

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 10 December 2007 at 8 pm

Members: *Mr M Wade (Chairman) – in the Chair

oMr J Bennett	oMrs M Robinson
*Mr R Guy	*Mr M Short
oMr G Jones	*Mr D Smith
*Mrs M McLean	*Mr B Uglow
*Mr R Newell	*Mr P Vickers
*Mr G Parkes	*Mr A Wade

* Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

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

Also present: oMr B Dash – Hampshire County Councillor
Mr L Dunsdon - Hampshire County Councillor
*Mr C Harrison – New Forest District Councillor
*Mrs B Smith – New Forest District Councillor
Mr S S Wade – New Forest District Councillor
2 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press
Ms L Kendell-Scott (Rainer Wessex Restorative Justice)

443/07 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

444/07 **Presentation on Restorative Justice – Linda Kendell-Scott – Rainer Wessex Restorative Justice**

Linda Kendell-Scott from Rainer Wessex Restorative Justice gave a presentation on how Restorative Justice works and how volunteers can become involved in the process.

Volunteers who are active in the community could be asked to support young offenders between the ages of 10 and 17 who have no parental or family support. After referral to the multi agency youth offending team the young offender, supporting adult and panel from the youth offending team meet with the victim of the crime to work through the best way for the offender to repay the community. This could be through community based work or direct reparation for the offence.

It is hoped that a policy of Responsibility, Repair and Re-integration will be of benefit to both the offender and the victims of crime in the community and Ms Kendell-Scott asked members if they could contact her with any ideas which would benefit this scheme.

445/07 **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 22 October 2007.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Council held on 22 October 2007 be signed by the Chairman as correct.

446/07 Public Forum

There were no questions from members of the public.

447/07 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman read letters out to the meeting from the Chief Constable of Hampshire, Paul Kernaghan, and the Chief Fire Officer, John Bonney, further to his letters to them thanking their officers for their professionalism during the recent fire at a Hythe Boatyard.

Two local fire fighters were being awarded certificates of commendation at the Fire Station by Mr Smith, the Vice Chairman of the Council, before his return to the meeting. The fire fighters have been invited to attend the next meeting of the Council.

The Chairman advised members of the following developments to the proposal to extract minerals from Forest Lodge Farm;

As the plan now includes areas A, B and C, the District Council is formally objecting to the use of the site. Councillor Dash informed the public meeting held on 3 December 2007 that he had heard that it was unlikely that Esso would support any extraction from their land which includes areas B and C.

The Chairman reminded members that a Victorian Market would be held in Hythe village the following day, 11 December, to coincide with the maiden voyage of the Queen Victoria.

448/07 Reports of the County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish

In the absence of Councillor Dash, the Chairman read his report to the meeting.

The contract for the Horrill Centre has been let and completion is anticipated in May/June 2008.

It was revealed at the County Health Scrutiny meeting that there has been another delay in the opening of the Ashurst Maternity Unit. This is thought to be due to unforeseen building issues which will increase the cost of an option which was partially chosen due to lower capital cost. It is not known what arrangements have been made to provide transport to Ashurst from the Waterside.

The government has given a grant of £600,000 over 3 years to help older people at risk to stay independent in their own communities. Community First New Forest will receive a proportion, hopefully a half-time community development worker will be provided so that a link can be formed between various medical professionals and the voluntary sector to meet the needs of the community.

OFSTED inspections over the last year in West Hampshire have found 12 outstanding schools, 17 good schools with outstanding features and 15 satisfactory schools. One was found to be inadequate but was not from this parish.

449/07 Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish

In the absence of Mrs Robinson, her report was read by the Chairman.

The grant for disabled facilities is to be increased as the District Council feels that more outlay is needed as people get older.

Additional funds are to be made available for environmental enhancements e.g re-instating verges to enable them to be parked on.

550 notices seeking possession of Council homes are served on council tenants per annum at a cost of £2000 per eviction. Normally only 8 – 10 notices result in eviction.

The turnout at an exhibition by SEEDA of the plans for the old RAF Hythe site was very high with the majority supportive of retaining the site for maritime industry. However there was some concern over the use of Frost Lane by heavy goods vehicles.

Lack of information from the government on anticipated grants is causing problems with budgetary setting/provision.

Further to a meeting of the Green Audit committee it was suggested that this Council could work co-operatively with them to investigate ways of reducing the carbon footprint of Council owned properties.

The Standards committee acted as an auditing committee at a cost of £91,000 and found lots of areas of praise but found that housing and homeless households was an area of concern with the time spent living in bed and breakfast accommodation longer than the national average.

Cabinet have decided to object to the proposed extraction of gravel at Forest Lodge Farm based on:

- Safety concerns relating to gas and oil pipelines nearby
- Unsuitable access location, conflicting with entry to Netley View estate
- Proximity to large urban area and impact on residents' quality of life
- Increased HGV traffic on Fawley Road and conflict with proposed cycleway
- Distance from PUSH development area
- Extra traffic on A326
- Emergency access to the refinery which crosses the middle of the preferred mineral area.

The District Council is currently identifying street lights which can be taken over by the County Council. Some of these are in the parish but those in conservation areas will be retained by the District Council for the time being.

The new national scheme for concessionary travel means that the cost is borne by the authority where the journey begins. As this area receives a lot of visitors there are concerns over the cost to residents. It is proposed to issue "smart cards" to be used at off peak times.

The portfolio holder has rejected the objections and proposals put forward by the Parish Council regarding the proposed new scheme for the issuing of parking clocks combined with the purchase of Hythe ferry tickets. A review is expected after six months and a meeting is scheduled with the portfolio holder in January to determine what form this review will take.

The Crime and Disorder Panel met with the youth offending team and agreed that effecting a behavioural change can be effective in a lot of cases.

A bid is planned for the employment of a second anti social behaviour officer.

Funding of ACSOs in New Milton is to cease although at the moment the funding of 2 ACSOs in Totton will continue.

Officers have prepared a paper on the need for CCTV in the New Forest and a decision for funding based on the greatest need will be made at the January meeting of the Crime and Disorder Panel.

450/07 **Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Mr Smith advised members that he had just had the pleasure of attending a ceremony at the Fire Station for the presentation of certificates of commendation to 2 local fire fighters.

It transpired at the Annual Parish Transport Representatives meeting that some bus companies are handing back their service contracts.

It is hoped to set up a meeting with the Rail Officer in the New Year.

The uptake on the "Twenty is Plenty" scheme to introduce 20 mph speed limits around schools has been poor with only one area in the parish volunteering for the scheme.

There is a shortage of people to provide crossing patrols.

The Citizen's Advice Bureau were most appreciative of the recent funding provided by Grant Aid and are actively seeking funding from other sources.

451/07 **Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports**

Mr Uglow asked what progress had been made in providing 20 mph limits around the parish.

Mr Smith replied that the Police tend to be reactive and the County Council quite negative but the New Forest Road Safety Council wished to be more pro active. It was awaiting new legislation.

Mr A Wade asked Mr Parkes how heavy goods vehicles are directed to Frost Lane. Mr Parkes replied that they are directed off the A326 from the Hardley Roundabout via Fawley Road but it was felt that this is not clearly signposted. It was agreed to investigate the matter.

Members felt that the 20 mph speed limit should be actively pursued in the Parish so it was agreed to investigate the matter at a future meeting of the General Purposes and Finance Committee.

452/07 **Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26**

The Chairman was asked whether he was aware that a new family were living in the car park in Shore Road and to clarify the position on the family who have been living in the layby for several months.

The Chairman replied that he was not aware of the new arrivals but would investigate the matter. The family who have been living in the layby for several months have been taken to court 5 times and are due there again in February.

453/07 **Reports of Committees**

(a) Planning Committee – 22 October 2007

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 22 October 2007.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 22 October 2007 be received and adopted.

(b) Planning Committee – 12 November 2007

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

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 12 November 2007 be received and adopted.

(c) Amenities Committee – 12 November 2007

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

RESOLVED

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

(d) Planning Committee – 19 November 2007

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

It was agreed that the minutes be amended to indicate that Mr Parkes had offered his apologies for his absence from this meeting.

RESOLVED

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

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

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

RESOLVED

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

454/07 **Budget and Precept for 2008/2009**

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

RESOLVED

1. That the budgets for the Amenities and General Purposes and Finance Committees be accepted.
2. That the Council Precept upon New Forest District Council for the sum of £525,385.00 for the twelve months commencing 1 April 2008 be accepted.
3. That the fees for 2008/09 as set out be adopted.

455/07 **Representatives on Outside Bodies – New Forest District Council – Environmental Protection Liaison Committee**

As Councillor Bennett is no longer able to attend meetings of this committee, a replacement was sought.

RESOLVED

That Councillor Mike Short represent this Council on the Environmental Protection Liaison Committee.

456/07 **Committee Membership**

A replacement member was sought to serve on the General Purposes and Finance Committee as Councillor Bennett is no longer able to.

RESOLVED

That Councillor McLean be elected to serve on the General Purposes and Finance Committee.

457/07 **Future Matters – The Sustainable Community Strategy for the New Forest District 2008-2012**

Consideration was given to how best to respond to the above consultation document.

RESOLVED

That a working party comprising Mr Short, Mr M Wade, Mr Uglow, Mrs Robinson and officers of the Council compile a response to be presented to Council.

458/07 **Accounts for Payment**

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 3636-3695 inclusive, totalling £23,857.53, be approved and paid.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm

Chairman

Date

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