

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 13 February 2013 at 8 pm

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

oMr J Binns	*Mr M Short
*Mr B Dash	*Mrs B Smith
*Mr R Guy	*Mr D Smith
*Mr C Harrison	*Mr A Wade
*Mrs M McLean	*Mr M Wade
oMr G Parkes	*Mr S Wade
oMr M Harris	

In attendance: Mr D J Shimpe (Clerk to the Council)
Mr S Spencer (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
Mrs B Edwards (Minute Clerk)
Mr D Melsome (Assistant Clerk)

* Indicates attendance
o Indicates apologies for absence

250/12 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

251/12 Minutes

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 30 January 2013.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 30 January 2013 be signed by the Chairman as correct.

252/12 Public Forum

There were no questions from members of the public.

253/12 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman reminded members of the potential meeting date on 27 February 2013 at 8 p.m, should there be any reduction to the identifiable grant and transitional grant awarded by the New Forest District Council at their meeting on 25 February 2013.

The Chairman advised members of the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Wednesday 27 March 2013 and requested that reports required from District and County Councillors should be received at the Council Offices no later than 10 March 2013.

The Chairman had received a report from PCSO Mark Attrill who was unable to attend the meeting. There had been an increase in vehicle crime across the entire Waterside area and a Police operation to tackle the matter was planned. A reduction in anti-social behaviour within the High Street area of Hythe was reported. Monthly beat surgeries in all care homes within the Parish had proved very productive. The Junior PCSO scheme at one school had finished and would be set up at another school within the Parish.

254/12 Reports of the County Councillors on County Council matters concerning the Parish

It was reported that the County Council would not be levying an increase in its council tax element for the forthcoming tax year.

A further request was made for the Police to be informed regarding vehicles obstructing pavements within the Parish, particularly South Street and New Road, which causes difficulties for residents, especially those with visual difficulties.

255/12 Reports of District Councillors on District Council matters concerning the Parish

New Forest District Council Housing Cabinet has agreed to increase rents by 4.1% in an attempt to bring rents in line with the private sector. Some residents are distressed and have raised grave concerns regarding affordability.

A reduction has been negotiated regarding the lighting of the McCarthy & Stone development site at Southampton Road. The site will now be lit from 7 a.m to 7 p.m.

The planning application for the dwelling at Oakwood Cottage, Oak Road, Dibden Purlieu was agreed by 10 votes to 2 at the meeting of the Planning Development Control Committee.

Developers' contributions have considerably reduced following the Government's decision to allow contributions to be waived if the development is deemed un-viable.

Glass recycling within the Parish is to start in June 2013.

Offices can now be changed from business to residential units without planning permission.

The pay and display car park at Rumbridge Street, owned by New Forest District Council is operating at a loss. Hampshire County Council may be occupying the DSS Offices in Rumbridge Street in the near future, with a staff of 300 who could potentially use the Rumbridge Street car park.

A survey was carried out to ascertain whether Blue Badge holders should pay for parking. 92 voted for, 152 against, with 7 not sure. It was agreed that the time allowance on the £20 parking clock would increase from 3 to 4 hours.

It was reported that the transfer of ownership of the car park at Oak Road has still not completed. The target date for completion is 31 March 2013. The Clerk to the Council advised members that as the legal papers were still with Solicitors, the completion date of 31 March 2013 was unlikely to be achieved.

256/12 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies

Mrs Smith advised members that she had attended a meeting of the New Forest Transition Group. The difficulties of engaging the community were discussed. It is hoped that a planned exhibition in the future will encourage community participation.

257/12 Questions to District and County Councillors and Representatives on Outside Bodies arising from their reports

Mr Dash had heard that Hampshire County Council staff would be moving to offices at Hounslow and sought clarification from Mrs McLean on whether County employees would have to pay for car parking at Rumbridge Street. Mrs McLean believed they would.

Mrs Smith advised Mr Harrison that she found it unacceptable for developers to avoid paying contributions when they benefit from the existing infrastructure and suggested that the matter should be pursued through the Local Government Association.

Mr A Wade sought clarification from Mrs McLean regarding who was interviewed in respect of parking charges for blue badge holders. Mrs McLean believed that Age Concern, Access for All and other New Forest disablement groups were surveyed. Mr M Wade advised members that blue badge holders are entitled to park on roads where yellow lines are present.

258/12 Questions under Standing Orders 25 and 26

Mr A Wade asked for an update regarding Hythe & Dibden Football Club moving to Clayfields Sports Centre. The Clerk informed members that a planning application had been submitted.

259/12 Reports of Committees

Planning Committee – 30 January 2013

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 30 January 2013

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 30 January 2013 be received and adopted.

260/12 Financial Monitoring – Period Ending 31 December 2012

A copy of the Council's Financial Monitoring – Period Ending 31 December 2012 had been circulated to all members, members considered the variances highlighted in the report and noted the disappointing reduction in revenue for hire fees relating to Clayfields and Shore Road football pitches. The Clerk advised that this was due to inclement weather.

261/12 Review of Direct Debit Payments

A copy of the payment methods other than by cheque had been circulated to all members. Members were asked to approve the payment methods.

RESOLVED

That the Review of Direct Debit Payments listed be approved.

262/12 Update on Forward Plan 2011 – 2015

A copy of the Forward Plan 2011 - 2015 had been circulated to all members. Members considered that good progress had been made. Three areas of concern were identified where little progress had been made: Young Persons Strategy, Older Persons Strategy and Investigating Methods of Reducing Vacant Shops. It was suggested that the Young Persons Strategy required further work.

The Clerk advised that the investigation of reducing vacant shops is ongoing by the Parish Development Officer. There were also three projects being worked on which were not on the Forward Plan: The Youth Club & Skate Park at Netley View, the Play Area at Netley View and the Pavilion at Shore Road.

RESOLVED that

1. The Clerk would write to local schools regarding the Young Persons Strategy with a view to a representative of the Parish Council attending the School Councils as an observer.
2. Members would identify future projects, ideas for discussion at a future meeting.

263/12 Accounts for Payment

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

RESOLVED

That accounts as detailed in Vouchers 8385 – 8416 inclusive, totalling £3812.33, be approved and paid.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Chairman

Date

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12.4.13