

Minutes of the Meeting of Hythe and Dibden Parish Council

Held at The Grove, 25 St John's Street, Hythe
on Wednesday 16 December 2015 at 7.00 p.m

p Cllr C Harrison (Chairman)
a Cllr Mrs M McLean (Vice Chairman)

Councillors:

a P Armstrong
p J Binns
p M Bovey
p E Davey
p Mrs J Fowler
p T Johnson

Councillors:

p G Parkes
p D Poole
p M Short
p A Wade
p M Wade

p = present

a = apologies

n = no apologies received

In Attendance

a Cllr B Andrews (NFDC)
p Cllr K Crisell (NFDC)
a Cllr P Fawkes

Also present

Inspector K Willoughby

Officers in attendance

Mrs S Bennett (Clerk to the Council)
Mr S Spencer (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
Mrs B Edwards (Minute Clerk)

16 Members of the Public

206/15 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN HYTHE

Inspector Katherine Willoughby advised Members on the incidents being reported regarding the on-going anti-social behaviour being committed by a small group of young people in Hythe village centre, and Fairview Parade, and the actions that were being taken by Police and partners. The Police are carrying out high visibility patrols and undertaking partnership working with a variety of other organisations

including the Youth Offending Team, Head Teachers, the Parish Council and the Handy Trust.

Inspector Willoughby further advised of an additional tool now available. The Public Spaces Protection Notice, which was made available in 2014, is a tool available to District Councils enabling action to be taken on longer term anti-social behaviour problems that remain persistent in an area. A Public Spaces Protection Notice would allow conditions to be drafted, consulted on and then included in the Notice that would prevent people from committing certain actions. Breach of the notice is a criminal offence and can be dealt with by the police and we would apply for extended powers so that PCSO and ACSO's could deal with breaches. This notice is reviewable at 3 years and thus will last for a much longer period than the tools currently in use that only apply for 48 hours maximum under dispersal orders.

Inspector Willoughby asked for the Parish Council to consider support for the proposal for a Public Spaces Protection Notice to be sought through New Forest District Council; she assured the Council that the Community Safety Partnership would include the Parish Council in the consideration, consultation and decision making process.

Members wished to consider the benefits and implications of the new tool before making a final decision and requested an agenda item at the January Council be included with further information.

RESOLVED that

- 1) Members agree in principle to the Public Spaces Protection Notice.

207/15 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no declarations made or requests for dispensations.

208/15 **MINUTES**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25 November 2015. Cllr. Alex Wade mentioned that item 182/15 indicated he had given a grant of £250 to Hythe Youth Club towards transport costs to a pantomime. Cllr. Wade wished it to be noted that the grant was not specifically for transport costs but a general grant to be used for any purpose.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25 November 2015 be signed by the Chairman as correct subject to the above amendment.

209/15 **PUBLIC FORUM**

Mrs D Summers submitted a written question regarding the ACSO service and the e mail system and the Chairman responded confirming that the ACSO e mail service was operational but with Norman Bareham off work sick and Louise Brearley focussing on partnership work tackling the ASB as presented by Katherine Willoughby it was proving difficult to maintain a daily e mail however important messages were being dispatched. The Chairman also confirmed that he hoped, when the service returned to capacity, that the e mail system will return to that previously delivered.

Mrs T Sayers asked Members if the T Loop system, which had been out of order, had been repaired. The Clerk to the Council responded by informing Mrs Sayers that the T Loop system had been repaired and was in working order.

210/15 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman updated Members on the drainage problems at Valleydene. Southern Water has confirmed that the drainage pipe is not their responsibility. The drainage pipe needs to be accurately mapped using GPS tracking to double check the land it passes through. Additionally, the Environment Agency will be contacted regarding silt removal of the stream that the pipe discharges into.

211/15 **REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Cllr. Malcolm Wade had previously submitted a written report. He updated Members on Hampshire County Boundary changes in the New Forest; the Boundary Commission rejected Hampshire County Council plans for the New Forest divisions and has decided to reduce it from 11 to 10. This is being achieved by eliminating the independent Lyndhurst division and redrawing the boundaries to combine it with Fordingbridge. Responses are due by 11th January 2016.

212/15 **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Cllr. Bill Andrews had previously submitted a written report.

Cllr. Peter Armstrong had previously submitted a written report.

Cllr. James Binns

Men's Community Cooking Classes

Members will be aware through previous updates I have given of the over 55's men's cooking classes that are funded by my Health and Leisure Department at NFDC. I am pleased to report that the second round of classes is now coming to an end, and once again the feedback from participants has been extremely positive. The service had previously been funded by Hampshire County Council, however when funding was cut the department managed to absorb the costs of

the programme into our already small Public Health budget of £24,000. The classes costs around £3,000 to run, which given the larger benefit to our community and the people living within it, I consider this to be excellent value for money and I am immensely grateful to the volunteers who make this happen. Having attended the classes in Totton and New Milton, and having spoken to participants, it was interesting to note that not one person expressed dissatisfaction and indeed the majority expressed a willingness to pay for the classes as they felt it was so worthwhile. I have tried to keep this programme free for all to use, however given this feedback I now must consider if a charge may be the best way forward. By introducing payment for this service we would be able to expand it, and hopefully create new cooking classes throughout the New Forest, most importantly in areas such as Hythe. I may decide against it, however it is certainly something worth considering as we begin the second review process.

NFDC Restructure

New Forest District Council is currently undergoing an internal restructuring with interviews for the new Heads of Service being conducted. As I sit on the Cabinet I am one of six who will be on the interview panel. I will report back with further information regarding appointments when possible.

HCC Boundary Review

Members will likely be aware of the current boundary review taking place in Hampshire. The new review ensures that the New Forest loses one, in favour of Eastleigh. Councillor Ken Thornber OBE (former leader and chairman of HCC) has been good enough to go through the appropriate documentation with me and explain the reasons behind the revised boundary review. He and I both feel that the way forward is for the County Council to increase the number of seats from 78 to 79. Many County Councils, much smaller than ours in terms of population and hectares, already have well over 80 members. Cllr. Thornber is currently writing the Conservative response to the revised proposals and discussions are taking place within the ruling group on the County to decide if this is the best way forward.

Cllr. Kate Crisell advised that a report from the Child Poverty Task and Finish Group was due early in the New Year. Cllr. Crisell also sits on a Community Transport Task and Finish Group.

213/15 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports given.

214/15 QUESTIONS TO DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES ARISING FROM THEIR REPORTS

Cllr. Eric Davey asked Cllr. Malcolm Wade what level of quality control had been conducted to the road resurfacing work undertaken by

contractors. Cllr. Wade responded that there were a number of areas where the work undertaken has not been of a high standard. Unfortunately, due to cost cutting the repairs have been of a lesser quality than previously experienced and repairs in the future will be to a lower standard.

Cllr. Jo Fowler asked Cllr. Malcolm Wade if carrying out repairs to a lower standard was a false economy. Cllr. Wade agreed that it was a false economy. Cllr. Crisell stated that it was money mis-management combined with the use of so many sub-contractors not being properly managed.

215/15 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE CHAIR OF COUNCIL**

Cllr. Martin Bovey had recently been in Wales and noted that the public car parks were free to use after 3 p.m. Cllr. Bovey asked the Chairman if he was aware of this and whether a similar scheme could be adopted in Hythe. The Chairman responded that he was unable to answer the question and that it was a matter for the Cabinet at NFDC. Cllr. Malcolm Wade asked the Chairman if the Parish Council could write to the District Council to ask the question. The Chairman responded that this would be possible.

216/15 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Chairman of the Planning Committee confirmed that the process currently in use for presenting and adopting Planning Minutes is correct. Consideration was given to the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 11 November 2015.

RESOLVED that

The minutes of the Planning Committee held
on 11 November 2015 be received and adopted.

217/15 **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the Personnel Committee held on 18 November 2015.

REOLVED that

The minutes of the Personnel Committee held
on 18 November 2015 be received and adopted.

218/15 **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Consideration was given to a change of Personnel Committee membership.

RESOLVED that

Cllr. James Binns replaces Cllr. Trevor Johnson as a member of the Personnel Committee.

219/15 **YOUNG PERSONS AWARD**

Cllr. Alex Wade thanked those Councillors who had contributed thoughts to his idea for re-invigorating a young person's award and . Cllr. James Binns suggested the award should be an Endeavour award rather than an Achievement award to make it more inclusive. Cllr Malcolm Wade stated that the young people of Hythe are great and it is absolutely imperative that we celebrate them.

It was agreed that a further report would be brought to a future meeting setting out the options and processes for such an award.

Members considered the options.

RESOLVED that

A Young Persons Award for Endeavour be supported in principle subject to further considerations.

220/15 **MEMORIALS**

The Clerk informed Members that sufficient agreement had been obtained for a special resolution to reconsider the siting of a WW1 memorial bench at Prospect Place within 6 months of the initial decision.

RESOLVED that

- 1) The Council sites the donated WW1 memorial bench on Prospect Place in a position which complies with the terms of the covenant.
- 2) The decision regarding the positioning of the bench is delegated to the Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor after consultation with Maggie Riddett.

Cllr Malcolm Wade thanked the public for their work in respect of providing the commemorative bench for Hythe.

221/15 **HYTHE MARKET**

Members considered the proposed legal agreement between New Forest District Council and the Parish Council regarding the transfer of the Tuesday market to the Parish Council and its relocation to Hythe village centre.

Since publication of the agreement contained in the agenda, a small number of amendments had been suggested by Hampshire County Council.

These include the requirement for the Parish Council to delineate the location of the market gazebos and to allow access to the business car parks and other properties along the closed section of St. John's Street whilst the market is in operation.

RESOLVED that

The Council agreed to the draft legal agreement which includes the above amendments.

222/15 BUDGET 2016 - 2017

Members considered the proposed budget and fees for 2016 – 2017. The Liberal Democrats proposed some amendments which were agreed by the Council. The Clerk was asked to investigate whether the Handy Trust allocation should be situated in grants and report back to Council

RESOLVED that

- a. The fees and charges of the Council remain the same as 2015 – 2016;
- b. The precept for the Council for 2016 – 2017 be set at £639,916 to be funded by Council Tax of £627,802 and a grant of £12,114;
- c. The Ear Marked reserves be adjusted as follows:
 - i. 9026 be reduced by £3000 to be moved into expenditure 2016 – 2017;
 - ii. 9040 be reduced by £4,000 to be moved into expenditure 2016 – 2017;
 - iii. 9043 be reduced by £1820 to be moved into expenditure 2016 – 2017;
 - iv. 9040 be renamed Community Safety General Fund
- d. A working group be set up of three councillors to oversee expenditure, and non budget expenditure needs-+. The working group to be of cross party representation.

223/15 FINANCE 2015 - 2016

Consideration was given to the Bank Reconciliation for October 2015 and the Schedule of Payments for the period 16 November 2015 to 9 December 2015.

RESOLVED that

- a) The bank reconciliation for October 2015 be noted.
- b) Accounts as detailed totalling £72,397.35 be agreed and paid.

The meeting closed at 8.29 p.m

Chairman

Date

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