

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Amenities Committee
held at The Grove, St John's Street, Hythe
on Monday 7 September 2009 at 8.05 pm.

Members: *Mr G Parkes (Vice Chairman) – in the Chair

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|---------------|---------------|
| oMr J Bennett | oMr D Smith |
| *Mr R Guy | *Mr B Uglow |
| oMrs M McLean | oMr P Vickers |
| *Mr M Short | *Mr A Wade |

* Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

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

Also present: 1 Member of the public

163/09 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 13 July 2009, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

164/09 Declarations of Interest

Mr A Wade declared a personal interest in Minute 146/09 as he lives in the same road as the applicant. He considered his interest to be prejudicial.

165/09 Public Participation Period**Cussens Centre Site**

Further to his enquiry at a previous meeting, Mr Neal advised members that the site of the former Cussens Centre was still overgrown and untidy and requested that action be taken to remedy this.

The Deputy Clerk advised the meeting that he had emailed the District Council on the matter once again last week but had not yet received a response.

It was agreed to pursue the matter.

166/09 Notification of matters to be raised at the end of the meeting

Members advised the Chairman of matters which they wished to raise at the end of the meeting.

167/09 Vandalism Report 26 June 2009 – 21 August 2009 – To receive and note the report

Consideration was given to the Vandalism Report for the period 26 June 2009 to 21 August 2009.

The Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor advised the meeting that permission had been received to site a CCTV camera at Beechwood Pond.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

168/09 Arboriculture policy statement – To consider proposed amendments

Consideration was given to the amendment of the existing Arboriculture Policy.

RESOLVED

That the proposed changes to the Arboriculture Policy be agreed.

169/09 **Public Open Space to the rear of Bullrush Close – To consider a request from a local resident**

Consideration was given to a request from a resident of Bullrush Close for permission to keep a small number of chickens on Public Open Space to the rear of the property.

Members felt that amenity land and public open space is provided to protect wildlife and the environment and provide a barrier in urban areas and should not be taken into private use. Concern was also expressed over the need for planning permission to change to use of the land.

RESOLVED

That the request for permission to keep chickens on public open space in Bullrush Close be declined.

(Mr A Wade declared a prejudicial interest in this item and, having left the meeting, took no part in the discussion or vote)

170/09 **Floral displays**

Mr Short read a letter from a member of the public congratulating the Council on the impressive floral displays throughout the parish.

171/09 **Exclusion of press and public**

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972.

172/09 **Insurance Claim**

Consideration was given to a report and verbal update on the position regarding an insurance claim.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Chairman

Date

Mname140