

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE MEETING OF**  
**HYTHE TOWN COUNCIL'S**  
**FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**  
**HELD ON THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2006**

**Present:** Councillor J A Schoner (In the Chair)  
Councillors R L Bryan, R H Carroll, A J Ewart-James,  
Mrs W D Harris, S W Hayward and N A Matthews

**Also Present:** Councillor N H Meurice and the Town Clerk

**Apologies:** Councillors C J Capon, Mrs C Moran and Mrs J M Nolan

**192/06 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2006**

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor A J Ewart-James  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor N A Matthews and

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2006, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**193/06 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillors J A Schoner and Mrs W D Harris declared personal interests in Minute No. 207/06 – Age Concern – Private Members.

Councillor S W Hayward declared a personal interest in Minute No. 207/06 – Age Concern – Voluntary Worker.

Councillors N A Matthews, J A Schoner, S W Hayward, Mrs W D Harris, A J Ewart-James, N H Meurice and the Town Clerk declared personal interests in Minute No. 201/06 – Members of Hythe Civic Society.

The Town Clerk declared a prejudicial interest in Minute No. 201/06 – SEEDA Project upon which she was engaged.

The Town Clerk declared a prejudicial interest in Minute No. 208/06 – Minutes of the Personnel-Sub Committee Minutes.

**194/06 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING FOR PUBLIC INCLUSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO. 70**

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor S W Hayward and

**RESOLVED** – That the meeting stand adjourned.

**Mr A Metherell addressed the Meeting. \***

**Please see attachment for public comments which are attached but do not constitute part of the Minutes.**

It was then

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor N A Matthews  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Mrs W D Harris and

**RESOLVED – That the Meeting be reconvened.**

**195/06 APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 1<sup>ST</sup> – 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006**

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor A J Ewart-James  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor R L Bryan and

**RESOLVED –** That the payments for the period 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2006, covering cheque numbers 010183 to 010222 be authorised, as appended to these Minutes.

**196/06 APPROVAL OF BUDGET STATEMENT TO 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006**

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor S W Hayward and

**RESOLVED –** That the Budget Statement to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2006 be approved.

**197/06 APPROVAL OF BALANCE SHEET & INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT TO 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006**

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Mrs W D Harris  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll and

**RESOLVED –** That the Balance Sheet and Income & Expenditure Account to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2006 be approved.

**198/06 REPORT OF RECEIPTS FOR PERIOD TO 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006**

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor S W Hayward and

**RESOLVED -** That the Receipts for the period to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2006 be accepted.

**199/06 HYTHE TOWN CENTRE CCTV SYSTEM – RESOLVED MINUTE NO. 152/06 REFERS**

Members discussed the previously circulated CCTV Committee Meeting Minutes with particular reference to the tendering procedure and estimated costs for the new replacement cameras and control systems. The technical specification had been made available in the office for Members' perusal.

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Mrs W D Harris and

**RESOLVED** – That tendering procedures proceed on the basis of the grounds presented for Option 1 of the technical specification as contained in the CCTV Committee Minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> October 2006.

**200/06 SHEPWAY COMMUNITY CHEST**

Members considered the previously circulated letter from Shepway District Council to put forward projects for consideration.

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor R L Bryan  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll and

**RESOLVED** – That Hythe in Bloom be supported by the Town Council for a grant from the Shepway Community Chest.

**201/06 ARTS, CULTURE & LEISURE FUND FOR 2006/2007**

**The Town Clerk left the Committee Room for the discussion and vote on the following item:**

Hythe Civic Society

The previously circulated application from the Hythe Civic Society was considered by Members.

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor S W Hayward  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll and

**RECOMMENDED** – That £200.00 be granted to the Hythe Civic Society in respect of funding towards x 2 high quality cast iron planters to be sited under the Undercroft.

**The Town Clerk returned to the Committee Room.**

**202/06 NEW SPORTS FACILITIES, SOUTH ROAD**

- (i) Proposed Hythe Sports Centre  
 The Chairman gave a brief synopsis on the current status of the proposed Sports Centre.

(ii) Contingency Plan – Sports Pavilion Replacement

The Chairman reported on progress since the last Meeting and that the planning application had been approved by Shepway District Council unanimously, voting against the Officers' recommendations for refusal. The Chairman thanked the Town Clerk, Mr N Thorpe and Mr C Giles for attending the Development Control Committee Meeting and for the work involved.

(iii) Opt to Tax – Replacement Sports Pavilion

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor J A Schoner

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor S W Hayward and

**RECOMMENDED** – That the “opt to tax” option in regard to the replacement Sports Pavilion be implemented as from the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2006.

**203/06 THE REGULATORY REFORM (FIRE SAFETY) ORDER 2005**

Members discussed the previously circulated Fire Risk Assessment for Oaklands and the Town Hall in the light of the above new legislation. A copy of the NALC advice note on the new Order had been made available in the office for Members' perusal.

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor R L Bryan and

**RESOLVED** – That:

1. The Fire Risk Assessment be approved, subject to the amendments agreed by the Committee.
2. The Town Clerk be thanked for her work in this matter.

**204/06 CORRESPONDENCE FROM MR M K ROSS**

Members discussed the previously circulated correspondence from Mr M K Ross dated the 20<sup>th</sup> August 2006 and 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2006.

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor S W Hayward and

**RECOMMENDED** – That Mr Ross be written to with the following replies as enumerated in his letter:

- Q1. Whether the Council will have to incur costs is supposition at this stage. However, the Council has £200k in its capital budget earmarked towards the project and objections to it have to be defended and the above amount includes fees and legal costs.
- Q2. See above response.

- Q3. The costs of any Councillor acting on behalf of the Council in accordance with their duties and responsibilities, including the chairing of Meetings, shall be covered in accordance with S39 of the Local Government Miscellaneous Provision Act 1976 and S111 of the Local Government Act 1972.
- Q4. No comment at this stage.
- Q5. No comment at this stage.
- Q6. The poll was demanded by Mr J Gammon.
- Q7. This question should be redirected to Shepway District Council which had already previously agreed to pay the costs of any referendum called on the project.

**205/06 LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME REGULATIONS**

Members considered adherence to Kent County Council's revised employer policies. A copy of the Schedule of Kent County Council's employer decisions had been made available in the office for Members' perusal.

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor J A Schoner  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll and

**RECOMMENDED** – That Hythe Town Council adheres to the Kent County Council policies as outlined in the above Schedule.

**206/06 HYTHE LIBRARY RENT – RESOLVED MINUTE NO. 155/06 REFERS**

The Chairman reported on the outcome of the Hythe Library Rent Review following the 28 day deadline imposed by Kent County Council and that Kent County Council had agreed with the District Valuer's opinion and would be paying the new rent level as from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006.

**207/06 AGE CONCERN**

The Town Clerk reported on the electrician's report on the wiring at Age Concern and the legal position of the Town Council in this matter.

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor N A Matthews  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor R L Bryan and

**RECOMMENDED** – That:

1. The Town Clerk make Age Concern immediately aware by letter of the contents of the electrician's report.
2. Prior to delivery, the contents of the letter be cleared with the Council's solicitor.
3. The Town Clerk thence to act accordingly.

It was then

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor A J Ewart-James  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll and

**RESOLVED:** That the Press and Public be excluded due to the confidential nature of the business under Section 1 Sub Section (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 from the following item:

**208/06 MINUTES OF THE PERSONNEL SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2006**

HallHall

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor R L Bryan  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll and

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Personnel Sub-Committee Meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2006 be received and the decisions made therein be endorsed.

The Meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Dated the Day of 2006

.....CHAIRMAN

Mr A Metherell

Mr Metherell questioned the lack of storage facilities in the proposed new Sports Pavilion at South Road and the loss of efficiency due to the distance to the Twiss Road depot. He further mentioned the recurring Council Tax implications that he felt would be passed on to Hythe residents, together with the long term running costs.