

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 10 May 2010 at 8 pm

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

*Mr J Bennett	*Mrs M Robinson
*Mr W Binns	*Mr M Short
*Mr R Guy	oMr B Uglow
*Mr G Jones	*Mr P Vickers
*Mrs M McLean	*Mr A Wade
*Mr G Parkes	*Mr M 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
oMrs A McEvoy - Hampshire County Councillor
*Mr C Harrison – New Forest District Councillor
oMrs B Smith – New Forest District Councillor
oMr S S Wade – New Forest District Councillor
3 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press

1/10 **To elect the Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year**

RESOLVED

That Mr David Smith be elected as Chairman of the Council for the forthcoming Council year.

2/10 **To receive the Chairman's Declaration of Office**

Mr Smith signed his declaration of Acceptance of Office and took the Chair.

3/10 **To elect the Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year**

RESOLVED

That Mrs Maureen Robinson be elected Vice Chairman for the forthcoming Council year.

4/10 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

5/10 **To appoint the following Committees**

(a) Planning

RESOLVED

That the following be appointed to the Planning Committee for the forthcoming Council year:-

Mr W Binns
Mr R Guy
Mr G Parkes

Mr M Short
Mr B Uglow
Mr A Wade
Mr M Wade
Mr D Smith ex officio
Mrs M Robinson ex officio

6/10 **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 1 March 2010.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Council held on 1 March 2010 be signed by the Chairman as correct.

7/10 **Public Forum**

Posting of notices in Parish

Mr Dash referred to the Council's policy concerning the posting of notices in the parish and asked whether it would be possible to amend it to allow local community activities to be advertised with the approval of the Highways Authority and the Clerk.

It was agreed to investigate the matter but stressed that flyposting is illegal so alternative methods of display such as boards in private gardens may need to be sought.

Zero rate council tax increase

Mr Cox drew the attention of the meeting to the zero rate increase in the Parish Council's share of the precept this year and congratulated members and staff on this achievement.

Hythe Hospital

Mr Cox spoke on behalf of the residents of Hythe on the unexpected closure of beds at Hythe Hospital.

He found the recent reason of infection control for the closure difficult to understand as the hospital has a good record on infection control and wondered if there had been a misunderstanding by the media.

There is a concern that Milford on Sea and the Fenwick Hospitals have been redeveloped and Hythe has not so a party of local residents have been working on ascertaining which services are needed at Hythe Hospital. Mr Cox asked the Parish Council to support residents in attempts to reopen Hythe Hospital concentrating not just on the reopening of beds but also on future service provision.

Mr Cox added that Hampshire Community Health Care had advised him that they would be happy to discuss any proposals with the Parish Council.

8/10 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman read a card from a resident to the meeting in which she praised the uplifting sight of the daffodils planted around the parish after such a dismal winter.

9/10 **Reports of the County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish**

The Hythe and Dibden Accessibility Improvement Consultation has prioritised the proposed schemes as follows:-

Priority A

Challenger Way – missing footways
Claypits Lane/Southampton Road – shared use cycle/footway
Challenger Way – pedestrian crossing improvements
Roman Road – traffic calming

Priority B

Hythe Interchange – minor surfacing and waiting shelter
 Challenger Way – pedestrian improvements and traffic calming
 Langdown Lawn and Beaulieu Road – pedestrian crossing improvements
 Main Road, Dibden – new footway
 Quality Bus Partnership – infrastructure improvements
 Cumberland Way – permanent traffic calming

10/10 Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish

At a recent meeting of the Crime and Disorder Panel the Environment Portfolio holder gave a presentation in which he explained that he has a budget of £7.5 million per year which is used on refuse and recycling, public conveniences, clean streets, car parks and the Council's vehicle fleet.

The Crime and Disorder budget for this year is £712,000 which will mainly be spent on the maintenance of the CCTV service which operates 55 cameras 24 hours a day.

The disabled facilities grant has been cut. Another progress report will be discussed in September.

The District Council has around 375 void properties a year which take approximately 21 days to re-let. Around £1000 is spent on each property which is due to increase to £1600 due to the condition in which some are left. It is expected that an employee will check properties before tenants leave.

Members and staff visited the CCTV control room to see the cameras in action and immediately saw the benefits.

11/10 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies

The name of Dibden Allotments Charity has changed to Dibden Allotments Fund.

The Dibden Allotments Fund shoe scheme has now been extended to include senior citizens.

The Clerk and Mr M Wade attended a meeting with NFDC the NPA and NFALC in order to ascertain the direction in which the organisation is heading. Unfortunately the results of the meeting were inconclusive and another will be needed.

Age UK took over Age Concern and Help the Aged on 15 April 2010.

Age Concern New Forest East now has 12 months to consider its future.

Age UK ran a campaign to ensure that the elderly were able to attend polling stations to vote which was very successful.

Age Concern ran a volunteer day to thank volunteers which was very successful and highlighted the diversity of volunteers with an award for a recipient of the MBE, a 14 year old volunteer who gives computer lessons and various long service awards.

Funding for the foot care service is down £3000 from the PCT which required taking money from reserves. There will be no funding at all next year so Age Concern is looking for trustees who are able to fundraise.

Mr Smith attended the Butts Ash Community Association AGM at which John Barnes was elected Chairman and Brian Dash Vice Chairman.

12/10 Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports

Mr Jones asked Mr Dash whether the speed restrictions on the A326 around Marchwood are permanent.

Mr Dash responded that there are no plans to alter them although there is a review of speed restrictions on other parts of the A326.

Mr M Wade asked Mr Dash whether he would support a 20mph speed limit around schools in the area.

Mr Dash responded that the suggestion had been made for Hythe.

13/10 **Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26**

The Chairman was asked whether he was aware that people were disgruntled at having to walk from Ewart Court to the polling station at The Grove on election day although it was felt that the Returning Officer and staff did a good job.

It was suggested that Electoral Services at the District Council be contacted to investigate the matter.

14/10 **Reports of Committees**

(a) Planning Committee – 1 March 2010

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 1 March 2010.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 1 March 2010 be received and adopted.

(b) Planning Committee – 23 March 2010

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 23 March 2010.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 23 March 2010 be received and adopted.

(c) Planning Committee – 12 April 2010

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 12 April 2010.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 12 April 2010 be received and adopted.

(d) Amenities Committee – 12 April 2010

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 12 April 2010.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 12 April 2010 be received and adopted.

(e) Planning Committee – 26 April 2010

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 26 April 2010.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 26 April 2010 be received and adopted.

(f) General Purposes and Finance Committee – 26 April 2010

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 26 April 2010.

(i) Minute 665/09

Further discussions were held concerning the proposed changes to the Council and Committee meeting cycle. There was still a particular concern from some members that insufficient time would be available for planning applications to be discussed.

It was agreed to accept the recommendation and review the situation in six months.

(ii) Standing Order 32

It was agreed that Standing Order 32 which states that: "A Member shall stand when speaking unless permitted to do so by the Chairman to sit on account of infirmity." should be suspended and reviewed in six months.

(iii) General

RESOLVED

That the recommendations of Minute 665/09 and 666/09 be accepted and the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 26 April 2010 be received and adopted.

15/10 Recommended Financial Regulations and Standing Orders**(a) Financial Regulations**

Consideration was given to the Financial Regulations recommended for adoption by the General Purposes and Finance Committee.

RESOLVED

That the Financial Regulations as recommended by the General Purposes and Finance Committee be agreed and adopted.

(b) Standing Orders

Consideration was given to the Standing Orders recommended for adoption by the General Purposes and Finance Committee.

RESOLVED

That the Standing Orders as recommended by the General Purposes and Finance Committee be agreed and adopted.

16/10 To appoint members of the Personnel Committee and Working Groups

Consideration was given to the membership of Committee and Working Groups.

RESOLVED

That membership of Committee and Working Groups be agreed as follows:-

Personnel Committee
Chairman of the Council
Vice Chairman of the Council
Malcolm Wade
Maureen McLean
Alex Wade
Warren Binns

Young Persons Involvement Strategy Group

Malcolm Wade
David Smith
Maureen McLean
Alex Wade
Brian Uglow

Play Equipment Working Group

Maureen McLean
Malcolm Wade
Jon Bennett
Graham Parkes

Parish Design Statement Group

David Smith
Graham Parkes

Internal Audit Review Working Group

Chairman of the Council
Maureen Robinson
Maureen McLean
Alex Wade

Grant Aid Working Group

Maureen Robinson
Chairman of the Council
Clerk to the Council

17/10 To appoint representatives to serve on Outside Bodies

Consideration was given to the appointment of representatives to serve on Outside Bodies.

Queries were raised over the appointments on New Forest Sports Council and Community First New Forest as there has been no recent communication with them. It was agreed to ascertain whether representatives are still required on these Bodies.

RESOLVED

That, subject to the above, the following representatives be appointed to Outside Bodies:-

1. **Age Concern (New Forest East)**
Mr W Binns
2. **Butts Ash Community Association**
David Smith
3. **Dibden Allotment Fund**
Mr C Harrison from July 2009
Mrs R Dash from July 2009
Mrs Maureen McLean from July 2007
4. **Friends of Forest Front**
Jonathan Bennett
5. **Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils**
Chairman or Vice Chairman of Council or nominated substitute
6. **Hythe and Dibden Twinning Association**
Alex Wade
7. **Hythe and Dibden Woodland and Waterside Group**
David Smith

8. **Hythe Youth Club Management Committee**
Alex Wade
9. **Local Representatives for Transport Liaison/Hythe Ferry User Group**
Roger Guy
David Smith
10. **New Forest Sports Council**
Graham Jones
11. **New Forest Consultative Panel**
Alex Wade
12. **New Forest District Council Environmental Protection Liaison Committee**
Mrs M McLean
Mike Short
13. **New Forest Road Safety Council**
David Smith
14. **St Andrew's Centre Management Committee**
Roger Guy
15. **St. John's Hall Management Committee**
Graham Parkes
16. **The HANDY Trust**
Mr. M. S. Wade 3 year appointment ends 30 November 2011
Mrs M. McLean 3 year appointment ends 30 November 2011
17. **Waterside Heritage Trust**
Jonathan Bennett
18. **Waterside Joint Councils Group**
Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Council
Chairman of the Planning Committee
19. **Waterside Youth Steering Group**
Alex Wade
Maureen McLean
Maureen Robinson
Malcolm Wade

18/10 **Revised Schedule of Meetings 2010/11**

Consideration was given to the revised schedule of meetings for 2010/11 based on the new Council and Committee arrangements.

RESOLVED

That the revised schedule of meetings for 2010/11 be agreed.

19/10 **Outturn Financial Position 2009/10**

Consideration was given to the outturn financial position 2009/10.

RESOLVED

That the outturn financial position for 2009/10 be noted.

20/10 **New Forest District Council Preparation of Sites and Development – Management Development Plan Document – Land at Kiln Close, Dibden Purlieu**

Consideration was given to a query from New Forest District Council on whether a piece of Parish Council owned land at Kiln Close, Dibden Purlieu should be promoted as available for development according to the Sites and Development Management Development Plan Document.

RESOLVED

That New Forest District Council be advised that land at Kiln Close, Dibden Purlieu is not available for development.

21/10 **Hythe Hospital**

Members were concerned to learn that once again a decision had been made to close a community facility without any prior consultation despite the fact that the Parish Council has a good record of working with interested parties in order to get a satisfactory resolution.

Whilst being aware that changes may need to be made to ensure that Hythe Hospital stays open members were concerned at the way in which it seems to be closing down gradually without consultation.

It was agreed that Hampshire Community Healthcare should be invited to meet the Parish Council on the subject of the closure of Hythe Hospital in order that all interested parties are kept updated on the situation and can work together towards a satisfactory conclusion.

22/10 **Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed totalling £14,556.80, be approved and paid.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

Chairman

Date

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