

Minutes of the Meeting of Hythe and Dibden Parish Council

Held at The Grove, 25 St John's Street, Hythe
on Wednesday 22nd November at 7.00 pm

p Maureen McLean (Chairman)
p James Binns (Vice Chairman)

Councillors:

p P Armstrong
p M Clark
p E Davey
p J Fowler
p C Harrison
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

p Cllr B Andrews (NFDC)
p Cllr K Crisell (NFDC)
a Cllr A McEvoy (HCC)

Officers in attendance

Mrs S Bennett (Clerk to the Council)
Mr S Spencer (Deputy Clerk to the Council)
Miss C Donnelly (Minute Clerk)

5 Members of the Public

Prior to the start of the meeting, one minute's silence was held to remember Ken Thornber, former Leader of Hampshire County Council who was previously a County ward member for this Parish.

155/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of interest made and no requests for dispensation received.

156/17 MINUTES

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th October 2017.

RESOLVED that

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th October
2017 be agreed

157/17 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman gave a tribute to Ken Thornber. It has been arranged for the Parish Council's flag to be flown at half mast on 1st December 2017, the date of his funeral. The Chairman sends her condolences to his wife and family. Cllr. Malcolm Wade also gave a tribute.

The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council office will be closed from 4.30pm on Friday 22nd December until 9am on Tuesday 2nd January. It was agreed that as the pre Christmas business would be concluded at the November meeting that the Full Council meeting in December will not be convened unless there is urgent business requiring the attention of Council.

Hythe Pier Heritage Association will be having a public meeting at the Parish Hall on Thursday 30th November at 7.30pm. The Chairman encouraged everyone to go along.

The Chairman thanked Amanda, Shirley, Jane and Elizabeth from Hythe Alive for their fantastic work with the Christmas Lights, assisted by the Parish Council officers and maintenance team. The Chairman also thanked Jane Bidwell for provided the beautiful Christmas wreaths.

The Community Christmas tree, purchased from the Chairman's Allowance, will be in Hythe Library from 1pm on Friday 24th November. She thanked all the Councillors and staff for donating decorations for it and would welcome more.

The Junior PCSOs uniforms have arrived. The polo shirt and cap, embroidered with the Hythe and Dibden logo, were funded from the Community Safety Projects fund. A photo of the children in their uniforms was shown to Members.

The Chairman has written to Michael Lane, Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire, urging him to make a decision as soon as possible regarding two additional PCSOs for Hythe and Dibden.

The Chairman read out a letter from Cruse Bereavement Care, conveying their thanks to the Council for their recent grant of £250.

158/17 **CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR UPDATE**

PCSO Howard Oakley sent apologies that the Policing Team were unable attend the meeting due to operational commitments.

In a letter that was read out by the Chairman, PCSO Howard Oakley said that in relation to the increase in youth drug activity the Policing Team are assisting the local schools and other agencies to offer intervention and target those who are consuming/taking drugs.

159/17 REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Malcolm Wade reported that in the Hampshire County Council meeting of the 2nd November the measures to cut spending were voted on. The Liberal Democrats put in an amendment for the officers to go away and think again and look for other methods to save the money without having to reduce services. Also, it was suggested that an administration campaign to central government be undertaken to change their approach to local government funding. However, the Conservatives did not support the amendment.

REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Bill Andrews drew attention to the White Ribbon Campaign and White Ribbon Day on 25th November, part of a global movement to put a stop to male violence against women and girls. White Ribbons are available free of charge at all New Forest District Council Information Offices.

Cllr. James Binns reported that the application process for grant funding from NFDC has now closed and that difficult decisions will need to be made.

He was happy to announce that Applemore Learner Pool will be reopening soon.

Cllr. Binns is looking at holding a Democracy Day next year, where the NFDC offices will be opened up for the day to show young people the work they do.

Cllr. Binns reported that the changes to the Housing Policy will have a huge impact on New Forest District Council. For example, if someone deliberately makes themselves homeless, NFDC will have 48 hours to give them an interview and provide accommodation. This will put pressure on the service but they will rise to the challenge.

Cllr. Alex Wade reported that the numbers in the New Forest District Council Cabinet will increase from 6 members to 8 members.

Cllr. Peter Armstrong gave a report on his estate inspection of Netley View with District Officers, where he resolved a number of the residents' queries.

Cllr. Armstrong attended Film New Forest with Film UK and reported that they are looking at venues and places to offer for filming and crew.

He attended the Remembrance Services at All Saints' Church and Hythe Memorial Hospital with fellow Councillors.

Roofing work on Netley View/Butts Ash is moving forward to completion. The Council have purchased another property and this has been added to the contract.

Cllr. Armstrong reported that the Forest Front Skatepark is progressing well.

160/17 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr. James Binns reported that he and the Clerk of the Council had a productive meeting with the Archdeacon regarding the Butts Ash Community Association and

St Anne's Church and that there is a plan agreed to develop the new lease arrangement.

161/17 **PUBLIC FORUM**

Mr Stephen Maher, resident of Atheling Road, asked about the minutes from November's meeting where it was reported that an application for parking restrictions in the Atheling Road and Mousehole Lane areas had been submitted. Mr Maher asked if it was possible to see the submission. It was suggested that his details be taken and that Cllr. Poole would discuss it with him after the meeting.

162/17 **QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDERS 25 AND 26**

Cllr. Chris Harrison asked the Chairman if she was aware that the Forest Front Skatepark will be opening on 1st December 2017. The Chairman confirmed that she was aware.

Cllr. Chris Harrison asked the Chairman if she was aware that 22nd November is the date for the count of the number of rough sleepers in the Parish. If anyone knows of anyone rough sleeping, please let NFDC know as it is important to record the numbers.

Cllr. Chris Harrison asked the Chairman if she was aware of the recent comments on Facebook regarding the Jones Lane Skatepark. He noted that Cllr. Mark Clark and Cllr. Malcolm Wade had contributed to the discussion on social media. Cllr. Harrison requested that the Chairman ask Cllr. Malcolm Wade about his comment "regards putting in a new skate park I think that is a good option for the future, when we can get the funds but with the make up of the current Parish council I am not sure if they would support it."

The Chairman asked Cllr. Malcolm Wade about his comments regarding the Jones Lane Skate Park. Cllr. Malcolm Wade responded that that is what he believes.

Cllr. Malcolm Wade asked the Chairman if the Council will consider replacing the Jones Lane Skate Park. The Chairman explained that there will be a meeting of the Play Equipment & Open Space Working Party on 7th December where the provision of facilities for young people on the site will be discussed. The Chairman invited Cllr. Malcolm Wade to attend this meeting. The Chairman also said that the Council will go out to Consultation when considering the future use of the site.

Cllr. Eric Davey asked Cllr. Malcolm Wade what he based his opinion on that the Parish council would not support a Skate Park. Cllr. Malcolm Wade replied that it was how he felt and if he was wrong he would apologise.

Cllr. Mike Short asked Cllr. Malcolm Wade why he had written that the independents did not vote independently. Cllr Short stated that the independents vote how they feel and for what they think is right, not against Cllr Wade. Cllr Wade acknowledged Cllr Short.

Cllr. Malcolm Wade asked the Chairman why the procedure had changed regarding the Personnel Committee not bringing the Clerk's training consideration to the Full Council meeting to be voted on. The Chairman replied that the process had not changed and the matter was now closed.

Cllr. Graham Parkes asked the District Councillors if they know the costs of having two extra Cabinet members. Cllr. James Binns replied that he will find out the exact figures and report back to Council.

163/17 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 8th November 2017.

RESOLVED that

The Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 8th November 2017 be agreed.

164/17 **SPEED COMPLAINTS**

Cllr. Chris Harrison reported that in his surgeries he has received a number of complaints about speeding. Consideration was given to the suggestion to buy Speed Indicator Devices.

RESOLVED that

The Clerk was instructed to investigate the cost of acquiring and operating a Speed Indicator Devices and to report back to Council.

165/17 **CLAYFIELDS**

The Deputy Clerk gave a report to the Council. The recommendations were considered and

RESOLVED that

- a) Prior to work commencing, Hythe and Dibden Football Club to provide written confirmation to the Council by a qualified person that the wall proposed for removal is not a load bearing wall and that there are no other consequences for the building caused by such a removal.
- b) Prior to work commencing, any appropriate building notices that are required by the Planning Authority are applied for and have received consent. Copies of any approvals must be supplied to the Council upon receipt by HDFC.
- c) All electrical work is undertaken by a qualified Electrician, copies of the installation certificates to be supplied to the Parish Council when available
- d) Any making good and redecoration of the changing room is the responsibility of HDFC

- e) HDFC to notify the Parish Council within one month of the works being completed to arrange an inspection of the works by a Council Officer

166/17 **STRATEGIC PLAN**

Consideration was giving to the Draft Strategic Plan.

RESOLVED that

- a) The draft strategic plan be agreed.
- b) The priority actions as set out in 5.1 and 5.2 be agreed

167/17 **BUDGET 2018/19**

Consideration was given to the budget for 2017 – 2018. A unanimous vote took place and it was

RESOLVED that

- a) The schedule of fees and charges be agreed
- b) The precept of £708640 be agreed
- c) The grant criteria and processes be reviewed by 1st April 2018

168/17 **INTERNAL AUDIT**

Consideration was given to the Internal Audit report

RESOLVED that

The Internal Audit report be noted

The Chairman asked that thanks be passed on to the team and especially the Clerk on behalf of herself and the Council for obtaining an 'exemplary' report. Cllr. Armstrong suggested the internal audit report be put on the Parish Council's website. The Chairman agreed to produce a press release.

169/17 **INTERNAL CONTROL PROCESS**

Consideration was given to the revised internal controls process.

RESOLVED that

The revised internal controls process be agreed and adopted.

170/17 **FINANCE 2017 – 2018**

Consideration was given to the bank reconciliations for October 2017 and the Schedule of Payments for the period 1st October to 31st October 2017.

RESOLVED that

- a) The bank reconciliation for October 2017 be noted.
- b) the accounts for payment as detailed totalling £45,003.79 be agreed and paid

171/17 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED that

The press and public be excluded from the Council Meeting for the following items of business on the grounds they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972.

172/17 **ROYAL GARDEN PARTY**

Consideration was given to nominations for the Royal Garden Party 2018.

RESOLVED that

The selected nominee be put forward as the Parish Council's nomination for the Royal Garden Party 2018.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

Chairman

Date

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