

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 January 2005 at 8.05 pm.

Members: *Mr R Podesta (Chairman) – in the Chair

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|-----------------|--------------|
| *Mr G Dawson | *Mrs B Smith |
| *Mr C Harrison | *Mr D Smith |
| *Mrs M Robinson | *Mr M S Wade |
| *Mr M Short | *Mr S S 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 G Parkes
1 Member of the Public

393/04 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Committee held on 6 December 2004 and 20 December 2004, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

394/04 **Declarations of Interest**

Mr M Wade, Mrs Smith, Mrs Robinson, Mr Parkes and Mr Harrison declared an interest in Minute 401/04 as they are District Councillors. Mr Harrison is also a trader in Beaulieu. Mr Podesta declared an interest in this item as he owns a business in Hythe.

395/04 **Public Participation Period**

Mr Uglow asked what plans this Council had regarding the many crossing points and the danger of crossing the A326. He was advised that the matter would be dealt with later in the meeting.

396/04 **Accounts for Payment**

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

1. Mobile Phones

A Member asked for clarification that mobile phones were purchased for staff to carry whilst on council business.

It was agreed that this is the case.

2. General

RESOLVED

That, subject to the above, accounts as detailed in Vouchers 1119 –
1162 inclusive, totalling £38736.74, be approved and paid.

397/04 **Financial Monitoring – Period ending 31 December 2004**

Consideration was given to the financial monitoring information for the period ending 31 December 2004.

Concern was expressed that if turnover was more than £500.000 for the third year in a row, accounting methods would have to be altered.

The Clerk advised members that it was unlikely that the £500,000 limit would be reached this year, but accounting methods will be changed during 2005/2006 in anticipation of this eventuality.

398/04 **Schedule of Meetings 2005/2006**

Consideration was given to the draft schedule of meetings for 2005/2006.

Mrs Robinson reminded members that the Meeting of the General Purposes and Finance Committee on 19 September 2005 would clash with the Liberal Democrats Annual Party Conference.

RESOLVED

That the schedule of meetings be agreed with the exception of the Meeting of the Council taking place on 19 December 2005 instead of 12 December and the Meeting of the General Purposes and Finance Committee taking place on 20 February 2006 instead of 27 February.

399/04 **Updated Policy Statements**

Consideration was given to adopting the amendments to the updated Policy Statements.

RESOLVED

That the updated Policy Statements be amended with the following exceptions;

- (a) That the garden refuse sacks scheme be reviewed when details of the District Council Garden Waste Scheme are known.
- (b) The street furniture policy statement be amended to read that litter bins are emptied 7 days a week.

400/04 **Hardley Lane and New Road, Fawley – Experimental Prohibition of Driving Order**

Consideration was given to a letter from the District Council asking for views on the proposal to make the above prohibition permanent.

RESOLVED

That the District Council be advised that this Council supports its proposal to make the prohibition permanent.

401/04 **Proposed Amendments to District of New Forest (Off-Street Parking Places) Order-Sunday/Bank Holiday Charging**

Consideration was given to a request for views from New Forest District Council concerning a proposal to charge for parking in village and town centre car parks on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

RESOLVED

That New Forest District Council be informed that there should be no extended parking charges in Hythe until residents are given a free parking clock.

(Mr M Wade, Mrs Smith, Mrs Robinson, Mr Parkes and Mr Podesta declared an interest in this item but remained in the meeting, Mr Harrison declared an interest in this item and left the meeting during consideration thereof)

402/04 **Crossing A326**

Members were advised of posters which have been displayed around the Parish advertising a meeting called in the name of the Parish Council to be held at The Grove on 7 February 2005 to discuss the dangers of crossing the A326.

It was assumed that this has stemmed from an original request to present a petition to a Meeting of the Council but it was felt that it will cause bad feeling if members of the public arrive at the Council Meeting hoping to speak on the subject and are then unable to.

It was agreed to contact the lady organising the petition to ask whether she is aware of the origin of these posters, to release a statement to the press clarifying the position and to add official posters to the existing ones stating that a Council Meeting is being held that evening.

It was further agreed to write to the leader of Hampshire County Council asking what action has been taken over the many requests for improvements on the crossing of this road which it is known have been received in the past 30 years and ask that an officer attends a meeting so that the matter can be properly discussed.

403/04 **North Road**

A Member advised that the surface of North Road is breaking up.

It was agreed to investigate the matter.

404/04 **Licensing Seminars**

Members were advised that the District Council is running licensing seminars for Parish Councillors. Any interested members were asked to contact the Clerk.

The Meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Chairman

Date

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