

Minutes of the Meeting of Hythe and Dibden Parish Council

Held at The Grove, 25 St John's Street, Hythe
on Wednesday 24 February 2016 at 7.00 p.m

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

Councillors:

p 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)
a Cllr K Crisell (NFDC)
n Cllr P Fawkes

Officers in attendance

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

5 Members of the Public

246/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of interest made. A written request for dispensation was given to the Chairman by Cllr. Malcolm Wade pertaining to his representation of the Council on the Board of the Handy Trust. The request was passed to the Clerk to the Council for consideration

247/15 MINUTES

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13 January 2016.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13 January 2016 be signed by the Chairman as correct subject.

248/15 PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs Jane Bovey raised concerns regarding her perception of the amount of litter strewn around the Parish. She commented that whilst she considered the 'Clean for the Queen' initiative to be a marvellous idea, she would like to see a long term strategy involving partnership working, education and restorative practice.

249/15 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

Fly the Flag for the Commonwealth will be taking place on 14th March 2016 at 1000 at the Grove. All are welcome.

The ACSOs, together with the Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor and Senior Maintenance Operative attended a statutory course to re-accredit our Accredited Community Safety Service. The Council is now fully re-accredited.

250/15 REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Malcolm Wade had previously submitted a written report. He updated Members on Hampshire County Council's (HCC) budget plan to increase the council tax charge for the first time in six years. The increase has been proposed to close an £81.5 million funding gap in 2016/2017 resulting from Government changes to the funding formula to local authorities.

For the year beginning 1 April 2016 the charge for a Band D property will be £1079.28, an increase of just under 80 pence per week.

In October 2015 HCC agreed plans to deliver £98 million of savings by April 2017, then were dealt a funding blow by the Government which increased the target to £113 million, with an extra £15 million having to be met from Reserves. In addition a further £140 million of savings will be required by 2019/2020 when the Government will no longer provide its revenue support grant to local authorities.

On the plus side, HCC is going to inject £563 million into Hampshire's economy, building plans and jobs over the next three years through the capital budget. Capital projects include creating 11,000 extra primary

and secondary school places, investing in Hampshire's roads and bridges, providing new transport schemes to link key employment areas and grant funding Hampshire organisations that bring economic and cultural benefits to the local economy.

251/15 **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Cllr. James Binns had previously submitted a written report. He updated Members on New Forest District Council's plans to increase the council tax charge for the first time in six years. For the year 2016/2017 the charge for a band D property has been set at £158.36 per annum making the total cost for services £3.05 per week, an increase of 5p per week. The increase is required due to a major reduction in the grant received from central government

Cllr. Peter Armstrong had previously submitted a written report. He updated Members on the Clean for the Queen initiative. All is on plan for the 5th March 2106 when a good turn-out is anticipated.

The District Council is nearing the end of the £300k regeneration work being carried out at Netley View.

Cllr. Dan Poole had previously submitted a written report and had no further updates.

252/15 **REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr. Jo Fowler had previously submitted a written report. She informed Members that a better quality map of the Solent European Marine Sites was available if anyone wished to see it.

Cllr. Peter Armstrong informed Members that the New Forest Business Partnership had been in discussions with NACRO from Totton College regarding the development of the learning facility in Lunedale Road, Dibden Purlieu. There are plans to offer courses for unemployed people at this facility.

Cllr. Maureen McLean attended a meeting of the West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group and was pleased to report that a new build hospital has now been agreed, with a completion date of 2018. Services available at the new hospital may include a minor injuries unit.

Cllr. McLean stated that the Older Persons Group at NFDC may have to dissolve due to lack of numbers and urged Members to join.

Cllr. Trevor Johnson who is a Trustee of Age Concern advised that a new Age Concern shop will be opening in Blackfield shortly. The new shop will be a partial £1 store.

253/15 **QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDERS 25 AND 26**

Standing Orders were suspended for this item.

Cllr. Graham Parkes asked Cllr. Dan Poole why the District Council applies full charges for the removal of waste from charities which contravenes the guidance from Westminster policy. Cllr. Poole responded that he would find out.

Cllr. James Binns asked Cllr. Malcolm Wade whether there were any Highways statistics available for Hythe and Dibden Parish. Cllr. M Wade replied that the Highways data was collected en masse for Hampshire and would not be available by Parish.

Cllr. James Binns asked Cllr. Alex Wade why he voted against the budget proposals when no alternative budget was offered. Cllr. A Wade replied that he did not feel it contained any support for the key issues and did not go far enough.

Cllr. Alex Wade asked Cllr. James Binns if he would keep the Parish updated on the planned review of Leisure Centres. Cllr. Binns referred to a report printed in the Southern Daily Echo alluding to the possibility of the 5 NFDC Leisure Centres being sold off and stated that despite being quoted in the article, he had not been contacted by the reporter and did not say that privatisation would be inevitable. The matter has caused issues, especially with members of staff.

Cllr. Malcolm Wade asked Cllr. James Binns when discussions regarding the review of Leisure Centres will start. Cllr. Binns replied that discussions had already started and that 'up for review' is being interpreted as 'up for privatisation' and that is not the case. Leisure Centres do not make a profit but are subsidised and all services will be reviewed.

Cllr. Mike Short stated that fly-tipping at Dibden Inclosure car park was on the increase and asked Cllr. Dan Poole if this could be taken into account during the review of Recycling Centres. Cllr. Poole responded that recycling was a matter for Hampshire County Council. Cllr. Short then asked if enquiries could be made as to when the fly-tipping is collected. Cllr. Poole responded that he would find out.

Cllr. Malcolm Wade asked if the Chairman was aware of the problem with the provision of additional disabled parking spaces along The Promenade due to the re-location of the market.

Cllr. Harrison responded that he was aware of the issue.

254/15 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 13th January and 10th February 2016.

RESOLVED that

- a) The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 13th January 2016 be received and adopted.
- b) The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 10th February 2016 be received and adopted.

255/15 **STANDING ORDERS**

Consideration was given to amendments to Standing Orders to allow Members to ask a question of Members and to allow Public Forum to be taken after Councillors' reports.

RESOLVED by a majority that

Section 26 of Standing Orders be amended as detailed in the report.

256/15 **COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND YOUNG PERSON'S ENDEAVOUR AWARD**

Consideration was given to the above report presented by Cllr. Alex Wade.

RESOLVED that

- a) the Parish Council will facilitate the awards.
- b) A sub-committee of 5 Parish Councillors be set up to consider and decide upon nominations received. Members of the Awards Committee are Cllrs. A Wade, Binns, Bovey, Davey and Johnson.
- c) The provision of 2 x £20 vouchers per annum, a new Community Spirit Shield and a certificate for all persons nominated be agreed.

257/15 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING**

Consideration was given to a Neighbourhood Planning report presented by Cllr. Graham Parkes.

RESOLVED that

- a) the formation of a Sub Committee, known as the Neighbourhood Planning Sub Committee

be agreed. The Sub Committee to be made up of the Chairman of Planning plus 4 councillors and 5 community representatives as detailed in the report.

- b) the Clerk to the Council will assist with the administration of the process and sub-committee as required.
- c) the Project Development Officer will be available for assistance in facilitating the process.
- d) Hythe and Dibden Parish Council will facilitate the NFALC Sub Committee for Neighbourhood Planning.

The draft Terms of Reference will be presented to the March Council for approval

258/15 **QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY BEACONS**

Consideration was given to participating in the Birthday Beacons event on 21st April 2016. The Chairman informed Members that he had made some enquiries at District and that the installation of a beacon would require planning permission.

RESOLVED that

- a) the Clerk to the Council will obtain costs of purchasing a beacon.
- b) the Clerk to the Council will obtain costings for the provision of a cream tea as an alternative to participating in the Birthday Beacons event.

259/15 **LOST PROPERTY**

Members considered a presentation by Cllr. Dan Poole on the issues raised by Chief Inspector Tribe regarding lost property.

RESOLVED that

Support is given to the current police scheme for dealing with lost property and the scheme will be promoted to residents.

260/15 ALTERNATIVES TO SANDBAGS

Members considered which alternative to sandbags is to be made available for general sale at cost price from The Grove.

RESOLVED that

The Parish Council will purchase 10 packs of white floodsax for general sale at cost price. Provision to be promoted and included in the flood information packs previously agreed by Council

261/15 IT PROVISION

The Clerk to the Council presented a report to Members regarding the IT upgrade requirements.

RESOLVED that

- a) the Council transfers to the Cloud based system as provided by Microshade at the earliest opportunity for a fixed term/fixed price contract length of three years.
- b) the Handy Trust is offered an opportunity to partner the Council in the contract, with the Handy Trust to cover the additional cost.
- c) replacement hardware be purchased from Status Computers.

262/15 EXTERNAL BODIES

Consideration was given to changes to the External Body appointments.

RESOLVED that

- a) St. Andrew's Management Committee is removed from the list of external body appointments.
- b) the resignation of Cllr. Armstrong from 'Friends of Forest Front' is received.
- c) Cllr. Davey is appointed as the external representative to 'Friends of Forest Front'.

263/15 FINANCE 2015 - 2016

Consideration was given to the overspend on the Christmas Lights budget, an overspend of the tree work budget, the regular payments for 2016/2017, the bank reconciliation for December 2015 and the Schedule of Payment for the period 6th January 2016 to 9th February 2016.

RESOLVED that

- a) the overspend of £611.97 on the Christmas lights be approved.
- b) the overspend of the tree work budget and outstanding work to the value of £5,000 be agreed.
- c) the proposed regular payments for 2016/2017 be agreed.
- d) The bank reconciliation for December 2015 be noted.
- e) Accounts as detailed totalling £148,960.78 be agreed and paid.

264/15 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that

The press and public be excluded from the Council Meeting for the following items of business on the grounds they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972.

265/15 MARKETS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Members considered a report presented by the Clerk to the Council regarding markets and community events.

RESOLVED that

- a) The rent be amended as set out in 4.3 of the report.
- b) A six month rent review be added to the contract.
- c) The Memorandum of Understanding for Speciality Events be agreed.

And subject to a scrutiny by an independent legal adviser

- d) The contract be agreed.

266/15 **HR MATTERS**

Members considered a report from South East Employers. The Chairman advised that he was awaiting further information and when he had received it, the subject would be discussed at a further Council meeting.

RESOLVED that

- a) funding be made available to proceed with a recommendation made in the report.
- b) any reasonable adjustments required be identified and implemented.

The meeting closed at 9.08 p.m

Chairman

Date

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