around pubs.

It was agreed that the matter should be dealt with.

**Forest Front Track**

It was agreed that responsibility for the Forest Front Track should be investigated.

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The Council Meeting then resumed.

423/04 **Reports of Committees****(a) Planning Committee – 20 December 2004**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 20 December 2004.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 20 December 2004 be received and adopted.

**(b) Planning Committee – 10 January 2005**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 10 January 2005.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 10 January 2005 be received and adopted.

**(c) Amenities Committee – 10 January 2005**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 10 January 2005.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 10 January 2005 be received and adopted.

**(d) Planning Committee – 24 January 2005**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 24 January 2005.

**(i) Minute 391/04 – Planning Appeal Decision. 6/7 Pylewell Road**

It was confirmed that enforcement action will be taken if the situation continues.

**(ii) General**

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 24 January 2005 be received and adopted.

**(e) General Purposes and Finance Committee – 24 January 2005**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 24 January 2005.

**(i) Minute 402/04 – Crossing A326**

It was agreed that the letter sent to Hampshire County Council and the response received concerning crossing the A326 be displayed on the Parish Noticeboards.

**(ii) General**

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 24 January 2005 be received and adopted.

424/04 **Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in vouchers 1163 –1193 inclusive, totalling £28119.05, be approved and paid.

425/04 **Signing Documents – Lease of Rooms 101 and 102 The Grove to Victim Support for use as office accommodation.**

RESOLVED

That authority be given to sign the documents as required by the Clerk to the Council.

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

The Meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Chairman

Date

mncou88