

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 11 June 2014 at 8.00 pm

Members: *Mrs B Smith (Chairman) -- in the Chair

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

In attendance: Mr D J Shimpe (Clerk to the Council)
 Mr S Spencer (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
 Mr D Melsome (Assistant Clerk)
 Mrs B Edwards (Minute Clerk)

Also present: oMr M Harris (New Forest District Councillor)
 *Mr P Fawkes (Hampshire County Councillor)

* Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

32/14 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

33/14 **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 14 May 2014.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 14 May 2014 be signed by the Chairman as correct.

34/14 **Public Forum**

There were no members of the public present.

35/14 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman announced that Hythe Twinning Association (HTA) had visited Mauves-sur-Loire where the 20th anniversary of the signing of the twinning agreement was celebrated and a good time had by all. HTA presented a photograph of Hythe, including the pier and surrounding area, taken from the upper deck of a cruise liner to members of the Mauves Twinning Association who in turn presented a beautiful carved wooden snail complete with memory drawers.

36/14 **Reports of the County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish**

Philip Fawkes informed Members that he had inspected pot-holes at Furzedown and would be speaking to officers at Hampshire County Council (HCC) to expedite repairs.

Mr Fawkes supports the action being taken to provide a safe crossing for residents in Fawley Road following a serious accident. He had also supported the Planning Application for the Forest Education Centre which he advised had been passed.

Mr Fawkes advised Members that he had accepted the position of Group Leader for UKIP on Hampshire County Council, replacing Ray Finch.

Malcolm Wade reported that at the County Council AGM, Cllr. Ken Thornber stood down as Chairman. He was replaced by Cllr. Colin Davidovitz.

Mr Wade attended the Children and Families Advisory Panel when a presentation was given by HCC Care Ambassadors and feedback on the Independent Reviewing Service, a statutory service delivered by Independent Reviewing Officers from Hampshire Children and Families branch.

Mr Wade advised that several children's homes are to close, including Glendalyn, the children's home in New Milton. A new 4 bed replacement unit will be built at Dibden Purlieu on the site adjacent to the Fish and Chip Shop in North Road. A consultation with local residents is currently taking place.

As part of the £43 million savings required by Adult Services, the Supporting People budget will be reduced. Various services for older people are being looked into. The provider framework for Learning Disabilities Care and Support is currently out to tender and all Socially Excluded contracts will end on 31 March 2105. New contracts will be awarded in line with the revised priorities.

37/14 **Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish**

Chris Harrison attended the Planning Development Control Committee meeting on 11 June 2104 and updated Members on applications within the Parish. The application for Marlborough Court was granted subject to conditions.

Mr Harrison also attended a meeting at Hampshire County Council regarding the application for the Forest Education Centre. Neighbours to the site had requested that the 'spare' land for potential housing be repositioned to the other side of the site. The request was not taken into account.

Malcolm Wade requested that Members notify him of any schemes put to NFDC's Local Highway and Minor Works Programme.

Maureen Robinson reported that she had attended the 25th Anniversary celebrations of the New Forest Tourist Association.

38/14 **Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Maureen McLean had attended a meeting of the Clinical Commissioning Stakeholder Group. Adult Services has an out of hours service which starts at 5 p.m. HCC is working with other providers to try to extend the operating hours until 10 p.m.

A Stroke Support Group is held every third Thursday of each month at Hythe Community Centre. Currently places are offered by referral only.

Mrs McLean informed Members that a local G.P had requested further support from the Parish Council as there was a rumour that NHS Property Services was stalling on the redevelopment of Hythe Hospital due to conflicts over who will benefit from the sale of the extra land.

Brian Dash advised that, due to NHS re-organisation, the project appraisal function had moved from one group to another and that there was no clear evidence that those involved were being evasive.

On behalf of the Parish Council, the Chairman of the Council will write to the NHS for re-assurance on the future of the project and to find out what else can be done by the Parish Council that is not already being done. A copy of the letter will be sent to the G.P concerned.

39/14 **Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports**

Brian Dash asked Malcolm Wade whether the proposed cuts to extra care housing were a problem with capital rather than revenue. Mr Wade responded that he would make enquiries and report back.

Maureen Robinson asked Malcolm Wade if he was aware that due to proposed cuts, residents using community alarms had received letters advising they would have to either hire or purchase their alarms from the end of September 2014. Since many older people could not afford either option, they would have no choice but to give up their alarms putting them in a vulnerable position.

Mr Wade and Mr Fawkes responded that they would both take the matter up with HCC.

Brian Dash asked for a progress report on the pedestrian crossing at Langdown Lawn and the planned works at the Ferry Interchange. Mr Wade replied that he would make enquiries but as far as he was aware, both projects were due to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

40/14 **Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26**

There were no questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26.

41/14 **Reports of Committees**

Planning Committee – 14 May 2014

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 14 May 2014.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 14 May 2014 be received and adopted.

42/14 **Financial Administration – Governance and Accountability for Local Councils – Practitioners' Guide**

Consideration was given to the above report.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the bank reconciliation be noted
- (b) the current sweep arrangements be agreed
- (c) the list of authorised signatories be agreed

43/14 **Annual Accounts 2013/14**

A copy of the updated notes to the accounts had been circulated to all members.

RESOLVED

That the updated Notes to the Accounts for 2013/14 be approved.

44/14 **Review of Standing Orders**

Consideration was given to the reviewed and amended model of Standing Orders.

RESOLVED

That the amended model Standing Orders be agreed.

45/14 **Update on Transfer of Community Safety Service**

A copy of the report into the transfer of the Community Safety Service had been circulated to all members.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report be noted.

46/14 Friends of Forest Front Nature Reserve for the Disabled

Members were notified of the resignation of Jon Bennett as the Council representative on the Charity's Management Committee and the shortfall in the insurance premium covered by the Council's policy grant.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the Clerk to the Council will enquire if any member of staff wishes to become the Council's representative on the Forest Front Management Committee.
- (b) the additional sum of £46.55 required to cover the cost of insurance be taken from the general grant fund.

47/14 The Local Government Transparency Code for Parish Councils with a Gross Annual Income or Expenditure exceeding £200,000 (England only)

Members considered the NALC Transparency Code for Parish Councils has published guidelines for adoption by Councils with income/expenditure greater than £200,000 per annum. These are only recommendations for Parish Councils rather than a mandatory duty.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council would continue with its current practices.

48/14 Local Government Pension Scheme 2014 – Adoption of Policy

Members were updated on the changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme. Consideration was given to the proposed policy statement in relation to employer discretions.

RESOLVED

That the proposed policy statement in relation to employer discretions be adopted.

49/14 Signing of Documents to Oakland Residential Lettings, 5 Year Lease for use of Office No. 102, The Grove, 25 St. John's Street, Hythe

The Clerk to the Council informed Members that a new five year lease had been granted to Oakland Residential Lettings for use of office number 102 at The Grove.

RESOLVED

That the 5 Year Lease for Oakland Residential Lettings be agreed and signed.

50/14 Accounts for Payment

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed totalling £55,495.46 be approved and paid.

51/14 Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items 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.

52/14 **Staffing Matters Relating to the Transfer of Community Safety Service**

Members confirmed the arrangements required in relation to staffing.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Chairman

Date

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