

**PARISH OF HYTHE AND DIBDEN**  
**REPORT OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

held at the Parish Hall, West Street, Hythe  
on Wednesday 26 March 2014  
at 7.30pm

Present: Hythe and Dibden Parish Councillors

\*Mrs Brenda Smith (Chairman of the Parish Council) in the Chair

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

\* Indicates attendance

o Indicates apologies for absence

In attendance: Mr S Spencer (Deputy Clerk to the Council)  
Mr M Kendall (Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor)  
Mrs B Edwards (Minute Clerk)

Also present: 9 Members of the public

**1. Presentation of the Community Spirit Award**

The Chairman reported that this year's winners of the Community Spirit Award were;

**David Larbalestier** – David was given the award for his continuing voluntary work at Hythe and Marchwood Youth Clubs and for providing first aid cover free of charge at various local events where he and his team also demonstrate CPR to members of the public. Additionally, David passes on his extensive first aid knowledge to local Scout groups enabling young people to gain first aid badges whilst enhancing their life skills.

**Shani Elms** – Shani was given the award for supporting St. Andrew's Church by offering pastoral care to people who have suffered bereavement. Four years ago Shani set up and runs the Solo group which provides regular meetings, outings and holidays for divorced, single and bereaved people. In addition, she gives her time to a number of other local organisations including being the Treasurer and an active helper at the Waterside Gateway Club for adults with learning disabilities.

Their awards were presented by Brenda Smith, Chairman of the Parish Council, on behalf of Janice Taylor from the Waterside Herald.

**2. Presentation of the Doug Horrill Award**

The Doug Horrill award from Age Concern (New Forest) in memory of Doug Horrill was presented for the second year.

Jean Adams from Age Concern New Forest presented the award to;

**Mary Whettingsteel** – Mary is a volunteer for Age Concern where she undertakes regular fundraising and has become a good friend to elderly people.

For the past 20 years Mary has run the Pop-in Group, a venue for elderly people to gather for coffee, biscuits and a chat. Mary has even hosted the Pop-in at her own home when a hall is

not available. Mary will be 'hanging up her apron' at the end of March when the Pop-in will also be closing due to a fall in numbers.

**3. To sign the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27 March 2013**

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27 March 2013, having been circulated were then signed by the Chairman.

**4. Annual Report of the Parish Council**

The Chairman presented the Annual Report of the Council, which was included as part of the Parish Picture publication. The Chairman advised that the Parish Picture would be distributed to all households in the Parish. In addition copies would be available at strategic places within the Parish.

**5. Parish Council Accounts for year ended 31 March 2013**

The Deputy Clerk reported that the Council's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2013 had been audited as correct and were available, by appointment, for inspection. The Deputy Clerk highlighted a reserve value of £454,843 of which £218,767 had been earmarked for projects, including planned maintenance of public buildings and future maintenance of bus shelters.

**6. Parish Council Observations on Accounts for year ending 31 March 2014**

The Deputy Clerk reported on the Council's accounts for the year ending 31 March 2014. The precept for a Band D property had increased to £74.85 which enabled the community to benefit from the continuation of all its existing services, including the sponsorship of a PCSO, a contribution to providing the CCTV and an increased contribution to the Handy Trust.

The Deputy Clerk pointed out that for the financial year 2014/5 payment to the Parish Council by the District Council of the council tax benefit scheme had been reduced by 25%.

**7. Reports of the District Councillors**

The Chairman presented the reports of the District Councillors, which were in printed form.

**8. Report of the County Councillor**

The Chairman presented Malcolm Wade's report, which was in printed form.

**9. Questions arising from the reports**

There were no questions arising from the reports.

**10. Consideration of Resolutions**

No resolutions had been received.

The meeting closed at 7.46 p.m.