

Minutes of the Meeting of Hythe and Dibden Parish Council

Held at The Community Centre, Brinton Lane, Hythe
on Thursday 10th May at 7.00 pm

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

Councillors:

a P Armstrong
p M Clark
p E Davey
n J Fowler
p C Harrison
n T Johnson

Councillors:

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

p = present

a = apologies

n = no apologies received

In Attendance

a Cllr B Andrews (NFDC)
a 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)

0 Members of the Public

307/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

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

308/17 MINUTES

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th April 2018.

RESOLVED that

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th
April 2018 be agreed.

309/17 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman wished to thank the Maintenance Team and the office staff for their commitment and hard work especially in the last few months when they have "gone above and beyond" for the benefit of the council and residents..

The Chairman invited a member to attend the Muircroft AGM to represent the Council.

310/17 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no matters raised.

311/17 EXCLUSION OF 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.

312/17 VALLEYDENE

Council received the report from the Clerk of the Council. The recommendations were considered and

RESOLVED that

- a) Specialist legal advice be sought regarding riparian responsibilities in relation to this pipe and the survey results including:
 - i) What responsibility does the council have to other riparian owners?
 - ii) What action should the council take if an identified riparian owner refuses or claims they are unable to take responsibility?
 - iii) What is the legal situation with regard to highways drainage utilising the watercourse?
 - iv) Are there any tested models for a collective or association that maintains and has responsibility for a watercourse such as Valleydene?
 - v) Are there any risks to the council regarding claims by the Valleydene properties relating to any perceived and actual reductions of privacy?
 - vi) Any other items that could be deemed a risk to this Council.

- b) Council to confirm to HCC that the priority for the Council is a specification for the replacement of the pipe (in readiness for Winter 2018) to the rear of 15 and 16 Valleydene working on the basis that the whole damaged and blocked length will be replaced.
- c) All residents to be written to inviting them to attend meetings with Clerk and Deputy Clerk to discuss their riparian ownership responsibilities as demonstrated by the survey. Appropriate survey results to be included in the letter. Letters to be hand delivered to ensure that, so far as practicable, all households receive the information at the same time.
- d) Council priority to be working to help number 15, 16 and 20 realise their responsibilities and take action, as required, to address the known issues.
- e) As advised by legals discussions to be opened with riparian owners regarding the formation and commitment to a collective/association. If possible and if practicable such arrangement is to commission CCTV survey and clearance of pipeline, as required, as soon as possible.
- f) In preparation for further site works Council to commission additional security, if practicable, at both entrance points to the open space. Preference is boarding with lockable gates.
- g) Council to make claim for costs if policy covers for some or all of actions that have been undertaken or that are required.
- h) Consultant to be sourced for design of improved access points for plant across the parish council land.
- i) Council to continue the work to encourage SSE to allow access across SSE land and access improvements to be made.
- j) Council to be convened when the results of the highway drainage modelling is available in order to assess further actions to be taken.
- k) Essential tree works to be continued as planned.
- l) Council is committed, in principle, that on completion of the watercourse related works it will look at security and overlooking.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Chairman

Date

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