

**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 8 June 2009 at 8 pm.

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

oMr J Bennett	*Mr M Short
oMr W Binns	*Mr D Smith
*Mr G Jones	*Mr A Wade
*Mrs M McLean	*Mr M Wade

\* Indicates attendance  
o Indicates apologies for absence

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

Also present:              Mr Philip Mills (Hampshire County Council)  
Inspector K Leckey (Hythe Police)

55/09    **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 8 June 2009, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

56/09    **Notification of any other urgent business to be raised at the end of the meeting**

There were no matters mentioned.

57/09    **Declarations of Interest**

Mrs Robinson declared an interest in Minute 59/09 as she intended to discuss the Waterside Arts Festival which her husband is involved in organising.

58/09    **Public Participation Period**

There were no members of the public present.

59/09    **Discussion with Inspector Leckey from Hythe Police Station**

Inspector Leckey distributed copies of the latest Safer Neighbourhoods Report and talked through some of the statistics stated.

He was pleased to advise the committee that the Shopwatch scheme, which is co-ordinated by PC Hendy, had been instrumental in catching a shoplifter in Hythe who had been banned from all shops in the area as a consequence. The success of this scheme has meant that it is now being copied in neighbouring areas.

The 18<sup>th</sup> birthday party at Heatherstone Avenue which got out of hand was dealt with promptly by the Police and leaflets have been distributed to local residents.

A 19 year old man from a different part of the Waterside has been charged with the attack on an elderly man in Hythe.

Operation Nemesis which has been targeting burglary offenders in the area has been successful. Figures for the area are already quite low but the jailing of the principal offenders for 3 and 2 and a half years has improved the situation further.

A Celebration of Cycling event will be held on Sunday 30 August 2009 between 12-6pm. A number of partners are involved in the organisation including Hampshire Police, the Parish Council and a cycling club. It is anticipated that it will be a large and well attended event and it was suggested that talks are held with the organisers of the Waterside Arts Festival who also have some events on the same day so that the events complement each other.

The Deputy Clerk agreed to liaise between the Police and Waterside Arts Festival organisers initially.

Members expressed concern that only bad statistics and events in the area are reported in the press. It was suggested that the Parish Picture and possibly the Waterside Herald be used to report favourable statistics and successful conclusions.

(Mrs Robinson declared an interest in this item but remained in the meeting during consideration thereof)

60/09 **Community Safety**

**No Cold Calling Zone – presentation from Philip Mills, Hampshire County Council**

Philip Mills of Hampshire County Council's Trading Standards team gave a presentation on the No Cold Calling Zones which are being set up in the area.

The scheme is part funded through the County Council, the Protecting Older People Team through Adult Services and Hampshire Constabulary.

As a result of the scheme 83% of people say they feel safer and 74% feel more confident in dealing with people at the door.

Residents who agree to take part in the scheme receive an information pack and sticker for the front door. Packs or part of the pack can also be provided to the Parish Council.

Inspector Leckey suggested that information about the scheme could be provided at the monthly beat surgery of the safer neighbourhood schemes.

**CCTV**

Members noted the update on the provision of CCTV.

**PCSOs and ACSOs**

Members noted the changes in personnel in the PCSO and ACSO teams.

61/09 **Feedback on the "Power of Wellbeing" training held on the 11 May 2009**

Members who attended the above training felt that it was a useful exercise and that having the option to use the powers would be beneficial.

It was hoped that those members who were unable to attend the session would be able to attend a future one and it was agreed that the Deputy Clerk advise those members of possible dates.

62/09 **Outturn Financial Position 2008/2009**

Consideration was given to the outturn financial position for 2008/2009.

RESOLVED

That the financial outturn position for 2008/2009 be agreed subject to:-

1. The provision of £3500 for security fencing at Noads Way Recreation Ground.
2. The provision of £7500 for specialist consultants to carry out a review of Clayfields Sports Centre.

63/09 **Proposed Changes to New Forest Association of Local Councils (NFALC)**

Consideration was given to the proposed changes to the constitution of NFALC in order that the Chairman of the Council could reflect the views of the Council at the next meeting on 19 June 2009.

Members felt that the organisation offered little benefit in its present form and doubted that the proposed changes would achieve more.

RESOLVED

That the Chairman of the Council advise the meeting of NFALC on 19 June 2009 that this council feels that a complete review of the organisation should be carried out otherwise this Council could withdraw its membership.

64/09 **Acceptance of Insurance Tender**

Consideration was given to the tender process for the provision of insurance services.

RESOLVED

That the tender submitted by Zurich Municipal for insurance services for £18216.94 be accepted.

65/09 **Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 4928-4992 inclusive, totalling £51,878.48, be approved and paid.

Chairman

Date

Mnpln136