

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 Wednesday 12 September 2012 at 8 pm

- Members: *Mrs M Robinson (Chairman) – in the Chair
- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| oMr J Binns | *Mr M Short |
| *Mr B Dash | *Mrs B Smith |
| oMr R Guy | oMr D Smith |
| *Mr C Harrison | *Mr A Wade |
| *Mrs M McLean | *Mr M Wade |
| *Mr G Parkes | *Mr S Wade |
- In attendance: Mr D J Shimpe (Clerk to the Council)
Mr S Spencer (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
Mrs C Patterson (Minute Clerk)
Mr M Kendall (Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor)
Mr D Melsome (Assistant Clerk)
- Also present: James Bawn (NHS Hampshire)
Fran Buxey (NHS Hampshire)
PCSO Dan Carlin (Hampshire Police)
6 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press
- oMrs A McEvoy - Hampshire County Councillor
oMr M Harris – New Forest District Councillor
- * Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

The Chairman began the meeting by pointing out the display of Olympic Torches. One had been carried through Brockenhurst by Steve Baker and the Paralympic Torch had been carried through Brent by Ann McDonald alongside some members from the Handy Trust.

The Chairman spoke of her pride in the community and sent her congratulations to all concerned.

110/12 Presentation of "Building a Future for Hythe Hospital – West Hampshire NHS"

James Bawn of NHS Hampshire gave a presentation on the future of Hythe Hospital.

Work has been taking place for the past two years with a view to bringing the Hospital up to date in a way that meets the needs of the community. The inpatient beds previously provided have been closed and the service is now delivered from local nursing homes.

A survey has been made of the accommodation available on the site. The Ambulance Station and GP Practice will remain under the current ownership but the War Memorial Hospital Building and a 1960s built building are available for future usage.

Of the options considered the two most favourable are to refurbish existing buildings or demolish them and rebuild, both of which would incur similar costs.

Following engagement with stakeholders, GPs and the general public, a schedule of services needed now and allowing for future expansion has been produced; these could be provided using around half the floor space currently provided. Any new building provided would be best situated on the site currently occupied by the War Memorial Hospital. During any refurbishment or rebuild services would continue to be provided elsewhere on the site.

Mr Bawn reassured members that if it was decided to build a new hospital it would be afforded War Memorial status.

It has not yet been decided how the project will be funded. Various options are available including private finance and the sale of surplus sites or land not needed at the Hythe Hospital site.

Discussions are taking place with planning officers concerning car parking and tree preservation on the site for any future designs. Consultation will also take place with private householders on the site.

It was agreed that the provision of a Minor Injuries Unit would be added to the list of clinics and services under consideration following consultation with stakeholders and the public.

The Strategic Outline Paper has already been approved and is now with the Strategic Health Authority. Once this has been approved in around 2 months time a Business Case will be produced. Stage 1 should take around 8 months and Stage 2 a further 6 or 7 months. It is anticipated that construction time will be up to 24 months.

The Chairman thanked Mr Bawn for his presentation and stated that the amount of consultation and engagement put in on the project has been exemplary.

111/12 Declarations of Interest

Mr Parkes disclosed a personal interest in Minute 126/12 as he is Chairman of Waterside Heritage. He considered his interest to be prejudicial and would leave the meeting and take no part in the discussion or vote.

112/12 Minutes

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 8 August 2012.

Minute 94/12

It was pointed out that Mr A Wade asked whether the Chairman had been aware of the closure of Julian Graves and the Chairman had replied that she had been aware.

Minute 99/12

Mr Dash advised members that a survey will take place on 17 September 2012 at the proposed site of the Langdown Lawn pedestrian crossing of vehicles and pedestrians.

RESOLVED

That, subject to the above, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 8 August 2012 be signed by the Chairman as correct.

113/12 Public Forum

Community Safety Report

PCSO Dan Carlin advised the meeting that it had been a quieter summer than normal and no changes had been experienced in assaults and theft. Anti Social behaviour has seen a 23% drop over the same period last year. This has been attributed to the inclement weather and an increased visual presence.

There have been 3 or 4 more burglaries than the same time last year, mainly because of thefts of lawnmowers and bicycles from garden sheds. 2 arrests were made of people entering an empty home which have been linked to further problems.

Hardy Drive Woodland

Angus Brown told the meeting that he had last attended a meeting of the Council more than 2 years previously and had asked for help in securing the future of woodland off Hardy Drive. He was delighted to be attending to witness the signing of a 999 year lease which would secure the woodland for generations and thanked the Officers of the Parish Council for their assistance.

Bicycles in Pedestrian Precinct

Mr Uglow asked whether any progress had been made in enforcing the no cycling area in the pedestrian precinct in Hythe centre.

Mr Dash advised the meeting that the matter had been problematic due to the fact that before pedestrianisation cycling had been permitted along the road but a prohibition order is close to being brought in.

Mr Uglow passed a list of roads and hedgerows which he felt needed attention to the Deputy Clerk for consideration.

114/12 Chairman's Announcements

Age Concern New Forest will be holding an AGM at Marchwood Village Hall on 26 September 2012 at 1 pm. The theme of the meeting will be "Keeping Yourself Safe".

The 65th AGM of the Hampshire Association of Local Councils will be held on 27 October 2012 between 10.30 am and 1 pm at Hartley Wintney.

115/12 Reports of the County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish

The Inspector has commented on the Minerals and Waste Plan and Forest Lodge Farm remains included.

Central government funding is available for transport infrastructure. It was hoped that it could be used to improve the bus station area at the ferry yard but General Estates are not willing to sell the land. Mr Dash suggested that the County Council implements the necessary work in return for a 20 year lease on the land but it appears that the bus company do not want to use the area.

Any designs to improve the area will be brought to the Parish Council for consultation.

116/12 Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish

The Task and Finish Group continues to consult on Council Tax Benefits, however only the Citizens Advice Bureau and 50 members of the public responded. Further information will be placed in newspapers.

The Planning and Development Control Committee refused planning applications at 1 Home Farm Cottages and Curlew Close.

The New Forest Environmental Liaison Committee will be meeting on 11 October 2012 at 7 pm in the Community Centre in Brinton Lane.

The Licensing Committee have identified £3.2 million in savings which could be made by the end of the year.

It has been agreed with the Taxi Association to support a training course for drivers who operate wheelchair suitable vehicles.

A review has been made of licensing policy which has tightened up terminology and simplified the policy.

All arboricultural services for the District Council will now be provided by the New Forest National Park Authority with existing officers transferring to ensure there is no detriment to the service. A £75,000 pa saving is anticipated.

117/12 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies

Healthwatch, funded by Hampshire County Council, will be bringing Advocacy to the area from 1 April 2013.

There is a possibility that blood tests and flu jabs will be provided by pharmacies in the future.

Social Services are running a "Say it Once" campaign in which patients can complete forms with personal information to assist in their care if they are taken into hospital.

118/12 **Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports**

Mrs Smith asked that the new phone number for the tree service be circulated as soon as it is known.

Mrs Robinson replied that a launch date for the service has not yet been decided upon.

Mr Dash stated that the previously mentioned blood testing facility to be provided by pharmacies would be complex.

Mr Parkes asked Mr Dash why the bus company did not want to park off road and whether Highways Division would consider parking 2 buses and several taxis on a narrow bend safe.

Mr Dash replied that the questions had already been asked and were being pursued.

Mr A Wade asked Mr Dash whether there were plans to look for more gravel in the area.

Mr Dash replied that there were not.

119/12 **Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26**

There were no questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26.

120/12 **Reports of Committees**

Planning Committee – 8 August 2012

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 8 August 2012.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 8 August 2012 be received and adopted.

121/12 **Conclusion of Annual Audit 2011/2012**

Consideration was given to the Annual Return for 2011/2012. Members congratulated the Clerk that it had been returned without qualification or comment.

RESOLVED

That the Conclusion of the Annual Audit 2011/2012 be noted.

122/12 **Clayfields Sports Centre**

Consideration was given to the notes of the Clayfields Sports Centre Working Party.

RESOLVED

1. That the Parish Council agrees in principle to lease Clayfields Sports Centre to Hythe and Dibden Football Club.
2. That negotiations are continued with Hythe and Dibden Football Club on the terms and conditions of a lease.

123/12 **Ewart Recreation Play Area**

Consideration was given to the proposed maintenance at Ewart Recreation Play Area.

RESOLVED

That the proposed maintenance at Ewart Recreation Play Area be implemented .

124/12 Use of Developers Contributions – Priorities

Consideration was given to a request for comments from the District Council on the proposed use of developers contributions and any priorities.

It was suggested that funding towards the new youth club building would be a priority. If this was not permissible following the current refurbishment plan for play areas would be advisable.

RESOLVED

That any ideas for the use of developer contributions be forwarded to the Clerk for consideration.

125/12 Proposed Extinguishment of Highway Rights – “Greentrees”, Southampton Road, Hythe SO45 5AA

Consideration was given to a request to extinguish Highway Rights at the above address.

Members were concerned that any boundary fencing erected following the Extinguishment of Highway Rights would encroach on the footway and cause it to be too narrow to allow wheelchairs and mobility scooters to pass comfortably.

RESOLVED

That the minimum width required for the footpath be ascertained. If the answer is satisfactory Hampshire County Council be advised that the Parish Council has no objection to the Extinguishment of Highway Rights at “Greentrees”, Southampton Road, Hythe.

126/12 Grant Application 2012/13

Consideration was given to the allocation of Grant Aid in conjunction with the recommendations of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee.

RESOLVED

That grants be made to the following organisations for the amounts stated, from the 2012/2013 Grant Aid budget:-

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| CAB | £1704 |
| Community First Direct | £1263 |
| Friends of Forest Front NR | £ 477 |
| Waterside Heritage | £ 309 |
| New Forest Dis Inf Service | £ 680 |
| Hythe and Dibden Short Mat Bowls Club | £ 80 |

127/12 Localising Support for Council Tax – Council tax base and funding for local precepting authorities

Consideration was given to the comment in the consultation document that the council tax base for precepting authorities would be calculated excluding council tax support reductions to provide certainty over funding for local precepting authorities.

It was agreed that the Association of Local Councils of the New Forest District be thanked for its assistance in this matter.

RESOLVED

That the suggested proposals in Localising Support for Council Tax be supported.

128/12 Signing of Documents –

999 year lease for land off Hardy Drive, Hythe

RESOLVED

That authority be given to sign the documents as required by the Clerk to the Council

129/12 Accounts for Payment

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 7990-8068 inclusive, totalling £78,497.90, be approved and paid.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Chairman

Date

mncou158

1 Oct October 2012