

Minutes of the Meeting of Hythe and Dibden Parish Council

Held at The Parish Hall, West Street, Hythe
on Wednesday 22nd August 2018 at 7.00 pm

p Maureen McLean (Chairman)

p E Davey (Vice Chairman)

Councillors:

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

Councillors:

p G Parkes
a 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)

n 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)

7 Members of the Public

98/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

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

99/18 MINUTES

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 8th August 2018. Paragraph 2 of Minute 90/18 was amended as follows: "Mr Cramp explained that the County Council would continue to support the Parish Council in developing a viable long term option. At this stage, the County did not believe that remedial works to repair the broken pipeline and remove any blockage would be able to be undertaken in readiness for winter 2018/2019. Mr Cramp recommended that the residents at risk of flooding be encouraged to develop a Flood Risk

Action Plan and confirmed that he had asked the appropriate officers at HCC to make contact.”

RESOLVED that subject to the amendment above

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 8th August 2018 be agreed.

100/18 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman announced that she had received an email from Leigh Morgan on behalf of the Maintenance Team, and a card from Janis Bevis to thank Councillors for the gift card they were given in recognition of the challenging workload that they delivered in the first half of 2018.

PCSO Pressey has received a number of complaints about cycling in the High Street. She has asked Hampshire County Council for assistance with signage and the Chairman asked Cllr Malcolm Wade if he could raise the issue at HCC. Cllr Malcolm Wade said that the County Council have agreed to change the two incorrect signs at the pier end of the pedestrian zone to meet regulatory signage requirements. Cllr Malcolm Wade said he would enquire again as to whether the signage could be improved and highlight safety concerns. He will also ask if they can suggest any alternative solutions.

The Chairman announced that PCSO Mark Atrill will be leaving to train as a Police Officer. The Council will send him a letter to wish him luck in his new role.

The Chairman was pleased to report that the Council has achieved a very successful audit with no recommendations or areas of concern. Full details will be reported in September's Council meeting. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return, External Auditor Report and Certificate are available for public inspection.

101/18 **CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR UPDATE**

The Chairman read out the report from the Policing Team.

There has been very little anti-social behaviour in the Hythe area over the last month.

PCSO Mark Atrill and PCSO Howard Oakley set up two separate sport schemes during the summer to attract young people to keep them occupied and break down barriers. There was a good turn out with youths aged 9-15 attending both schemes at Gang Warily and Applemore College. A report about the Waterside World Cup will be circulated to Councillors and will be available on the Parish Council's website and social media.

There have been several reports of a vulnerable male with severe learning difficulties. The policing team are working with social services/housing to ensure that he and other members of the public are safe, although there is minimal risk to others.

A prolific shoplifter, notably at Waitrose, is being targeted by Police.

The policing team are aware of a rough sleeper living in the communal gardens behind the Grove and are monitoring their movements. The police and the parish have offered support.

Arson related incidents have stopped and a number of suspects have been identified.

102/18 **REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Malcolm Wade reported on Hampshire Library Service. He gave a brief summary of the service and said that the annual budget for 2018/19 is £10.99 million and generates £2.9 million income. The service had to deliver 14% savings (£1.7 million) by 2020 but will in fact deliver 20% savings (£2.45 million) by 1st April 2019. This has been delivered through a variety of actions such as staff vacancy reduction, reduction of the development fund and savings on building costs. A Task and Finish group will be put together to look at a new five year library strategy to take the service through to 2025.

Following the Extraordinary meeting in August regarding Valleydene, Cllr Malcolm Wade has been in touch with the Emergency Planning Officers from Hampshire County Council. He has been informed by Ian Holt that support will be available and there are templates that can be used to help create an emergency plan.

Cllr Malcolm Wade reported that there are proposals to impose a permanent 40mph speed limit on the Redbridge Flyover. There are also Traffic Order Proposals for the A326.

REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Alex Wade has received a number of complaints about overgrowing weeds and the state of the pavements in the area, particularly in Kelvin Close and Langdown Road. He has chased this up with NFDC and they have informed him that they will be looking at all the pavements in the community over the next few weeks and will address any issues.

Cllr Alex Wade announced that Cllr Merv Langdale was elected as a District Councillor at the recent Fawley by-election. There is also a by-election coming up at Pennington.

Cllr Alex Wade encouraged local residents to have their say and complete the Clean Air Zone survey. The deadline is 13th September.

103/18 **REPORTS FROM MEMBERS SERVING ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr Chris Harrison reported that the window at the Dibden Allotment Fund's offices has now been fixed. Their insurance company said the overall cost was £26,000.

Cllr Maureen McLean reported on the work of Hythe Youth Club during the summer holidays. She was delighted to report that they have had an average of 40 people attend each session.

104/18 **PUBLIC FORUM**

John Stagg, resident of Highlands Way and Chair of the Valleydene and Highlands Way Residents Association, asked if the Parish Council had received advice from Hampshire County Council about remedial schemes to stop the flooding. The Clerk to the Council stated that there had been an Extraordinary Council meeting with HCC officers and they have been informed that HCC do not propose to take any action with regards to the overland flow of the watercourse before winter 2018/19. The Clerk is in the process of writing a letter to residents with further information about the outcome of the meeting, including plans for a drop-in session in September and guidance for developing a flood risk reduction action plan.

Mr Stagg referred to the draft communication plan for Valleydene and asked how the residents could assist the Council to improve communication and engagement. The Clerk replied that draft communication plan would be sent to residents and suggested that they let the Council know if anything is wrong or has been missed, or if there are any items that the residents or Association can assist with.

John Huttly, resident of Valleydene, said that residents have provided information to Paul Prowting from Hampshire County Council's Flood Management Team. He asked if this information had been integrated into the County Council's investigations and reports. The Clerk replied that it would be best to ask him directly, however the Parish Council have been assured that the data residents have provided has been very helpful.

Mr Huttly stated that the sandbags supplied to the residents by HCC for use to reduce the risk of flooding are now falling apart. The Clerk replied that the Council has approached HCC to bring this to their attention and ask for their advice and is still awaiting a response. Cllr Malcolm Wade said if no response about the sandbags was received then the Clerk should forward the request to him to chase up.

Mr Huttly asked what would be the situation if the residents removed the root causing the blockage in the pipe. The Clerk advised the residents to wait for the outcome of HCC's investigations and their 'concept' of a solution and also pointed out the health and safety concerns associated with the trench and steep bank.

Dave Twydell, resident of Valleydene, said as there would be no temporary fix could the ditch in his garden be shored up. The Clerk responded that the open excavation is one of the issues that we are awaiting HCC advice on. Mr Twydell asked if there was a contact for someone at HCC that he could approach to get advice about the ditch being shored up. Cllr Malcolm Wade said he could email him and he would contact the engineer on his behalf.

With regard to the drop in the residents attending advised that a weekday that included 1800 – 2000 would be best for them.

105/18 **QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDERS 25 AND 26**

Cllr Alex Wade asked the Chairman if the Council could ask the police service for a timescale for when PCSO Atrill will be replaced. The Chairman replied that there was no immediate solution to replacing PCSOs and reminded councillors that the Council is expecting an update in October from Superintendent Tony Rowlinson regarding the two additional PCSOs. The Chairman will also be writing to the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable.

106/18 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 8th August 2018. Cllr Graham Parkes also provided an update on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan.

RESOLVED that

The Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 8th August 2018 be agreed.

107/18 **COUNCIL CHAMBER FLOOR**

Councillors considered the Deputy Clerk's report on the results of the tender process for the renewal of the suspended floor in the Council Chamber at The Grove.

RESOLVED that

- a) The Tender with revised costings supplied by Forestside Construction Ltd be accepted
- b) £21,396.00 be allocated from General Reserves.

108/18 **COMMUNICATION PLAN**

Consideration was given to the draft Communications Plan for Valleydene.

RESOLVED that

The Communications Plan for Valleydene be agreed.

109/18 **MODERNGOV**

The Clerk to the Council presented a report on ModernGov. Hampshire County Council and New Forest District Council contract ModernGov to provide online access arrangements for their statutory documents. It was noted that Hythe and Dibden Parish Council would be the first Parish Council in the UK to use ModernGov software.

RESOLVED that

- a) Council approves the use of ModernGov to provide transparency in its decision making and access to information for the community through multiple media.
- b) Council approves Year One cost of £9,000 and £7,010 per annum for a further two years.
- c) Council implements these arrangements as soon as possible.

110/18 **LAND REGISTRY**

The Deputy Clerk reported that there is an anomaly with the Council's record keeping of its Land Holdings. All the records have been registered as the Parish Council's but some are listed incorrectly with historic names and addresses of the Council. The Clerk and Deputy Clerk are seeking advice on how to address this irregularity and bring all the information up to date. The outcome will be reported back to Council.

111/18 **FINANCE 2018 – 2019**

Consideration was given to bank reconciliations for July 2018 and the Schedule of Payments for the period 1st July to 31st July 2018.

RESOLVED that

- a) The bank reconciliation for July 2018 be noted.
- b) The accounts for payment as detailed totalling £63,174.22 (gross) be agreed and paid.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

Chairman

Date

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