

**HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Amenities Committee  
held at The Grove, St John's Street, Hythe  
on Monday, 7 October 2002 at 7.55 pm.

Members:                   \*Mr G Parkes (Vice Chairman) – in the Chair

*Mr B Dash	*Mr M Short
*Mr G Dawson	*Mr D Smith
*Mr C Harrison	oMrs K Wade
*Mr R Leavey	oMr M Wade
oMrs M McLean	*Mr S Wade
Mr J Ramsbottom	

\* Indicates attendance  
o Indicates apologies for absence

In attendance:           Mr D J Shimpe (Deputy Clerk to the Council)  
Mrs C Patterson (Minute Clerk)  
Mr S Spencer (Foreman)

Also present:             1 Member of the Public

205/02 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 2 September 2002, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

206/02 **Declarations of Interest**

Mr C Harrison declared an interest in min 209/02 as he knew the owner of the Security Firm.

207/02 **Public Participation Period**

Mr Wheeler sought confirmation of the position regarding the provision of a bus shelter at Dibden Purlieu Shopping Centre.

RESOLVED

That the Deputy Clerk contact Mr Wheeler with the up to date position.

208/02 **Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000**

Members studied the draft map issued by the Countryside Agency covering Central Southern England in order to identify any failure to show any area of land on the map as registered common land or open country in this Parish so that comments could be made in this respect by 3 December 2002.

RESOLVED

That it be ascertained whether the Village Green is registered land and whether the land adjacent to it can be registered.

209/02 **Security Patrols – Langdown Lawn and Noads Way**

Members considered whether to continue the weekend security patrols at Langdown Lawn and Noads Way in view of the fact that the fundamental purpose of reduction of nuisance to neighbours appeared to have been served.

Members felt that an increase in patrols may be of benefit, although concern was expressed at the lack of documentation provided by the Security Firm concerning the timings and findings of visits. It was felt that this could be addressed when any further contract was negotiated.

## RESOLVED

- (a) That the patrols be continued for a further 12 months.
- (b) That the patrols be continued to the same sites at the current levels, but increased by 50% if budgetary provisions allow.

(Mr Harrison declared an interest in this item, remained in the Meeting but did not vote)

210/02 **Flagpoles**

Members considered various options for the provision of flagpoles at The Grove.

## RESOLVED

- (a) That Option B, comprising 2 x 2 metre poles at the front of The Grove, 1 x 8 metre flagpole at the rear of The Grove with internal halyard be agreed subject to funding being available..
- (b) That the issue of planning permission be investigated and obtained, if necessary.
- (c) That the cost of making a Parish Council flag be investigated.
- (d) That the protocol of flying flags be investigated so that the choice of flags can be brought to a future meeting.
- (e) That the lowest quote, including installation, be chosen.

211/02 **Dog Warden Service Patrol Report for July 2002**

Members discussed the Dog Warden Service Patrol Report for July 2002, which stated that dog fouling in the Parish was worst in the Forest Front Area, and considered whether to enforce restrictions in this area by issuing fixed penalty fines.

It was generally felt that it would be better to use funds to provide additional Dog Warden hours to educate the public rather than concentrate on one area of the Parish to the detriment of others.

## RESOLVED

- (a) That the Public be advised through the media that consideration is being given to enhancing the Dog Warden Service.
- (b) That strategy and costs for enforcement across large sites, play areas and sports pitches in the Parish be investigated and considered by the Committee on 6 January 2003.

212/02 **Goal Posts – Forest Front**

Further to the removal of the goal posts at Forest Front, due to their unsafe condition, the Play Equipment Working Party had recommended that they be replaced at a cost of £550.00 including installation.

## RESOLVED

That the goal posts be replaced, with funds being obtained from the play equipment replacement budget.

213/02 **Forest Front Skate Park – Area beneath ramps**

Members considered the solution suggested by the architect to the ongoing problems of the block work at Forest Front Skate Park, but felt that such a large amount of money could be better utilised in providing facilities throughout the parish.

However, it was also felt that the advice of the Crime Reduction Officer could not be ignored and the area under the ramps needed to be filled in. This brought into question whether the architect had designed a facility that was unsuitable for its intended purpose.

RESOLVED

- (a) That alternative solutions be sought and used if the total cost does not exceed £5000.00, or brought back to Committee if it does.
- (b) That advice be sought whether the Architect's Professional Liability Insurance may cover this matter.

214/02 **Forest Front – Footpath**

Members were advised of the need to replace a footpath between Holly Close and the Forest Front Play Area and the possible construction of a new one between Holly Close and the Forest Front Turning Circle. Both paths would be well used by Mothers and Schoolchildren.

The cost of constructing a new path between Holly Close and the Forest Front Turning Circle would be £5278.00.

The cost of replacing the stone footpath between Holly Close and the Play Area would be £2876.00.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the matter be investigated and actioned subject to budgetary implications after consultation with the Chairman of the Council, Chairman of the Amenities Committee and the Clerk to the Council.
- (b) That the County Council be approached for a grant from their Safe Route to School Budget.

215/02 **Graffiti**

The Chairman of the Council asked that a letter be sent to Mr M Moore thanking him for his list of areas of graffiti (min 166/02) and keeping him up to date with any action taken.

216/02 **Hardley Lane**

Members were advised that Hardley Lane was almost impassable through lack of drainage and flooding. The Foreman advised Members that he believed that the area was the responsibility of the District Council, which had been advised and was investigating.

A Member reminded the Committee that there had previously been a suggestion that a cycle way could be routed through Hardley Lane to Forest Front and requested that this matter be raised with the County Council.

RESOLVED

That the matters be investigated.

217/02 **Traffic Calming – Cumberland Way**

A Member questioned whether traffic calming measures were still required in Cumberland Way as there was less through traffic now.

RESOLVED

That no action be taken until a decision has been made on closing a neighbouring road for repair.

218/02 **Blue Plaques**

A Member suggested that this Council may consider honouring local people with historical 'Blue Plaques'.

RESOLVED

That further information be obtained.

219/02 **Baptist Church – Challenger Way**

A Member expressed concern that the derelict Baptist Church in Challenger Way (min 166/02) May be so unsafe that it required immediate demolition or fencing off.

The Deputy Clerk advised that the District Council had been informed and was awaiting a response from the Baptist Church.

RESOLVED

That a letter be sent to the Baptist Church expressing this Council's concerns.

The Meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Chairman

Date

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