

HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Hythe and Dibden Parish Council
Held at The Grove, 25 St. John's Street, Hythe
On Monday 12 March 2007 at 8 pm

Members: *Mrs B Smith (Chairman) – in the Chair

*Mr J Bennett	*Mr R Podesta
oMr R Guy	*Mrs M J Robinson
*Mr C Harrison	*Mr M Short
*Mrs M McLean	*Mr D Smith
*Mr J Moore	*Mr M S Wade
*Mr G Parkes	*Mr S S Wade

* Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

In attendance: Mr B Dash – Hampshire County Councillor
Mr D J Shimpe (Clerk to the Council)
Mrs S A Krynicki (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
Mrs C Patterson (Minute Clerk)

Also present: 50 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press

493/06 **Declarations of Interest**

Mrs Robinson declared an interest in Minute 501/06 as her husband is a member of the Waterside Arts Committee.

494/06 **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 5 February 2007.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Council held on 5 February 2007 be signed by the Chairman as correct.

495/06 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman had no announcements to make.

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At this point the Meeting adjourned to allow a Public Forum to be held.

Bluestar Bus Services

Many members of the public attended the meeting to express their concern that the Bluestar 8 bus service has been cut outside of peak hours and no longer goes down Claypits Lane causing great inconvenience to the residents of that area who have to walk a considerable distance if they wish to catch a bus.

The Chairman read the minutes of the previous meeting of the council which stated the measures which the Parish Council has already taken in respect of this matter.

Mr Smith, the Council's Transport Representative, advised the meeting that this route is no longer subsidised by the County Council and is purely commercial, but he has suggested an alternative route which he feels would alleviate a lot of the problems on both sides. To date, he has not received a response but will continue to pursue the matter.

Mr Dash has also suggested an alternative route and has asked the cost of any subsidy needed to keep the route as it was.

A member of the public asked what steps they could take to assist the Parish Council in its campaign and it was suggested that, as well as the petition which has already been taken, individual letters are sent to the County Council outlining the problems which are being caused by the withdrawal of certain services. It was further suggested that one person be nominated to liaise with the Parish Council over the matter.

It was agreed to arrange a meeting at Clayfields as soon as possible and to invite Solent Blue Line and the County Council to attend.

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The Council Meeting then resumed.

496/06 **Reports of the County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish**

Significant demands on adult services have resulted in a £12 -£15 million annual deficit. A recovery plan has now been put in place to pay this back.

Plans to house the elderly in semi-independent flats before the need to go into a rest home are being investigated in order that they may remain part of the community for longer.

A strong emphasis has been placed on schools and education by central government with additional funds being made available to reflect this.

Work is due to begin on the Hardley to Hythe cycleway.

No progress has been made on the Pylewell Precinct cycleway.

The long awaited Pegasus Crossing on the A326 is now open.

The Hampshire Action Team has begun work by dealing with transport accessibility. It is hoped to involve Town and Parish Councils in a consultative capacity.

497/06 **Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish**

The Final Accounts Committee's initial view of the Authority's Statement of Accounts led it to believe that the District Council would require a Council Tax increase of just below 4% for 2007/2008. However, with a better than expected rate support grant and projected surpluses this figure has now been amended to 1.94%.

Community Safety has been reorganised to make it more streamlined.

The future of the Crime and Disorder Review Panel has been reviewed. The Panel may be taken out into the community and be based on Police neighbourhoods with meetings rotating throughout the year.

Mrs Robinson and Mrs McLean attended the "topping out" ceremony at the site of the old Trafalgar House.

A suggestion was made at the Cabinet Meeting that a Working Party is set up comprising of the Leader, the Portfolio Holder for Environment and a variety of other councillors to investigate climate change issues.

498/06 **Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Mr Smith advised members that the Waterside Woodland Group had reluctantly decided to fold and would be holding a winding up meeting on 3 May 2007.

Members were very sad to hear this news and a suggestion was made that they may be able to merge with another group. It was further suggested that the group be thanked for all their work over the years.

499/06 **Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports**

Mr Podesta asked whether members were aware that a new taxi company were parking their taxis on yellow lines outside their offices and asked that the matter be investigated.

500/06 **Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26**

Mr Podesta asked whether the Chairman was aware that residents of a managed housing scheme have to pay to have refuse taken away by a private contractor despite the fact that they have already paid for this service via their council tax.

It was agreed that this matter should be investigated by District Councillors.

501/06 **Reports of Committees**

(a) Planning Committee – 5 February 2007

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 5 February 2007.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 5 February 2007 be received and adopted.

(b) Planning Committee – 12 February 2007

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 12 February 2007.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 5 February 2007 be received and adopted.

(c) Amenities Committee – 12 February 2007

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 12 February 2007.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 12 February 2007 be received and adopted.

(d) Planning Committee – 19 February 2007

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 19 February 2007.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 19 February 2007 be received and adopted.

(e) General Purposes and Finance Committee – 19 February 2007

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 19 February 2007.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the General Purposes and Finance Committee held on 19 February 2007 be received and adopted.

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

502/06 **Accounts for Payment**

The Clerk submitted a schedule of accounts for payment, together with a supplementary list.

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 2960-3010 inclusive, totalling £35,536.47, be approved and paid.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Chairman

Date

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