

DAVID SHIMPE Clerk to the Council

Tel: (023) 8084 1411

Ext: 207

Fax: (023) 8084 2181

email:david.shimpe@btconnect.com

To: Members of the General Purposes and Finance Committee

Mrs M. McLean

Mr R Newell

Mr G Parkes Vice Chairman

Mrs M Robinson Chairman

Mr M Short

Mr P Vickers

Mr A Wade

Mr M Wade (ex officio)

Mr D Smith (ex officio)

and remainder of the Council for information

AGGPF127

3 June 2008

Members of the General Purposes and Finance Committee,

Are hereby summoned to attend the General Purposes and Finance Committee to be held in The Grove, 25 St. John's Street, Hythe, on Monday next 9 June 2008, at 8 pm.

Yours faithfully

Clerk to the Council

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence.
- 2 To sign the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 14 April 2008.
- 3 Notification of any other urgent business to be raised at the end of the meeting.
- 4 To note any declaration of interest made by Members in connection with an Agenda item. The nature of the interest must be specified.
- 5 Public Participation Period
- 6 Travellers – Shore Road.
- 7 Discussion with Inspector Leckey from Hythe Police Station.
- 8 Community Safety Service Update.
- 9 Outline Financial Position 2007/2008.
- 10 Dibden Post Office.
- 11 Accounts for Payment.
- 12 Changes to Local Government Pension Scheme.
- 13 Any other urgent business concerning the Committee.

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

AGENDA NOTES FOR 9 JUNE 2008

Item 6 Travellers, Shore Road

At the Annual Council Meeting it was agreed that a representative from Hampshire County Council or New Forest District Council should be invited to respond to questions from local residents in respect of arrangements for removing travellers on. A list of questions raised by the Residents Association is attached. The Gypsy Liaison Officer from Hampshire County Council will be attending the meeting.

Item 7 Discussion with Inspector Leckey from Hythe Police Station

Inspector Leckey attends General Purposes and Finance on a quarterly basis and is an opportunity for members to discuss policing issues.

Item 8 Community Safety Service Update

ACSO'S.

As has been reported to Amenities Committee discussions have been held with Hampshire County Council to change the shift pattern of the ASCO's for a trial period to ensure that they are on duty every Wednesday evening.

The ACSO's reports continue to be posted on the Website. Over the last 3 months there has been an average of 20 calls per month to the Community Safety Team number 023 8084 2111.

"Come and meet your Community Safety Team" is being planned in the summer in the centre of Hythe. Once a date has been finalised it will be published on the website, notice boards etc.

SID Deployment

The County Councillor has had complaints about the speed of vehicles along West Street. He requested a SID deployment, however the site was assessed as low priority and in order to progress the deployment New Forest District Council would look for partnership funding to pay for the deployment.

The County Councillor has asked if the Parish Council could fund the deployment (£244.52 plus VAT 1 week in each direction, £122.26 plus VAT one direction only).

If the Council wishes to support the deployment it can be funded from our Road Safety budget heading, current balance is £1070.

Member's views are requested.

Item 9 Outline Financial Position 2007/08

The final accounts for the year ending 31 March 2008 are being finalised. These accounts, along with the Annual Return, will be considered at the next Council meeting.

Attached is the financial monitoring information for day to day income and expenditure for the last quarter ending 31 March 2008.

The summary sheet shows the following outline position in relation to the annual day to day expenditure and income excluding expenditure from special funds.

	Budget	Actual	Difference
Income	59354	83643	24289
Expenditure	530146	530469	-323

The main differences in the actual income are a result of the following.

- Payment of insurance claim in respect of bus shelter – West Street £2000
- Additional income from office rental at The Grove £4210
- Changes in investment interest rates £7750
- Income from ASCO's parking at Workshop £2400
- Cinema income £7400

Once the small increase in expenditure is offset against the additional income it is proposed that the remaining £23955 is allocated as follows –

- £2000 To future maintenance of bus stop reserve account
- £2400 To Workshop refurbishment fund
- £1900 To the replacement of chairs and furnishing for Parish Hall
(Difference between income and expenditure from cinema)
- £6000 For the erection and removal of Christmas lights.

In addition it is proposed that £5000 be set aside for a tree planting program to replace trees that have either died or been felled for safety reasons. The remaining amount of £6655 to be set aside to cover any costs arising from setting up an alternative Post Office serving the Dibden area. The balance to be left in General balances.

Member's views are requested.

Item 10 Dibden Post Office

Attached is a copy of a letter from the Post Office concerning the closure of the Dibden Office.

Following an email from the Chairman of the Committee, officers have been working with the Post Office, the Post Master at Hythe and New Forest District Council with a view to opening a community mobile post office service at Clayfields Sports Centre.

It is proposed to provide a four hour per day, four days a week service in the main community room at the Sports Centre. The operation would be reviewed after six months.

There are a number of issues to be resolved, however it is hoped that by the meeting, it will be possible to update the committee with the current position.

Members are asked to consider approving the use of Clayfields for a mobile post office at no rental charge to the Post Office.

Item 11 Accounts for Payment

Attached.

Item 12 Changes to Local Government Pension Scheme

With effect from the 1 April 2008 a number of changes have been made to the Local Government Pension Scheme(LGPS) which members of staff are eligible to join.

Main changes –

1. Employee contribution rates now based on pensionable pay. Contribution rates between 5.5% and 7.5% of pensionable pay (previously standard contribution of 6%).
2. Pension is based on 1/60 of final year's pensionable pay for each year of service (up to 25% can be taken as lump sum) (previously based on 1/80).
3. Death in service payment of death grant equal to 3 years pay (previously 2 years).
4. Early retirement available from age 60 onwards, however early retirement is possible from 55 if employer agrees (previously aged 50).
5. Payment of benefits on grounds of redundancy available from age 55 (previously aged 50).

These transitional arrangements are in place for employees already in the scheme.

Members are asked to note the changes.

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