

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 24 November 2008 at 8.05 pm.

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

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|---------------|---------------|
| *Mr W Binns | *Mr D Smith |
| *Mrs M McLean | oMr P Vickers |
| *Mr G Parkes | *Mr A Wade |
| *Mr M Short | *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
Inspector K Leckey (Hythe Police)

304/08 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 13 October 2008, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

305/08 **Notification of any other urgent business 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.

306/08 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

307/08 **Public Participation Period**

There were no questions from members of the public.

308/08 **Discussion with Inspector Leckey from Hythe Police Station**

Inspector Leckey advised members of the current situation in local "hotspots" and that a targeting of resources seems to have settled a lot of the problems down.

PCSO Andy Mansbridge has moved on to be replaced by PCSO Andy Spooner. PC Mick Wellstead will be retiring early in the New Year. It was agreed to write to PC Wellstead, with a copy to the Chief Constable, thanking him for creating links between the Police and the community which have been of considerable benefit to all parties.

Inspector Leckey advised members of a loss of manpower in the New Forest area and it was agreed to raise the matter with the Police Authority, Home Office and Hampshire Association of Local Councils.

309/08 **Community Safety Update**

Members noted the Community Safety Update.

310/08 **Proposed Schedule of Meetings 2009/10**

Consideration was given to the proposed schedule of meetings for 2009/2010.

RESOLVED

That the proposed schedule of meetings for 2009/2010 be agreed.

311/08 Financial Regulations

Consideration was given to the proposed changes to the Financial Regulations.

RECOMMENDED

That the Financial Regulations be adopted as amended.

312/08 Budget 2009/2010

Consideration was given to the Budget Papers for 2009/2010.

Members expressed concern over how best to maintain the current level of services alongside a minimum increase in the precept in the current financial climate. Due to the drop in interest rates it was suggested that £10,000 be used from general reserves to offset income which should result in an increase in the precept of around 3.7%.

RESOLVED

That £10,000 be used from general reserves and the proposed income and expenditure relating to this Committee as shown in the Budget Papers be agreed and recommended to the Council for adoption.

313/08 Freedom of Information Act

Consideration was given to the proposed publication scheme and guide to information relating to the Freedom of Information Act.

RECOMMENDED

That the publication scheme and guide to information be adopted.

314/08 Accounts for Payment

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 4442-4513 inclusive, totalling £40,527.19, be approved and paid.

315/08 Measures to Improve the A326

Members noted the letter sent to Hampshire County Council expressing the Council's disappointment at not being consulted on measures to improve the A326 and agreed to wait for a response before pursuing the matter.

316/08 Street Lighting Fawley Road

Further to a discussion over the lack of street lighting along Fawley Road in the earlier meeting of the planning committee a member asked whether it would be possible to install further street lights.

It was explained that there are conditions to be met over the spacing of street lights on main roads but agreed to bring the matter to the attention of Street Lighting Division and ascertain the implication of the PFI scheme for street lighting.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Chairman

Date

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