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To:

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

AGAME109

28 March 2006

Dear Sir/Madam

A Meeting of the **AMENITIES COMMITTEE** will be held at **The Grove, 25 St John's Street, Hythe on Monday next, 3 April 2006**, 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 13 February 2006.
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 – 1 February 2006 to 22 March 2006.
6. Oaklands Way Pond – to note information about anti social behaviour.
7. Bowling Green – To discuss the viability of providing a bowling green within the parish. (Report attached)
8. Ewart Recreation Ground – Progress report on the installation of the new play equipment. (Minute 394/05)
9. The Rockery Close and Magnolia Close Open Space land transfer for future maintenance.
10. Acceptance of tender for the purchase of a new mower.
11. Any other urgent business concerning the Committee.

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

AGENDA NOTES

AMENITIES COMMITTEE – 3 April 2006

Item 5 Vandalism Report – 1 February 2006 – 22 March 2006

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

Shore Road Playing Field

Part of the multiplay (football/basketball goal) unit was damaged requiring welding repairs.

Cost to the Council £30.00.

Langdown Lawn Play Area

Two swing shackles were broken and have since been replaced.

Cost to the Council including labour was £26.00.

Forest Front Open Space

A lock securing the gate that divides the Nature Reserve from the open space was removed and has since been replaced.

Cost to the Council £15.00.

The total cost of vandalism to the Council for the period shown is £71.00. The total cost for this financial year is £1393.00 compared with £1645.00 at the same time last year.

Item 6 Oaklands Way Pond – To note information about anti social behaviour

The Police have reported that groups of young people are congregating at Oaklands Way Pond and causing a nuisance.

A meeting has been set for Tuesday 4 April at 10am at the Pond. Representatives from the Police, Handy Trust, ACSO's, the Parish Council and the local resident who helps to maintain the pond will be in attendance.

This item will be placed on the agenda for discussion on 5 June 2006.

Item 7 Bowling Green – To discuss the viability of providing

The provision of a bowling green within the Parish has been on the Council's "wish list" for many years and preliminary investigations into the costs involved in the provision of basic bowling greens are detailed in the attached report.

To have a bowling green would involve a considerable financial commitment both for the initial provision and long term maintenance and staffing of the facility therefore careful consideration must be given to this. It is recommended that, if this facility is a serious intention, a consultation to determine the need for such a facility should be undertaken by an independent organisation that is skilled in this type of market research.

Members are asked to give consideration as to whether the provision of a bowling green is a viable project.

Item 8 Ewart Recreation Ground – Progress report on the new play area (Minute 394/05 refers)

Members are advised that planning consent has been received and an order for the work has been placed with the company who supplied the winning tender.

It is anticipated that work on-site will begin in the week commencing 17 April 2006 and last for approximately eight weeks. The first phase of the project will be to remove the existing play equipment in order to improve the access for plant and machinery to the new play area site.

Further updates will be available at the next meeting.

Members are asked to note the report.

Item 9 **Rockery Close and Magnolia Close Open Space land transfer for future maintenance**

The public open space attached to the above development is due to be transferred to the Parish Council as per the section 106 agreement. The Council's maintenance team will now undertake all day to day maintenance.

Members are asked to note the report

Item 10 **Acceptance of tender for the purchase of a new mower**

As part of the Council's vehicle replacement programme a new ride on mower is due to be purchased in the financial year 2006/7.

The maintenance team have carried out trials on several machines over the winter period and have requested that a Kubota ride on mower is obtained. In order to keep within the budget figure set for the replacement mower it is proposed to part exchange a ride on mower that the Council purchased in 1997.

In order to comply with the Council's Standing Orders tender documents have been sent to the following companies.

Carters of Swanwick
Christchurch Power Tools
Oakes Brothers
New Forest Garden Machinery

The closing date for the receipt of tenders is 31 March 2006. The documents are due to be opened and examined on the 3 April 2006 by the Deputy Clerk and the Chairman of this committee. Details of the results will be made available at the meeting.

Members will be asked to agree to the existing ride on mower purchased in 1997 being used as part exchange and to accept the winning tender.