

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Hythe and Dibden Parish Council
held at The Grove, 25 St. John's Street, Hythe
On Wednesday 10 October 2012 at 8 pm

Members: *Mrs M Robinson (Chairman) – in the Chair

*Mr J Binns	*Mr M Short
*Mr B Dash	*Mrs B Smith
*Mr R Guy	*Mr D Smith
*Mr C Harrison	*Mr A Wade
*Mrs M McLean	*Mr M Wade
*Mr G Parkes	*Mr S Wade

In attendance: Mr S Spencer (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
Mrs C Patterson (Minute Clerk)
Mr D Melsome (Assistant Clerk to the Council)

Also present: 1 Member of the Public

* Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

135/12 Declarations of Interest

Mr Dash disclosed an interest in Minute 150/12 as he is a Governor of Applemore School who also hire out a hall and therefore could be seen as a competitor. He did not consider his interest to be prejudicial and remained in the meeting for the discussion.

136/12 Minutes

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 12 September 2012.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 12 September 2012 be signed by the Chairman as correct.

137/12 Public Forum

There were no questions from members of the public.

The Chairman advised members that PC Woodhead had been due to attend the meeting but had been forced to send his apologies. He had compiled a report which would be circulated to members.

Members were advised that ACSO Jane Sharples is transferring to Fordingbridge and it was agreed that a letter should be sent to thank her for her contribution to the community.

138/12 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman had no announcements to make.

139/12 Reports of the County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish

Consultation on the Minerals and Waste Plan has finished and some minor amendments made. The Liberal Democrats have voted against the plan as they feel that it is excessive and damaging to the future of Hampshire.

A total of £140,000 is available in grants from central government for use in Hythe. Some of this has been earmarked to improve the transport interchange at the pier head. The area is

owned in part by the County Council, District Council and General Estates who are unable to agree on a way forward. Additional schemes will be investigated and brought for consultation to ensure that the grant is not lost.

The Highways Agency is to benefit from £217 million investment to improve traffic flow on motorways and A roads. The report will be circulated to members.

Mr Dash is to visit the Children's Centres in Totton and the Waterside following a visit to the centre in Andover.

140/12 Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish

The Localism Bill has resulted in a lot of new procedures for Housing. Previously owned council houses are being bought back and it is hoped that there will be new building next year. A Home Search Allocation Scheme has been introduced along with a Tenancy Strategy and Rent Recovery Process.

Families can be removed from the housing waiting list if a family member has an ASBO or other record of anti-social behaviour against their name. New tenants will only be given 5 or 6 year tenancies.

There will be no central government grants for new builds so it is hoped that housing associations will be able to work more closely with the District Council.

There will be changes to Housing Benefit as a bedroom tax will be brought in for underoccupied homes. Children under 16 of the same sex and under 10 of different sex will count as sharing which may result in what will be classed as a spare room.

The final meeting of the Task and Finish Group for Tax and Council Tax Benefit cuts will be held next week.

There are thought to be around 500,000 fraudulent Blue Badges in circulation and it is hoped that charging for them will rectify this although the scheme has met with mixed reviews. Various ideas are being considered such as issuing an annual long stay parking clock or a short stay clock with additional time allowed but the matter will go out for public consultation.

The total cost of hosting the Olympic Torch Relay in the New Forest was £16,443 with 24 local residents carrying the Olympic/Paralympic torch. £250,000 was awarded to New Forest Clubs from Sport England's Inspired Facilities Fund.

The Task and Finish Group has just finished looking into last year's budget as part of the scrutiny process.

The Chairman has seen the electric car which is being promoted for hire for sightseeing around the New Forest.

141/12 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies

Mrs Smith attended a meeting of the Association of Local Councils of the New Forest at which a presentation was given by Steve Jones of New Forest District Council on Grounds Maintenance. The District Council are keen to share work with other competent authorities as well as provide opportunities for sharing large and intermittently used machinery.

Mrs Smith attended the launch of the Street Pastors scheme. It is hoped that the Street Pastors will work well alongside the Community Safety Team and the Handy Trust.

At the recent Annual General Meeting of Age Concern New Forest the current Chairman and Treasurer were defeated in the voting to be committee members and trustees. The new Chairman is Len Harris.

142/12 Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports

Mr Smith asked Mr Dash whether the provision of a bus service by a new Company would make any difference to the plans for the transport interchange at the Pier Head.

Mr Dash doubted whether it would but following a request from Mr Parkes agreed to ask whether the County Council would consider conducting a risk assessment of the area.

The Chairman pointed out that a lot of work has already gone into trying to resolve the problem.

143/12 Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26

Mr M Wade asked the Chairman whether she was aware that there will be a meeting held on 11 October 2012 at the Community Centre at 7 pm in which a presentation will be made on the Helius Biomass Plant.

The Chairman replied that she was aware of this meeting but would be unable to attend.

Mr A Wade asked the Chairman whether she had been made aware of any complaints regarding parents picking up children from Hythe School in cars.

The Chairman replied that she was not aware of complaints but knew that PC Woodhead had been targeting all schools in the area and some Fixed Penalty Notices had been issued.

The meeting was advised that parents had asked for free short stay passes to the car park to enable them to pick up their children and Mrs Smith had spoken to the District Council Car Parking Manager in this regard.

144/12 Reports of Committees

Planning Committee – 12 September 2012

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 12 September 2012.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 12 September 2012 be received and adopted.

145/12 Hampshire County Council – Flood Risk Strategy – Consultation Document

Consideration was given to a request for comments from Hampshire County Council on the Flood Risk Strategy Consultation Document.

It was pointed out that none of the consultation meetings were in a convenient location to the Parish.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk formulate a response to the Hampshire County Council Flood Risk Strategy Consultation Document from information which has been acquired over the years and any views which members email before the end of October.

146/12 Draft Traffic Management Programme for 2013/14

Members noted the Draft Traffic Management Programme for 2013/14.

147/12 Parish Hall Hirers – Public Liability Insurance

Consideration was given to whether to reduce the requirement for Hirers liability to £2,000,000 for regular hirers.

RESOLVED

That the Public Liability Insurance for regular users of the Parish Hall be reduced to £2,000,000.

148/12 Accounts for Payment

The Clerk submitted a schedule of accounts for payment, together with a supplementary list.

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 8069 – 8143 inclusive, totalling £50,602.41, be approved and paid.

149/12 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.

150/12 Parish Hall Bookings – Discounted Rates

RESOLVED

1. That the Clerk to the Council's action be approved.
2. That the Clerk to the Council be given authority, in consultation with the Chairman of the Council to allow a rate reduction of up to 50% for four weeks for new groups wishing to hire the Parish Hall for more than 4 weeks to allow them to establish themselves.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Chairman

Date

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