

DAVID SHIMPE Clerk to the Council

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To: Members of the Amenities Committee

Mr J Bennett

Vice Chairman

Mr B Uglow

Mr R Guy

Mr A Wade

Mr G Jones

Mr M Wade (ex officio)

Mrs M McLean

Chairman

Mr D Smith (ex officio)

Mr M Short

and remainder of the Council for information

AGAME126

5 February 2008

Dear Sir/Madam

A Meeting of the **AMENITIES COMMITTEE** will be held at **The Grove, 25 St John's Street, Hythe on Monday next, 11 February 2008 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 7 January 2008.
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. Notification of any other urgent business to be raised at the end of the meeting.
6. Vandalism Report 14 December 2007 to 25 January 2008.
7. Forest Front Nature Reserve – Wildlife Enhancement Scheme.
8. Shore Road Playing Field – Provision of mini football pitch.
9. Request to accept informal Public Open Space – Depden Gardens, West Road, Dibden Purlieu (Minute 521/03 refers).
10. Brendon Close update.
11. Any other urgent business concerning the committee.

**HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**AGENDA NOTES**

**AMENITIES COMMITTEE – 11 February 2008**

**Item 6 Vandalism Report 14 December 2007 to 25 January 2008.**

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

**Ewart Recreation Play Area**

Damaged occurred to a gate hinge on one of the entrances to the play area. The hinge has been re welded and the gate is operational.

Cost to the Council £35.00

**Forest Front Play Area**

At the last meeting it was reported that a section of fencing that surrounds the play area was damaged and that costs to repair the fence were being gathered.

The fencing has been repaired but at the time of writing all of the invoices had not been received however the approximate cost is likely to be around £250.00

The total confirmed cost of vandalism for the period shown is £35.00

**Comparison**

The total cost of vandalism for this financial year is £2211.20.20 compared to £2333.90 at the same time last year

**Item 7 Forest Front Nature Reserve – Wildlife Enhancement Scheme**

A new Wildlife Enhancement Scheme for the Forest Front Nature Reserve has been agreed between the Parish Council, Friends of Forest Front and Natural England.

The Scheme which is set to run until November 2012 is similar to the previous one whereby the partners will work together to ensure that the area is maintained within the guidelines for a New Forest SSSI.

A copy of the document is attached for Members information.

Members are asked to note the report.

**Item 8 Shore Road Playing Field - Provision of a mini football pitch**

As part of the Parish Council's Youth Involvement Strategy the need for an informal football pitch at Shore Road was identified. As a result a pitch and goals with appropriate nets have been provided.

Feedback from local young people has been positive and it appears that the facility is well used.

Members are asked to note the report.

**Item 9**      **Request to accept informal Public Open Space – Depden Gardens, West Road, Dibden Purlieu (Min 521/03 refers)**

The developers of the land off of West Road first approached the Parish Council to adopt the public open space attached to the new housing development in 2004. The public open space is made up of two grassed areas with a small amount of trees (pictures attached). The land was to be transferred with a maintenance contribution of £4145.00. In addition a seating area within the grassed area was to be provided.

Members discussed the matter on 5 April 2004 where it was;

**Resolved**

1. **That the seating area will not be adopted.**
2. **That the informal open space will only be adopted if an increased maintenance contribution is offered.**

The seating area has not been installed and New Forest District Council has asked the Parish Council to reconsider accepting the freehold of the above Public Open Space with a maintenance contribution of £4480.27.

In order to maintain the land to the same standard as that of the Parish Council's other public open spaces will cost approximately £1000.00 per year. This is based on a man and machinery hourly rate of £20.00 per hour.

New Forest District Council has indicated that it will adopt the land if the Parish Council is not willing.

Members' views are requested.

**Item 10**      **Brendon Close – update (Minute 474/07 refers)**

Members will recall that a request from a member of the public to install a dog bin had been received in order to address an ongoing issue with dog fouling.

Members are asked to note that the new dog bin and appropriate signage has been installed. In addition the Council's Accredited Community Safety Officers are carrying out regular patrols.