

Minutes of the Meeting of Hythe and Dibden Parish Council

Held at The Grove, 25 St John's Street, Hythe
on Wednesday 13 January 2016 at 8.00 p.m

p Cllr C Harrison (Chairman)
p Cllr Mrs M McLean (Vice Chairman)

Councillors:

p P Armstrong
p J Binns
p M Bovey
p E Davey
p Mrs J Fowler
p T Johnson

Councillors:

p G Parkes
p D Poole
p M Short
p A Wade
p M Wade

p = present
a = apologies
n = no apologies received

In Attendance

a Cllr B Andrews (NFDC)
p Cllr K Crisell (NFDC)
n Cllr P Fawkes

Officers in attendance

Mrs S Bennett (Clerk to the Council)
Mr S Spencer (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
Mrs B Edwards (Minute Clerk)

5 Members of the Public

232/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations made or requests for dispensations.

233/15 MINUTES

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 16 December 2015. Cllr. Malcolm Wade queried item 223/15 as he believed the agreement was for three or four councillors to be included on a working group to oversee expenditure; with the Chairman making the decision on the number of councillors to be involved. The Chairman confirmed the number is three councillors.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 16 December 2015 be signed by the Chairman as correct subject to the above amendment.

At this point in the meeting the Chairman advised Members that the public forum agenda item had been moved to after the reports from Councillors. It was pointed out by other Members that this item is covered by standing orders and changes to the order of the agenda must be agreed by Members at Full Council. It was agreed to make the matter an agenda item at the Council meeting in February and the Public Forum for this meeting would proceed as normal.

234/15 PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs Mary King stated that her son was the head chef at Mytime Active Golf Centre at Dibden and that she was speaking on his behalf. As a social enterprise with charitable objectives, Mytime Active is keen to give back to the community in which it operates. Mrs King asked Members to recommend any youth or elderly groups within the Parish that could benefit.

235/15 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:

He attended a very good Youth photo exhibition at St. Andrew's Church.

There is a proposal to hold a nationwide Beacon Lighting in honour of the Queen's Birthday which will be an agenda item at the next Full Council meeting.

A better sound system is to be investigated for the Council Chamber to facilitate better hearing ability at the back of the Chamber.

The two cross street banners displaying 'Merry Christmas' at the entrance to Pylewell Precinct and the High Street stopped working just before Christmas. The Chairman made the decision not to effect repairs due to cost implications.

Inspector Tribe from Hampshire Police will be at the Parish Hall on the 27th January 2016 to explain what his staff are dealing with locally and the changes that are happening within the Police Service. Inspector Tribe will also take questions from the public.

Various types of Flood Sacks will be on display for Members to view at the Parish Hall on 27th January 2016. The matter will then be an agenda item for the council meeting in February.

Members of the Christmas Lights Working Party had received an email concerning future Speciality markets. The Chairman asked all Members for their views on bringing extra markets to Hythe. The overall feeling was one of support but Members asked that Officers look into the costs incurred and whether any of the costs can be mitigated as well as methods for improving the advertising of the events.

The Annual Parish Meeting is being held on Wednesday 16 March at 7 p.m in the Parish Hall.

There is no agenda item on Public Protection Notice as there is so little information available on how the notices are working around the UK.

The Parish Council has heard that The Herald will no longer facilitate the Citizen's Award. The matter will be an agenda item in February for the Parish Council to consider.

The Chairman announced the death of ex Councillor John Moore who was himself a previous Chairman of the Council. Council Members, Officers and Members of the public observed a minute's silence.

236/15 REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Malcolm Wade had previously submitted a written report. He updated Members on Hampshire County Council's (HCC) response to the Boundary Commission. HCC voted for the New Forest to reduce from 11 to 10 Councillors, with Eastleigh gaining one instead.

At the same meeting, devolution was also discussed with HCC voting to continue working towards this concept.

237/15 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr. James Binns

Cllr. Binns reported on the Local Government Boundary Review. NFDC has agreed with the decision taken at HCC to recommend that the current county boundaries remain, increasing the number of seats on the County Council from 78 to 79. Cllr. Binns suggested that Lyndhurst & Fordingbridge, Brockenhurst and Ringwood constituency names are replaced with North, Mid and West Forest which was agreed by NFDC.

The re-structuring at NFDC has now taken place, with a current saving to NFDC of £450K to £500K.

The Cabinet at NFDC has received a report which clarified the financial settlement from central Government. This means that NFDC will have to find savings of around £3 million over the next four years. A number of working groups will probably be set up to look at where further money can be saved, or look at changing the way NFDC provides services, such as contracting out or bringing services back in-house.

Cllr. Binns was involved in allocating grants to applications received. Subject to approval, a total of approximately £340,000 is to be allocated to voluntary organisations throughout the district. There was a deficit of applications from the Waterside and Cllr Binns will be looking at that.

A working party is being set up to decide whether the lease for Dibden Golf Club, currently held by Mytime, should be maintained. Income figures are looking healthy. Cllrs Binns informed Members that he will be attending a quarterly meeting on 4th February 2016.

238/15 **REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

There were no reports given.

239/15 **QUESTIONS TO DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES ARISING FROM THEIR REPORTS**

Cllr. Alex Wade asked Cllr. Malcolm Wade whether there was any work that could be done to mitigate the flooding that had occurred on the A326. Cllr. M Wade responded that he would make enquiries, however this particular stretch of road had never flooded before and the drains are not kitted out to deal with large deluges.

240/15 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE CHAIR OF COUNCIL**

Cllr. Maureen McLean asked if the Chairman was aware that, thanks to the efforts of HDPC's Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor, there was a Christmas tree in the village centre last year and expressed thanks to the member of staff for his efforts. The Chairman responded that he was aware.

Cllr. Maureen McLean asked if the Chairman was aware that Cllr. James Binns had successfully completed a Masters Degree in Democracy and Comparative Politics within a one year time frame, rather than two and wished to pass on her congratulations. The Chairman responded that he was not aware. All Members congratulated Cllr. Binns on his achievement.

Cllr. Martin Bovey asked if the Chairman was aware that he was holding a coffee morning on 22nd January 2016 at 10.30 a.m to raise funds for flood victims in Scotland. The Chairman responded that he was not aware.

Cllr. Bovey asked if the Chairman was aware that the selling off of St. John's Street car park to Lidl would have a detrimental effect on the history of the village and available parking for residents. The Chairman declared an interest and handed over to Cllr. Maureen McLean, the Vice Chairman

Cllr. Peter Armstrong asked if the Chairman was aware that all District Councillors had been contacted in respect of this matter, whilst Cllr. Jo Fowler asked if the Chairman was aware that the land was formerly owned by the Navy. Cllr. Malcolm Wade asked if the Chairman was aware that the appropriate channel for dealing with the parking issue is through the planning process. Cllr. McLean responded that she was aware of all these matters and passed the chair back to Cllr. Harrison.

Cllr. Graham Parkes asked the Chairman why the village Christmas Tree did not have any decorations on it. The Chairman responded that he would make enquiries.

Cllr. Malcolm Wade asked if the Chairman was aware that some of the residents at Kensington Fields put their rubbish out too early and would the Parish Council consider using the ACSO service to do a mail drop to inform residents. The Chairman responded that it was anti-social behaviour by a minority of consistent offenders and contact would be made with NFDC whose remit it is to collect refuse.

Cllr. Martin Bovey had recently been in Wales and noted that the public car parks were free to use after 3 p.m. Cllr. Bovey asked the Chairman if he was aware of this and whether a similar scheme could be adopted in Hythe. The Chairman responded that he was unable to answer the question and that it was a matter for the Cabinet at NFDC. Cllr. Malcolm Wade asked the Chairman if the Parish Council could write to the District Council to ask the question. The Chairman responded that this would be possible.

241/15 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 9 December 2015.

RESOLVED that

The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 9 December 2015 be received and adopted.

242/15 **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the Personnel Committee held on 16 December 2015.

REOLVED that

The minutes of the Personnel Committee held on 16 December 2015 be received and adopted.

243/15 **CLEAN FOR THE QUEEN**

Cllr. Armstrong informed Members of the 'Clean for the Queen' campaign, an initiative by Keep Britain Tidy in recognition of the Queen's 90th birthday. This national campaign is being supported by NFDC, the National Park Authority and the Forestry Commission, with NFDC providing litter pickers, rubbish bags and insurance as well as clearing away the collected rubbish. Information is available on the NFDC website.

Members were asked to assist in this event which is taking place on the 5th and 6th March 2016.

Cllr Wade asked that NFDC look at 'rubbish minimisation' by going into schools to talk to the children about recycling.

RESOLVED that

The Deputy Clerk will liaise with Cllr. Peter Armstrong regarding the logistics of the event within the Parish.

244/15 **ACSO QUARTER 3 REPORT**

Consideration was given to the above report.

RESOLVED that

The ACSO Report for the 3rd Quarter be noted.

245/15 **FINANCE 2015 - 2016**

Consideration was given to the Variance Report to the end of December 2015, Bank Reconciliation for November 2015 and the Schedule of Payments for the period 10 December 2015 to 5 January 2016.

RESOLVED that

- a) The variance report to the end of December 2015 be noted.
- b) The bank reconciliation for November 2015 be noted.

- c) Accounts as detailed totalling £43,248.29 be agreed and paid.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m

Chairman

Date

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