



# HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

The Grove, 25 St. John's Street, Hythe, Hampshire SO45 6BZ

*Serving the communities of Dibden, Dibden Purlieu and Hythe*

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To: Members of the Amenities Committee

Mr R Guy

Mrs M Mclean

Mr G Parkes

Mr M Short

Mr B Uglow

and remainder of the Council for information

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Mr P Vickers

Mr A Wade

Mr D Smith (ex officio)

Mr J Bennett (ex officio)

AGAME144

2 February 2010

Members of the Amenities Committee

are hereby summoned to attend the **AMENITIES COMMITTEE** to be held in **The Grove, 25 St John's Street, Hythe on Monday next, 8 February 2010 at 8.00pm**

Yours faithfully

Clerk to the Council

## AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 January 2010.
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. Tree Management Scheme – to receive an update of recent inspections.
7. Orchard Wild Garden – to note an update on the construction work and to discuss ideas for a formal opening of the facility.
8. Risk Assessments – to note a recent review of the Council's risk assessments for its amenity operations.
9. New Forest National Park Recreation Management Strategy – Revised Draft.
10. Vehicle and Machinery Renewal Fund – new vehicle
11. Allotments – to consider correspondence received from Fawley Parish Council.
12. Any other urgent business concerning this committee.



## HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

### AGENDA NOTES

#### AMENITIES COMMITTEE – 8 February 2010

**Item 6** Tree Management Scheme - to note an update of recent inspections.

The Council has carried out this financial year's Tree Management Survey. Foxtail Drive and Forest Front have been surveyed.

In the two areas a total of 107 mature trees were surveyed with nineteen trees identified as requiring work, of these six will need to be removed on safety grounds. An approximate cost to carry out the work is £4500.00.

Due to the projected cost of the remedial work further investigations are taking place to identify work which can be carried out in house prior to seeking quotes for the remainder of the work.

It is anticipated that all work will be completed by the end of April 2010.

Members are requested to note the update.

**Item 7** Orchard Wild Garden – to note an update of the construction work and to discuss ideas for a formal opening of the facility.

The recent bad weather has delayed the construction work by approximately 2-3 weeks as a result it is anticipated that work will be completed by the end of March 2010 subject to reasonable weather.

In order to allow for any snagging issues to be rectified it is proposed to officially open the new facility during the School Easter Holidays which begin on Monday 12 April 2010. As Members will recall, the community including local schools, residents and partner organisations were widely consulted on the project and Members may like to consider hosting a formal opening in recognition of the assistance that was offered to the Council. Officers from the District Council who have been involved in the project have offered their support and assistance.

Member's views are requested.

**Item 8** Risk Assessments – to note a recent review of the Council's risk assessments for its amenity operations.

The Parish Council is carrying out a comprehensive review of all of its Risk and C.O.S.H.H. Assessments as part of its Health and Safety policy.

All of the risk assessments relevant to the Council's outdoor operations which are managed by this committee are being reassessed and brought up to date. Drafts of the new assessments are prepared and consultation with staff will take place in the spring.

Members are requested to note the report.

**Item 9            New Forest National Park Recreation Management Strategy – Revised Draft**

The National Park Authority is seeking comments on the above document by 12 February 2010. A copy of the letter which accompanies the document is attached for Members information however the document can be accessed on the National Park website at [www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/index/aboutus/our\\_work/consultations/closed\\_consultations/recreation\\_management\\_strategy.htm](http://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/index/aboutus/our_work/consultations/closed_consultations/recreation_management_strategy.htm) alternatively a copy is available to view in the office.

Member's views are requested.

**Item 10           Vehicle and Machinery Renewal Fund -- new vehicle**

As part of the budget for the current financial year provision was made to purchase a replacement vehicle for the red Nissan pickup which is 15 years old.

Investigations into identifying a suitable replacement have been carried out with various options being considered including diesel and electric vehicles.

Following tests relevant to the type of tasks that the new vehicle will need to perform it was decided to purchase a diesel pick up van. Two models (Mazda and Ford) have been investigated and two separate tender processes have been entered into.

During the tender processes for the Mazda pick up it became apparent that due to the economic downturn, Mazda had stopped manufacturing and importing the Council's preferred choice of vehicle. Unfortunately because of this it was decided to start the tender process again but this time with Ford.

The tenders for a Ford pick up have been returned with a purchase price which exceeds the Council's budget provision; therefore it is unlikely that a replacement vehicle will be purchased in this financial year.

Further investigations are continuing and Members will be updated in due course.

Members are asked to note the report.

**Item 11.           Allotments – To consider correspondence received from Fawley Parish Council,**

A letter (attached) has been received from Fawley Parish Council regarding the use of Developers Contributions in order to provide allotments.

Member's views are requested.

Agzame144



Mr D Shimpe  
 Hythe & Dibden Parish Council  
 Hythe And Dibden Parish Council  
 The Grove, 25 St Johns Street  
 Hythe, Southampton  
 SO45 6BZ

Our ref: 7/5/15

Date: 19 January 2010

21 JAN 2010

Dear Mr Shimpe

**New Forest National Park Recreation Management Strategy - revised Draft**

Please find a copy of the revised draft Recreation Management Strategy enclosed. The Strategy, which is a daughter document of the National Park Management Plan, sets out the long-term vision and objectives for outdoor recreation within the National Park, together with policies and actions for the next five years and beyond.

The Recreation Management Strategy has been fully revised following the public consultation on the original draft in 2008. If you have any comments on the revised Strategy please send them to the address below, or email [rms@newforestnpa.gov.uk](mailto:rms@newforestnpa.gov.uk) to arrive no later than **12 February 2010**.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Trotter  
 Director of Conservation, Recreation and Sustainable Development

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**Fawley Parish  
Council**

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Ref: EH

28 January 2010

9 JAN 2010

To All Larger Councils in the New Forest

**Should New Allotment Sites be funded from Developers' Contributions?**

We like other Councils have an ever-extending waiting list for allotments and are under pressure to provide more. Unfortunately NFDC say that Developers' Contributions cannot be used for the purpose of providing more, they say it's against policy.

The NFDC Core Strategy adopted in October 2009 states that Developers' Contributions may be required towards amongst other things, Recreation Provision.

The N.F.D.C. New Forest Area PPG17 Open Space, Sports and Recreation Study 2007, lists allotments in their summary of Open Space Provision.

The provision for more allotments has resulted because of the new developments in the area that give inadequate garden space, thus causing the problem.

Allotments have been decreed in the High Court to be a Recreational Activity in a case against Reigate Borough Council.

We find it difficult to see therefore why Developers' Contributions cannot be used for such purposes.

They say it's against policy, but we have yet to find out whose policy it is (is it Government?) or how it is worded. Policies can be changed, so a concerted effort should be made to change it.

Please let us know whether you can support our comments and if you have any suggestions on how we should proceed please also forward them.

Yours sincerely

*[Handwritten signature]*

Cllr E Holtham  
Chairman, Public Services Committee  
Fawley Parish Council.  
cc Cllr A Shotter, Chairman New Forest Association Local Councils