

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 Wednesday 11 January 2012 at 8 pm

- Members: *Mrs M Robinson (Chairman) – in the Chair
- | | |
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| *Mr J Binns | *Mr M Short |
| *Mr B Dash | *Mrs B Smith |
| *Mr R Guy | *Mr D Smith |
| *Mr C Harrison | *Mr A Wade |
| oMrs M McLean | *Mr M Wade |
| *Mr G Parkes | *Mr S Wade |
- In attendance: Mr D J Shimpe (Clerk to the Council)
Mrs C Patterson (Minute Clerk)
Mr M Kendall (Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor)
- Also present: oMrs A McEvoy - Hampshire County Councillor
oMr M Harris – New Forest District Councillor
PC Adrian Woodhead
2 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press
- * Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

228/11 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

229/11 Minutes

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 14 December 2012.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 14 December 2012 be signed by the Chairman as correct.

230/11 Public Forum

PC Adrian Woodhead advised members that he had taken over the Netley View and Dibden Purlieu Beat just before Christmas but so far had encountered few problems.

There had been a problem with youths stealing from unlocked vehicles on driveways but this had been addressed with a leaflet drop and speaking to residents regarding vehicle security.

PC Woodhead confirmed that Hythe and Dibden is an area that has very low crime levels. The Dibden Purlieu/Netley View Beat sees around 20 instances a week of various forms of anti social behaviour, 35 small cannabis plants were found at Netley View and a charge had been made regarding the handling of stolen goods.

Speeding, cycling on pavements and the obstruction of pavements by vehicles are a constant problem but will be targeted regularly.

A member asked whether an education programme could be implemented regarding horse riders who ride on cycleways or the new pavements on Southampton Road.

PC Woodhead suggested that the Police would use their discretion concerning this practice and added that most horse riders in the area used the highways in a safe and sensible manner.

John Pemberton, a member of the New Forest National Park Authority, spoke to members about the Authority.

A response has been made to the consultation regarding elected members and a trial period will be run for one election. It is expected that 5 of the 22 New Forest National Park Authority members will be democratically elected. This will mean that the District Council members will be reduced by 5 as the state appointed members will remain.

Funding has been received from the Heritage Lottery Fund for a World War 2 project.

The mosaic project which gives minority groups the opportunity to learn about the New Forest has been very successful but unfortunately the funding has almost run out.

It was suggested to Mr Pemberton that as Hythe is a gateway village to the New Forest it would be beneficial if the Tourist Bus started from the Ferry Terminal in order to provide a direct link with Southampton. Mr Pemberton agreed to raise the matter at the New Forest National Park Authority

231/11 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman reminded members that they should have received an invitation to an open evening at Fawley Refinery on 19 January 2012 and asked that any responses be sent by 12 January 2012.

232/11 **Reports of the County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish**

The Roman Road traffic calming scheme is to be re-evaluated with the speed impact being assessed.

The county wide reorganisation of office hubs will result in a large base at Hounslow House which will eventually be joined by staff currently in West Shore House.

Contrary to rumours, the phlebotomy section at Hythe Hospital will not be closing down. The misunderstanding arose due to the need to issue redundancy warnings due to the current contract finishing.

233/11 **Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish**

As part of the scrutiny of Portfolio Holder's budgets opposition spokesmen observed the process. Mr M Wade observed the scrutiny of the Environment Portfolio Holder.

The future of Dibden Golf Centre will be discussed at a meeting of the Scrutiny and Overview Panel on 17 January 2012.

The new Localism notes state that if a member has already registered an interest on the Register of Interests it does not have to be disclosed during a meeting.

Mr Harrison advised members of the decisions made by the Planning Development Control Committee at a recent meeting.

It has been agreed to run a pilot of the Empty Homes Loan Scheme with a budget of £75,000.

234/11 **Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Mr Smith advised members that he had chaired the inaugural meeting for organisations interested in celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. A lot of ideas had been discussed at the well attended meeting and it is intended to hold another meeting in February.

The National Standards Board will cease to exist on 1 April 2012 and the Local Standards Board on 1 July 2012. A new committee will need to be formed but the Code of Conduct will become independent and although a standardised code will be sent out it does not have to be adopted.

A new law will be put forward concerning breaches of "declarations of interest." requirements.

Mr Guy advised members that he had previously spoken to Chris Gregory concerning the running of the New Forest Tourist Bus from Hythe and he had indicated that it was not particularly well used.

235/11 Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports

Mrs Smith reminded Mr Dash that Roman Road was a route to school which meant that the traffic calming measures were vital and that there are other routes which can be used by motorists.

Mr Parkes asked Mr Dash whether the legal control of the cycleway had been changed to make it legal to use for cycling. Mr Dash replied that it is a legal cycleway.

It was pointed out that the cycleway has no demarcation for pedestrians but it is hoped that this will not cause too much of a problem.

A member stated that he had been asked how much the cycleway scheme had cost the taxpayer and it was clarified that the cost of the scheme was covered by developers' contributions.

Mr Dash asked Mr Harrison how many new homes had been created by New Forest District Council and how many would be provided by the Empty Homes Scheme.

Mrs Robinson advised members that 60 new homes were built by the District Council last year but it is not known how many homes will become habitable due to the Empty Homes Scheme as it will depend on how much of the budget is used by each house.

It was suggested that the New Forest Tourist Bus could start from Hythe on certain days but it was thought that this may cause confusion.

236/11 Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26

There were no questions under standing orders 25 and 26.

237/11 Reports of Committees

Planning Committee – 14 December 2012

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 14 December 2012.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 14 December 2012 be received and adopted.

238/11 Presentation on WIFI Provision, Hythe Centre

The Parish Development Officer gave a presentation on the potential provision of free WiFi access in Hythe Centre.

Whilst members could see the potential benefits for businesses and people who do not have access to smartphones or other internet sources there was some concern, whether the project would be economically viable and whether technology is moving so fast that the project will soon be overtaken by something else.

RESOLVED

That local traders be consulted to gauge interest in the scheme and the matter brought to a future meeting if sufficient interest is shown.

239/11 Acceptance of Tender – Exercise Equipment, Noads Way

Consideration was given to the acceptance of a tender for the provision of exercise equipment at Noads Way.

RESOLVED

That the tender for £10,535.00 excluding VAT from Park Leisure Ltd be accepted.

240/11 Young Sports Person of the Year Award – to appoint the Working Party

Consideration was given to the appointment of a Working Party to discuss the nominations for Young Sports Person of the Year Award and to consider the way forward.

RESOLVED

That a Working Party comprising Mr A Wade, Mr B Dash, Mr J Binns and Mrs B Smith be appointed to discuss the nominations for Young Sports Person of the Year Award and to consider the way forward.

241/11 Prospect Place – Flood Alleviation

Consideration was given to a flood alleviation scheme at Prospect Place which has received planning permission and been approved by the Environment Agency.

Members expressed concern at the cost involved particularly as the scheme would only protect Prospect Place to a certain extent and would probably push the problem further along the coastline.

The Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor advised the meeting that the Flood Assistance Plan which came into operation in April 2008 has been used twice as a precautionary measure and been extremely successful.

RESOLVED

That the Flood Assistance Plan be continued as the main protection against flooding and the remaining budget of £4782.00 kept in the budget for flooding issues.

242/11 Accounts for Payment

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 7391 - 7444 inclusive, totalling £41,503.76, be approved and paid.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Chairman

Date

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