

Minutes of the Meeting of Hythe and Dibden Parish Council

Held at The Grove, 25 St John's Street, Hythe
on Wednesday 24th January 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
a T Johnson

Councillors:

p G Parkes
p D Poole
p M Short
a 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)
n 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)
Helen Bradley Owers (Parish Development Officer)

8 Members of the Public

194/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllr Peter Armstrong made a declaration regarding agenda item 16. He is a director of Love Hythe & The Waterside Ltd. Helen Bradley Owers made a declaration regarding agenda item 6. She is a Trustee and Director of Moviola. Cllr Malcolm Wade declared an interest regarding agenda item 19.

195/17 MINUTES

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th January 2018.

RESOLVED that

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th January
2018 be agreed

196/17 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman read out a request from North Baddesley Parish Council to support them in their objection to cuts to school crossing patrols across Hampshire. It was agreed that a letter in support would be sent.

The Chairman read out a letter from Mr Wilson who congratulated the Parish on the markets and Christmas decorations.

The Chairman announced that the Clerk has met with Hampshire Police and that the Police and Crime Commissioner has approved the provision of 2 PCSOs for Hythe and Dibden that will be in addition to the Neighbourhood Team. The Clerk is currently working with the inspector and the force solicitor and is drafting a revised Agreement between the Parish Council and the PCC. It is anticipated that this revised agreement will be put to Council within the next two months.

The Chairman reported that the owner of the burnt out car on Fern Hill has been traced. The car will be removed as soon as ground conditions permit, at no cost to the council tax payer.

197/17 **CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR UPDATE**

PCSO Vicki Pressey presented the report from the police for the period December 2017 – January 2018.

- Reports of anti-social behaviour are very low. Groups of young people are using the wi-fi at Ewart Recreation Ground and are therefore no longer congregating outside Waitrose and Costa. There have been no reports of anti-social behaviour in the village centre.
- There was been an increase in theft over the Christmas period. The Neighbourhood Policing Team will meet with the Shop Watch co-ordinator on Friday 26th January.
- There has been a spate of arson. Small fires have been started in children's play areas, including Ewart Recreation Ground, Challenger Way and Netley View. Possible suspects have been identified and enquiries are ongoing.
- Contact has been made with New Forest District Council's Enforcement Department regarding the issues of parking on the Promenade. Civil enforcement officers are aware of the location and have been ticketing vehicles. The Policing Team are also issuing tickets and are in the process of educating nearby premises.
- Parking outside schools, including on the zig zags, is an ongoing issue. The Policing Team are focussing on this at the moment, alongside the NFDC officers.
- The Fortnightly Beat Surgeries at Hythe Market have been successful and will continue this year. They will now include officers from nearby parishes.

198/17 **BRAMSHAW AND DISTRICT FILM SOCIETY**

Council received a presentation from Sue Bennison on the Film Society, including start up costs, funding, details of their membership scheme, equipment and operating costs.

The Chairman thanked Sue for attending and for the very informative presentation that will assist the Council in its strategic planning.

199/17 **REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Cllr. Malcolm Wade reported that the expected outturn forecast for 2017/18 is a budget overspend of £7.6 million. The expected 2017/18 outturn forecast for the school's budget is an overspend of £10.3 million. It is anticipated that £2.7 million of savings will be achieved in 2018/19. Some of the planned savings will be delivered beyond the 2019/20 timeframe and this will enable the Department to ensure that any changes to services provided to vulnerable people are well thought through, planned, communicated and coordinated.

Cllr. Malcolm Wade gave an update on the key departmental issues and challenges. These include demand for service, unaccompanied asylum seeking children, 'Transformation to 2019', home to school transport, school financial pressures, national school funding formula, increasing pupil numbers, social work recruitment and retention and partnership arrangements.

Cllr. Malcolm Wade stated that not enough money is being spent on Children's services and the challenges will only get bigger as demand grows.

REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Bill Andrews reported that he has an interim monitoring meeting with Dibden Golf Club on 1st February. He will then report to the Golf Club Task and Finish Group and call a meeting of that Group to discuss proposed rental and fee increases at the centre.

Cllr. Andrews is still attending Audit Committee and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Panel meetings.

He remarked that he enjoys the 'Hythe Peer' newsletter and has used some articles for his own Parish eNewsletter

Cllr. Andrews will be attending the funeral of NFDC Cllr Sophie Beeton.

Cllr. Kate Crisell updated Members about the fire at the Forest Lodge Farm housing development. The developers are awaiting a decision from the insurance underwriters and also the results of a structural report.

Cllr. James Binns reported that the work on the learner pool at Applemore Leisure Centre was completed over the Christmas period and the pool is now up and running. He was pleased to report that membership of the leisure centres has hit 8000.

Cllr Binns reported that £218,000 in Community Grants has been awarded, including grants to New Forest Disability Information Service, Forest Forge, The Handy Trust, Families Matter, Community First New Forest and Night Stop.

Cllr Dan Poole reported that he attended the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

Cllr. Peter Armstrong reported that he attended the Waterside Development Conference and it was good to see such a large number of partners present. The New Forest Brilliance in Business Awards was held on the same day and Cllr Armstrong congratulated the two finalists from the Waterside – Holbury Hardware and Zipusin.

Cllr. Armstrong reported that he is pleased that the new skate park is operational and that the CCTV has been useful. Roofing work by the District Council is being completed, with over 160 new roofs and the renewal of front tiles on a number of properties.

He has become a Director of Love Hythe and Waterside Ltd.

At New Forest District Council, Cllr. Armstrong has attended a data protection presentation. He has been working with CAB as part of a Task and Finish group. At the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel he raised the issue of the need for extra parking in the library car park.

Cllr. Armstrong was pleased to announce that he has been elected as the Vice Chairman for NFDC's Planning Committee.

200/17 **REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr. Maureen McLean reported on the slow progress with the damaged window at the offices of the Dibden Allotment Fund. She acknowledges that it looks a mess and is not very nice for the people working in the offices.

Cllr. Dan Poole reported that he stepped in to attend the Ports Consultative Panel in Southampton. Representatives from Marchwood Parish Council were also in attendance.

Cllr. Chris Harrison reported that the Dibden Allotment Fund stands at £10.6 million. The average return is just under 4%. As a member of their finance committee, he will be looking at ethical investments in the future.

201/17 **PUBLIC FORUM**

Local resident, Mr Uglow, raised concerns about overgrown paths in the Parish. He also stated that there is a sloping footpath on Shore Road which he thinks should be levelled out. The Chairman thanked Mr Uglow for bringing these matters to the council's attention.

Mr Allan Fairhead, local resident, read out a statement about his concern that reports and information was not available to residents and that there had been predetermination regarding the monies allocated to Hythe Pier Heritage Association. The Clerk guided Mr Fairhead to where the information was contained within the Council agendas that are available on the website.

202/17 **QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDERS 25 AND 26**

Cllr. Malcolm Wade asked Cllr. Peter Armstrong about his report where he stated he had raised the issue of extra parking in the library car park. Cllr. Malcolm Wade

asked how many extra spaces. Cllr Armstrong responded that he did not have those figures and it would require further investigation.

Cllr. Graham Parkes asked Cllr. Peter Armstrong if he could ask the District Council to purchase the land where the old library was situated so that extra car parking spaces could be provided to make up for the loss of the St John's Street car park. Cllr. Armstrong replied that he would find out more information about the ownership of the car park.

Cllr. Malcolm Wade asked the Chairman if she was aware that he had written a letter to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment to raise his concerns about the major drainage issue at Valleydene.

203/17 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 13th December 2017 and 10th January 2018.

RESOLVED that

The Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 13th December 2017 and 10th January 2018 be agreed.

204/17 **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Personnel Committee meetings held on 17th November 2017 and 7th December 2017.

RESOLVED that

The Minutes of the Personnel Committee meetings held on 17th November 2017 and 7th December 2017 be agreed.

205/17 **WATERSIDE DEVELOPMENT**

The Chairman of Planning presented a report on the Waterside Development Conference. The recommendations were considered and

RESOLVED that

- a) Councillors note the presentations, particularly the Interim Transport Strategy for the Waterside.
- b) Council will monitor the engagement by Deloitte with the community and parish council and highlight any areas where engagement could be improved.

206/17 **AWARDS GROUP**

In the absence of Cllr Alex Wade, the Clerk updated the Council about the progress of the 2018 Awards. Nominations are now open and there are three categories - Community Spirit, Endeavour and Environmental Champion. Mr Fairhead has provided the cup for the Environment Champion Award. An article

about the Awards is in the current edition of the Herald. The closing date for nominations is 12pm on 9th February 2018. The Awards Group will then discuss the nominations.

207/17 **OPEN SPACES AND PLAY EQUIPMENT WORKING PARTY**

Members received the notes of the Working Party meeting held on 7th December 2017.

Cllr. Chris Harrison reported that the results from the Jones Lane Survey are being analysed. The Working Party have convened a meeting on 1st February where the responses will be considered with recommendations made to Council in February.

208/17 **TOURISM**

Council received a presentation on Tourism in Hythe and Dibden from Helen Bradley-Owers, Parish Development Officer.

RESOLVED that

- a) Council will develop a strategy to promote Tourism in partnership with local organisations and businesses to include:
 - i) developing a brand.
 - ii) investigating and developing GPS Triggered guided walks
 - iii) developing a working relationship with Southampton Tourism.
- b) A Tourism group will be created to look at the importance of tourism to Hythe and to deliver actions to support the strategy

209/17 **WORKSHOP**

The Deputy Clerk gave an update to Members about upgrading the workshop. A planning application has been submitted. The Deputy Clerk thanked the Council for their support, particularly to members that had visited the workshop and taken part in discussions.

210/17 **SAFER NEW FOREST**

The strategic assessment of the Safer New Forest Partnership was considered. The clerk reported on her observations.

RESOLVED that

The Clerk was instructed to give the following response to Safer New Forest Partnership:

- a) The Council agree with the identified priorities – Children at Risk, Drug Related Harm and Domestic Abuse. The Council does not believe that Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking is as big a priority for this Parish.
- b) The Council would like to highlight the current issue of aerosol abuse;

- c) The Council believe that the use and dealing of psychoactive substances is a key issue and should be included in the strategic assessment.
- d) The Council is willing to talk to the partnership about setting up a pilot scheme to work with local partners to develop a local approach to action planning for children considered at risk who are not receiving a co-ordinated approach ie those assessed as low risk.

211/17 **HEARING LOOP AND SOUND SYSTEM**

Council receive a report from the Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor. The recommendations were considered and

RESOLVED that

- a) The council will suspend Standing Order 72.2 and Financial Regulations 11.2 iv (security access)
- b) The Council to purchase the Portable Phonak system for The Grove at a cost of £10640.02
- c) Training for staff and Councillors to be commissioned at a cost of £320
- d) The annual service contract is agreed at a cost of £395
- e) Extended 3 years cover for the main components at a cost of £65.00 per item from the provider will be assessed as the two year warranty is due to expire.
- f) A separate recording device at a cost of £180 will be purchased.

212/17 **FINANCE 2017 – 2018**

Consideration was given to the quarter 3 financial monitoring report, the bank reconciliations for October, November and December 2017 and the Schedule of Payments for the period 1st November 2017 to 31st December 2017.

RESOLVED that

- a) The quarter 3 financial monitoring report be noted.
- b) The bank reconciliation for October, November and December 2017 be noted.
- c) the accounts for payment as detailed totalling £101,993.64 be agreed and paid

213/17 **RENT RECEIVED AND ACCOUNTS**

The Council received the report on the resolution of the accounts software issue from the Clerk to the Council.

214/17 **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.

215/17 **LAND SALE**

Consideration was given to the request to purchase Parish Council land.

RESOLVED that

The request be refused.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Chairman

Date

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