

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Amenities Committee
held at The Grove, St John's Street, Hythe
on Monday 4 September 2006 at 8.05 pm.

Members: *Mr C Harrison (Chairman) – in the Chair

*Mr J Bennett	Mr R Podesta
*Mr R Guy	*Mrs B Smith
*Mrs M McLean	*Mr M Wade
*Mr G Parkes	*Mr S Wade

* Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

In attendance: Ms S A Maitland (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
Mrs C Patterson (Minute Clerk)
Mr S Spencer (Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor)

Also present: 1 Member of the Press
26 Members of the Public

182/06 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 10 July 2006, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

183/06 **Declarations of Interest**

Mr Guy declared an interest in Minute 169/06 as he is the Churchyard Manager at All Saints Church, Dibden.

184/06 **Public Participation Period**

(a) Cost of vandalism

Mr Moore expressed concern that the Community Warden Service is not providing value for money as the cost of vandalism has doubled.

He asked how much it costs to provide the Community Warden Service and it was agreed to provide him with a written response.

(b) Ewart Recreation Ground

It was agreed to allow members of the public to speak on this matter when it was covered on the agenda.

185/06 **Vandalism Report – 26 June to 18 August 2006**

Members noted the Vandalism Report for the period 26 June – 18 August 2006.

186/06 **Ewart Recreation Ground**

(a) To discuss the current status of the play area. (Min 123/06)

Further to the multi agency meeting concerning the problems being experienced by some residents since the installation of the new play area at Ewart Recreation Ground, members were updated on the current position.

Whilst most residents acknowledge that the measures put in place are beginning to have an effect, the last fortnight has been much quieter after 10.30 pm, they are still experiencing problems and feel more could be done.

The Chairman advised the meeting that CCTV will be installed when a power supply can be provided, hopefully by the end of the month. It is expected that a follow up multi agency meeting will take place within the next week, the findings of which will then be made available to residents and the public.

Consideration was then given to leaving the seat on the cable runway during the evening and weekends and the future requirements for the static guard.

RESOLVED

That the arrangements for the cable runway and static guard remain as they are at present and are reviewed at the next meeting of the committee.

(b) Update on car parking on Ewart Recreation Ground (Min 162/05)

Further to minute 162/05 which recommended "that all vehicles, except those of disabled badge holders and maintenance workers should be banned from Ewart Recreation Ground", consideration was given to the risk assessment and current byelaw that prohibits the use of motor vehicles on Ewart Recreation Ground.

Members were informed that the matter had not been raised with the Ewart Recreation Ground Charity due to the Byelaw being in place.

It was considered that the enforcement of the byelaw should be upheld and members discussed the impact of this upon the Cricket Club.

The Cricket Club has indicated that the change of procedure from parking on Ewart Recreation Ground free of charge to parking in the car park in Brinton Lane and having to pay could have a major impact on the club.

Consideration was given to whether to recommend to the General Purposes and Finance Committee to approve s137 Grant Aid to assist with additional costs that may be incurred if the Cricket Club decided to reimburse parking fees.

RESOLVED

- 1) That the Byelaw relating to the prohibition of the use of motor vehicles on Ewart Recreation Ground be enforced.
- 2) That the Committee would not recommend to the General Purposes and Finance Committee to approve s137 Grant Aid to assist Hythe and Dibden Cricket Club with additional costs that may be incurred.

187/06 Shore Road Playing Field

(a) Provision of goal posts and nets

Members were in full support of the goal post and net provided at Shore Road Playing Field.

(b) Unauthorised use of the playing field by Hythe and Dibden Youth FC

Members were informed of an incident which occurred at Shore Road Playing Field on the night of 5/6 August 2006. 2 gazebos and 3 tents had been erected on the field by Hythe and Dibden Youth Football Club and electrical cables had been connected to the electrical power supply in the pavilion.

The use of the area was unauthorised and presented several health and safety issues.

The Clerk to the Council had subsequently received a letter of apology and Members had requested that this misdemeanour be noted and recorded at this meeting of the Amenities Committee.

Further to this, Members were informed that Hythe and Dibden Youth Football Club assigned Shore Road Playing Field as the home venue for five of its teams after receiving

express instruction that only three teams could be accommodated. The reason for this is in order to maintain the quality of the pitch for the duration of the football season.

Members heard that the club is very popular and expanding in members rapidly and agreed that investigations should be made into identifying pieces of land that could be used for sport.

It was suggested that a Playing Field Working Party could be formed in the future but that in the meantime local schools should be contacted to ascertain their position with regard to football pitch hire.

Mr Uglow, Hythe and Dibden Youth Football Club's secretary informed Members that one of his teams make use of the pitch at Ewart Recreation Ground on a Sunday and he was informed that this was a breach of the Licence held by Hythe and Dibden Sports Club. Mr Uglow then enquired as to whether the teams could use the senior pitch at Shore Road Playing Field at a reduced rate.

Members were shown the new logo which Hythe and Dibden Football Club wish to adopt and none of those present had any objections.

RESOLVED

1. That the apology be accepted.
2. That the senior pitch can be hired for the same fee as a junior pitch provided no senior teams needed the use of the pitch and subject to the condition of the pitch.

1886/06 **Prospect Place**

(a) Erosion of shoreline (Min 397/05)

Members noted that remedial work started on Monday 4 September 2006 and is expected to last for 2 weeks.

(b) Shrubs alongside the footpath

Consideration was given to Hampshire County Council's offer to remove the shrubs alongside Prospect Place if this council will replant and maintain the area in the future.

RESOLVED

That this council will replant and maintain the area alongside the footpath at Prospect Place if the County Council remove the existing shrubs.

189/06 **Bus Shelter at Hythe Pier**

Consideration was given to taking responsibility for a new bus shelter at Hythe Pier and its future maintenance.

RESOLVED

That this council accepts responsibility for a new bus shelter at Hythe Pier and its future maintenance.

190/06 **The Orchard, Challenger Way**

Consideration was given to taking on the maintenance responsibilities for The Orchard, Challenger Way, Dibden, although it is thought at present that the developer will be making its own arrangements.

RESOLVED

That this council will consider taking on the maintenance of The Orchard, Challenger Way, subject to funding, if it proves necessary with the exception of the trees.

191/06 St John's Church, Hythe – Request for assistance with churchyard ground maintenance

Consideration was given to a request for assistance with mowing the middle of the churchyard at St John's Church.

It was agreed that this area of the village should be kept attractive but due to the current workload the council would not be in a position to assist.

Suggestions were made on ways in which assistance could be given and these included grant aid and the use of private gardeners.

RESOLVED

That the Reverend Wetherell be informed that this council is regretfully unable to assist with the problem.

(Mr Guy declared an interest in this item, remained in the meeting but did not speak)

192/06 Arnewood Avenue – Rodent problem

A member advised of a problem with rodents on land which is owned by Wimpey Homes in Arnewood Avenue.

It was agreed to contact Wimpey Homes, Environmental Health and Stuart Yeo of Estates and Valuations Department at the District Council.

193/06 Potholes at Whitewater Rise

It was agreed to contact the County Council's Highways Department once again as the road surface at Whitewater Rise is still in a very bad condition.

The Meeting closed at 10 pm.

Chairman

Date

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