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To:

Members of the General Purposes and Finance Committee
and remainder of the Council for information

AGGPF110

11 July 2006

Dear Sir/Madam,

A Meeting of the **General Purposes and Finance Committee will be held at The Grove, 25 St. John's Street, Hythe, on Monday next 17 July 2006, at 8 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 of the Committee held on 12 June 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. Accounts for Payment.
6. Outturn Financial Position for 2005/06.
7. Grant Applications 2006/2007.
8. Update on Public Buildings.
 - The Grove
 - Clayfields
 - Parish Hall
 - Workshop
 - Pavilion Shore Road
9. Community Safety Service Update – Request for regular agenda item.

10. Status of Hart Hill.
11. Garden Waste Collection Scheme – Subsidy for Elderly Residents.
12. Farmers Markets 2007.
13. Any other urgent business concerning the committee.

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE – 17 July 2006

AGENDA NOTES

Item 6 Outturn Financial Position for 2005/06

Attached are the financial monitoring figures and charts for the period ending the 31 March 2006.

Excluding special funds which are in line with planned expenditure the summary position in relation to day to day expenditure is as follows:

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Expenditure (Actual less cinema exp)	421858	414913	6945
Income (Actual less cinema income)	53754	63519	9765

As can be seen the figures show a total increase in funds available to spend of £16710 (includes £4400 remaining balance of ring fenced grants from NALC and NFDC). Therefore balance available is £12310.

In addition, during the year the Council received £85448 as a contribution towards the maintenance of the following open spaces pending their official transfer: The Grove Gardens, Coat Gardens, Rockery and Magnolia.

Since the budget for the current year was set three areas have arisen where the Council may wish to consider spending some of the surplus referred to above.

(a) Repair of Prospect Place

Members will have noted previous reports outlining the subsidence problem at Prospect Place. The New Forest District Council has investigated the problem and provided an estimate from their approved coastal defences contractor to repair the area.

The contractor has supplied two costs as set out below based on the life of the repair.

Option 1.	10 – 15 years life	£7500
Option 2.	40 - 50 years life	£12500

(b) CCTV - The Promenade

Now that the Promenade has been completed, concern has been expressed that it may get damaged. Whilst CCTV may not stop such damage, CCTV may deter vandals or allow them to be identified and prosecuted.

Whilst the NFDC system is prohibitive an alternative, wireless system of two cameras feeding back to the monitor and recorder in The Grove has been investigated.

The capital cost of two cameras and monitor/recorder etc is £15000

The ongoing annual cost is £ 830

The system is extendable so that an additional two wireless cameras could be set up in The High Street.

(c) Workshop Compound

Over the last three months the compound has been broken into on three separate occasions. Each time they have cut through the existing fence. To date, the only items that have been stolen are boxes of bedding plants.

Estimates have been obtained to upgrade the perimeter fence to 2.8 metre palisade fencing. The estimated cost is £6000.

Members' views are requested.

Item 7 Update on Public Buildings

The Grove

During the coming year the new toilet on the first floor will be constructed and the electrical wiring completed. Otherwise no major works are planned for the building this year.

A new draft licence arrangement in respect of New Forest District Council occupation of the reception area and the reception service provided on our behalf has been produced based on the existing licence.

Clayfields

Building works in accordance with the condition survey have been completed along with associated plumbing work. There is no major work planned for this current year.

The management agreement with New Forest District Council expired at the end of March 2006. However, the current arrangements were extended for three months to allow the District Council to formulate proposals for the future arrangements. These are currently awaited.

Parish Hall

Tenders have been sought for the replacement of the existing ramp to improve accessibility. Tenders have been sought on two occasions from eight different companies, however only two completed tenders have been returned (one on each occasion) and the price has exceeded the budget by a considerable amount on each occasion.

Workshop

No major works planned.

Compound broken into several times over last few months.

Pavilion Shore Road

No major works planned.

Members are asked to note the report.

Item 8 Community Safety Update

At a previous meeting of this committee members requested that an item dealing with crime and disorder should be added to every meeting of this committee.

Members are asked to consider this request and to decide what information they would like to cover under this item.

Item 9 Grant Applications 2006/07

Attached is the first schedule of grant applications for the current year.

The Grants Working Party recommendation is also shown.

Members' views are requested.

Item 10 Status of Hart Hill

Attached is a letter from Hampshire County Council concerning the proposed status of Hart Hill.

Members' views are requested.

Item 11 Garden Waste Collection Scheme

Attached is a letter from NFDC indicating that they do not wish to carry out the administration involved in our subsidy to the elderly. The current arrangements are very time consuming both for our staff and the staff of the District Council.

The take up of the new scheme has not been as high as the previous grey sack scheme. Up to the end of July we had only subsidised 224 licences.

Under current legislation, whilst we are able to contribute to another authority providing a service we are unable to make a contribution to an individual.

It is therefore suggested that the scheme should be terminated at the end of 2006/07.

Members' views are requested.

Item 12 Farmers Markets 2007

It is proposed to have four Farmers Markets on the following Bank Holiday Mondays – 9 April 2007, 7 May 2007, 28 May 2007 and 27 August 2007. The views of the Business Partnership have been sought.

Members' views are requested.

