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To:

Members of the Amenities Committee
and remainder of the Council for information

AGAME105

4 October 2005

Dear Sir/Madam

A Meeting of the **AMENITIES COMMITTEE** will be held at **The Grove, 25 St John's Street, Hythe on Monday next, 10 October 2005**, at 8.00 pm, when your attendance is requested.

Yours faithfully

Clerk to the Council

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To sign the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 September 2005.
3. To note any declaration of interest made by Members in connection with an Agenda item. The nature of the interest must be specified.
4. Public Participation Period.
5. Vandalism Report 23 August – 23 September 2005 attached.
6. Notes of the meetings of the Play Equipment Working Party held on 19 July and the 21 September 2005 attached.
7. Designation of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) letter attached.
8. Unauthorised Advertising Signs (min 160/05).
9. Terms and Conditions for the use of The Parish Hall, West Street, Hythe – Clarification of Clause 7.4.
10. Any other urgent business concerning the Committee.

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

AGENDA NOTES

AMENITIES COMMITTEE – 10 October 2005

Item 5 **Vandalism Report – 23 August – 23 September 2005**

The following is a list of vandalism suffered by the Parish Council for the period shown.

Forest Front Skate Park

The fencing surrounding the skate park was damaged; in addition the seat that is part of the youth shelter structure was damaged by fire.

The fence has been repaired and the maintenance team is awaiting parts in order to repair the seating.

The cost shown includes the labour charge for the maintenance team to make the necessary repairs.

Cost to the Council is £250.00

Langdown Lawn Play Area

The large wooden climbing frame was severely damaged by vandals. As a result the unit had to be removed. The incident took place in the evening of the 21 September 2005 and has been reported to the police.

The cost to install a replacement unit would be approximately £3000.00 this includes the necessary repairs to the safety surfacing.

As requested at the last meeting the maintenance team have been monitoring the amount of alcohol bottles that have been left in the recreation ground. They have reported that on two occasions there have been a significant amount of alcohol cans and bottles left in or near to the play area.

The Accredited Community Safety Officers have been informed and are visiting the area on a regular basis.

Graffiti

There have been three reported items of graffiti. These have since been removed.

Cost to the Council £15.00

Fly posting

During the week commencing 19/09/05 a significant amount of fly posters appeared on various sites across the parish. Some investigations took place as to the source of the problem however there has been no success at present.

Cost to the Council £40.00. This cost covers the cost of removing the posters by the maintenance team.

Fern Hill Play Area

As reported at the last meeting Fern Hill Play Area has suffered some vandalism which resulted in the total loss of two pieces of play equipment.

The cost to replace the items is £3500.00 however the future plans for the area are due to be discussed at a future meeting of the Play Equipment Working Party.

The total cost of vandalism to the Parish Council for the period shown is £305.00.

Vandalism costs so far this financial year are £606.00 compared to £1150.73 at the same time last year.

Loss of equipment (Fern Hill and Langdown Lawn) amounts to £6,500.00.

Item 6 Notes of the Play Equipment Working Party held on 19 July and the 21 September 2005

The notes of the Play Equipment Working Party are attached.

Members are asked to consider and adopt the notes.

Item 7 Designation of Special Areas of Conservation

Members are asked to note the information contained in the attached letter received from English Nature. The documents are available from the office.

Item 8 Unauthorised advertising signs, Hythe (Min 160/05)

Members expressed concern over the large number of unauthorised signs which were along the verges in the Parish. Members requested that a letter be sent to Hampshire County Council's Highways Department requesting that the signs be removed on a regular basis because the signs distract highway users and therefore pose safety problems.

A copy of the reply received from the Highways Department is attached.

Members are asked to note the response.

Item 9 Terms and Conditions for the use of The Parish Hall, West Street, Hythe – Clarification of Clause 7.4

The New Forest Lions Club are staging a Trafalgar Day Concert in the Parish Hall on Friday 21 October 2005. The format of the event is to provide cabaret style entertainment with dining tables being set with wine glasses. It was hoped that members of the audience would be able to purchase a bottle of wine at the bar to take back to their table to have with the supper that is included in the ticket price. A bar is to be provided with the necessary licensing requirements however Clause 7.4 of the Conditions for the use of The Parish Hall states "Customers must not be served drinks in bottles. In every case the drink will be poured into appropriate vessels by the bar staff".

Members are asked to consider whether this clause should be complied with literally or whether it could be reviewed to allow for wine to be available in bottles at events such as this and for wedding receptions and christenings.

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