

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 March 2015 at 8.00 pm

Members: *Mrs B Smith (Chairman) – in the Chair

*Mr J Binns	*Mrs M Robinson
*Mr B Dash	*Mr M Short
*Mr R Guy	*Mr D Smith
*Mr C Harrison	oMr A Wade
*Mrs M McLean	*Mr M Wade
*Mr G Parkes	*Mr S Wade

In attendance: Mrs S Bennett (Clerk to the Council)
Mr S Spencer (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
Mrs B Edwards (Minute Clerk)
Mr D Melsome (Finance Officer/Assistant Clerk)
Mr M Kendall (Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor)

Also present: *Mr P Fawkes (Hampshire County Councillor)
oMr M Harris (Hampshire County Councillor)

4 Members of the Public

* Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

273/14 Declarations of Interest

Mrs Smith and Mr Parkes declared an interest in item number 283/14 as they are both members of the Hythe and Dibden Twinning Association. They considered the matter to be prejudicial and having left the meeting, took no part in the discussion or vote.

Mrs Robinson declared an interest in item number 283/14 as she will be hosting a visitor as part of the twinning visit. She considered the matter to be prejudicial and having left the meeting, took no part in the discussion or vote.

274/14 Minutes

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 11 February 2015. Mr Smith advised that minute number 254/14 should read that members on the committee are Ann McDonald and Brian Uglow who represents St John's Church.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 11 February 2015 be signed by the Chairman as correct subject to the above amendment.

275/14 Public Forum

Mr T Wheeler commented that it was nice to see that road improvements had commenced in Watermans Lane as part of Operation Resilience.

276/14 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman announced that a letter of thanks had been received from Age Concern for the donation of £1,300 made by the Parish Council towards transport costs at the Horrill Day Centre.

277/14 Reports of the County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish

Philip Fawkes reported that he had met with the developers of Forest Lodge Farm.

Malcolm Wade reported from the budget meeting held on 19 February 2015. Three amendments were put forward; for Hampshire County Council to pay the living wage to its lowest paid employees, that £1 million is returned to funds to support essential bus services and that £1.8 million is returned to the core Children's Services budget to fund short breaks for disabled children. All three amendments were defeated.

Mr Wade informed Members of a forthcoming Electoral Review of Hampshire County Council. The Electoral Commission will consider Electoral Equality (numbers), Interests and Identities of local communities and effective and convenient local government.

278/14 Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish

James Binns informed Members that at the last District Council meeting, the Council approved a zero percent council tax increase. Mr Binns will be attending the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel meeting on 17 March 2015. On the agenda is an update on community safety alarms, an update on council house acquisition and development and an update from the child poverty Task and Finish group. Mr Binns will update Members at the next Full Council meeting.

Maureen McLean reported from the Housing Policy Group. New Forest District Council (NFDC) had met its target to buy back 100 properties, having acquired 108 properties in total. Rents have increased by 2.2%. Maintenance staff are moving to 'smart' working and are being issued with hand held devices. This will result in residents having to be available all day.

Chris Harrison reported that application 14/11727 for 8 Pylewell Road was passed by the Planning Committee on 11 March 2015.

Mr Harrison informed Members that two amendments put forward at the Budget Meeting had not been agreed, one to issue a free short term car park clocks to residents within the NFDC area and the other for NFDC to support payment of the living wage.

Nightstop, the organisation which finds overnight accommodation for homeless 16 – 24 year olds has 15 houses within the New Forest on its register, 3 of which are in the Hythe and Dibden Parish. The organisation will shortly be accommodating those over 25. There are 5 properties within the New Forest area that are willing to accommodate over 25 year olds.

Malcolm Wade reported that over the last year over 8,000 parking fines were issued by NFDC. During the same period, there were no fines issued for dog fouling. Mr Wade has asked for the matter to be looked into.

Maureen Robinson informed Members that this would be her last report as a District Councillor as she will be on leave at the next meeting.

Mrs Robinson made Members aware of a housing campaign – Homes for Britain – which has been set up to try and tackle the problem of insufficient new homes being built. A petition is doing the rounds on Betsy the Bus and is also available on the National Housing Federation website. Mrs Robinson urged Members to sign.

Mrs Robinson thanked Malcolm Wade for sending information regarding the new Care Act 2014 and advised Members that it comes into force on 1 April 2015.

Mrs Robinson asked the question 'What's the point of the District Council'?

The Chairman thanked Mrs Robinson for her years of service to both the Parish and District Councils.

279/14 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies

There were no reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies.

280/14 Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports

James Binns conveyed his thanks to Maureen Robinson for her invaluable support and assistance over a number of years.

Brenda Smith asked Maureen McLean how many people were on the housing waiting list. Mrs McLean replied there were nearly 5,000 people on the waiting list.

Brian Dash asked the District Councillors if it is a mistake that NFDC are spending over £1 million to rebuild/refurbish damaged beach huts. Chris Harrison replied that he would make enquiries regarding the financial arrangements and report back.

The Chairman informed members of the public that the Parish Council implemented the Living Wage as a minimum in April 2013.

281/14 **Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26**

Brian Dash asked if the Chairman was aware that Applemore College had been awarded several grants for the development of activities at the new sports facilities. The Chairman replied that she was not aware.

Chris Harrison asked if the Chairman was aware that, after the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Parties gave their budget speeches, UKIP had nothing to add. The Chairman responded that she was aware.

282/14 **Reports of Committees**

Planning Committee – 11 February 2015

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 11 February 2015.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 11 February 2015 be received and adopted.

283/14 **Grant Applications 2014/15 Final Batch**

Consideration was given to the allocation of Grant Aid.

RESOLVED

That grants be made to the following organisations for the amounts stated, from the 2014/2015 Grant Aid budget.

New Forest Disability Service	£500.00
New Forest Victim Support	£500.00
Hythe and Dibden Twinning Assoc	£75.00

284/14 **Management and Retention of Records**

Members considered the above report.

RESOLVED that

- a) the process of managing current records and the draft retention schedule be approved, with a final schedule to be returned to Members in 6 months.
- b) The focus on electronic records management be approved.

285/14 **Bank Reconciliation January 2015**

RESOLVED

The Bank Reconciliation for January 2015 be approved.

286/14 **Accounts for payment**

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed totalling £45,424.15 be approved and paid.

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

Chairman

Date

mncou192