

**HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
General Purposes and Finance Committee  
held at The Grove, 25 St John's Street, Hythe  
on Monday, 19 November 2007 at 8 pm.

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

Mr J Bennett	*Mr M Short
*Mr G Jones	*Mr D Smith
*Mr R Newell	*Mr A Wade
Mr G Parkes	*Mr M Wade

\* Indicates attendance  
o Indicates apologies for absence

In attendance:                        Mr D J Shimpe (Clerk to the Council)  
Mrs C Patterson (Minute Clerk)

Also present:                            Mr B Uglow  
Mr P Vickers  
2 representatives from New Forest District Council  
PC A Smith  
1 member of the public

419/07 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 15 October 2007, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

420/07 **Notification of any other urgent business to be raised at the end of the meeting**

There were no matters mentioned.

421/07 **Declarations of Interest**

Mr M Wade declared an interest in Minute 428/07, Minute 430/07, Minute 431/07, Minute 433/07 and Minute 434/07 as he is a New Forest District Councillor. Mr Jones declared an interest in Minute 433/07 as he is a governor of Orchard Junior School. Mr Short declared an interest in Minute 433/07 as he is a governor of Orchard Infant School. Mrs Robinson declared an interest in Minute 433/07 as her parents are residents of Marlborough Court.

422/07 **Discussion with Inspector Leckey of Hythe Police Station**

Unfortunately Inspector Leckey and the local beat officers were unable to attend the meeting due to work commitments but PC Smith who is based in Marchwood answered concerns from members.

Members outlined their concerns over the over 21 only age limits imposed by landlords in the area which they felt may be pushing local youngsters out of the area in cars so that they can drink legally. They wondered whether allowing 18 to 21 year olds to drink in the controlled environment of a public house may be a better option.

PC Smith advised members that he would pass on their thoughts to PC Barry who coordinates the Pubwatch scheme. With regard to selling alcohol to underage drinkers, PC Smith advised members that attempts are being made to cut off the supply through test purchasing in the area and reassessing the licensing laws.

Members expressed concerns over the numbers of car sales which take place from highway verges.

PC Smith advised members that he would ask his colleagues to investigate the matter as he had had some success in stopping the problem before.

Members advised PC Smith that they would like more contact with senior officers as they have had previously as it helps to have the Police perception of events.

The Chairman asked PC Smith to convey members' thanks to his colleagues over the way the situation with the recent fire in Hythe was handled.

423/07 **Public Participation Period**

There were no questions from members of the public.

424/07 **Accounts for Payment**

The Clerk submitted a Schedule of Accounts for payment, together with a supplementary list.

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 3566 - 3635 inclusive, totalling £59,246.65, be approved and paid.

425/07 **Minutes of the Personnel Sub Committee held on 22 October 2007**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the Personnel Sub Committee held on 22 October 2007.

It was agreed that the name of the Deputy Clerk to the Council should be Mrs S A Krynicki.

RESOLVED

That, subject to the above, the minutes of the Personnel Sub Committee held on 22 October 2007 be received and adopted.

426/07 **Proposed Schedule of Meetings 2008/2009**

Consideration was given to the proposed schedule of meetings for 2008/2009.

RESOLVED

That the proposed schedule of meetings for 2008/2009 be adopted.

427/07 **Community Safety Service Update**

Consideration was given to the Community Safety Service Update and a request for the provision of a bicycle for the Police Community Support Officer.

Members were advised that the Police, ACSOs and PCSOs hold regular meetings when their shifts coincide.

The ACSOs will be holding a roadshow at Tesco next Monday afternoon and it is hoped that the PCSOs will also be in attendance.

RESOLVED

That the Community Safety Service Update be noted and a bicycle and equipment provided for the PCSO.

428/07 **Alterations to Reception Area – The Grove**

Two representatives from New Forest District Council spoke to members regarding the planned alterations to the New Forest District Council Information Centre at The Grove following a health and safety assessment.

There were some concerns over the fact that the main entrance will be at the rear of the building. Members felt that lighting should be enhanced and worried that a walk to the rear of the building would reflect badly in the eyes of the public.

It was explained that the District Council intends on holding a public consultation on the alterations to ensure that the public perceive that the changes will be improvements for both them and members of staff.

RESOLVED

That the alteration to the New Forest District Council Information Centre at The Grove be approved in principle and a working party appointed to discuss points of interior furnishings.

(Mr M Wade declared an interest in this item but remained in the meeting for consideration thereof)

429/07 **Financial Monitoring up to and including 30 September 2007**

Consideration was given to the financial monitoring up to and including 30 September 2007.

A discussion was held on the most effective and cost efficient way of presenting the figures and it was concluded that the present format is easiest way for the majority of users to understand.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

430/07 **Licensing Act 2003 – Statement of Policy**

Consideration was given to the Licensing Act 2003 – Statement of Policy.

RESOLVED

That the Licensing Act 2003 – Statement of Policy is a good policy.

(Mr M Wade declared an interest in this item but remained in the meeting for consideration thereof)

431/07 **Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 – Dog Control Orders**

Further to the recommendation of option 4 by the Amenities Committee, consideration was given to a letter from New Forest District Council concerning the above Act.

RESOLVED

That New Forest District Council be advised that this Council supports option 4 which calls for New Forest District Council to declare a DCO for fouling on the whole of the district, including Town/Parish Council land and for any other specified offences, as necessary.

(Mr M Wade declared an interest in this item but remained in the meeting for consideration thereof)

432/07 **Proposed budget 2008/2009**

Consideration was given to the draft budget papers for 2008/2009.

RESOLVED

That the proposed income and expenditure relating to this Committee as shown in the Budget Papers be agreed and recommended to the Council for adoption.

433/07 **St John's Street, The Marsh and Orchard School Area – Proposed Waiting Restrictions and Parking Places**

Consideration was given to the proposed changes to waiting restrictions and parking places in the above areas.

Members were unsure whether the changes around Orchard School were fulfilling the whole of the strategy which the governors were hoping for and it was agreed to ask them for more information.

RESOLVED

That the District Council be advised of concerns in the Waitrose area where the cobbles have been removed and there is no waiting or loading allowed and that a ramp is needed so that trolleys can be pushed along the pavement to the pick up area.

Parking needs to be pushed right away from the school entrances and sight lines cleaned up at junctions.

(Mr Jones, Mrs Robinson, Mr Short and Mr M Wade declared an interest in this item but remained in the meeting for consideration thereof)

434/07 **The New Forest District (Various Roads Hythe) (Parking Places and Restriction of Waiting) Order 200...**

Consideration was given to proposed changes to waiting restrictions on various roads in Hythe.

There were concerns that users of Ewart Recreation Ground may encounter problems as would users of the Parish Hall as 3 hours waiting time may not be sufficient for their needs. There may also be safety issues involved with parking on a bend in West Street.

Residents of many areas may encounter problems with parking outside their homes by those who do not wish pay District Council car park charges and also for residents who are no longer able to park outside their own property.

RESOLVED

That the District Council be advised that this council feels that this problem has been caused by displacement parking due to car park charges and consideration should be given to the provision of free residents parking permits. In some areas "no waiting at any time" could be amended to allow waiting after 6pm.

(Mr M Wade declared an interest in this item but remained in the meeting for consideration thereof)

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

Chairman

Date

Mngpf122