

MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF
HYTHE TOWN COUNCIL'S
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY 23RD AUGUST 2007

Present: Councillor J A Schoner (In the Chair)

Councillors Mrs K T Belcourt, R H Carroll, S W Hayward,
Mrs Z Harris, J Oliver, Mrs L Oliver, D Owen, A Smith and
R Watson.

Also Present: Councillor R Belcourt, M Lyons and the Town Clerk

Apologies: Councillors A J Ewart-James, Mrs A Mayne and A Mayne

The Chairman opened the meeting with a period of silence in memory of the late Lord Deedes.

138/07 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26TH JULY 2007

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mrs L Oliver
SECONDED BY: Councillor Mrs Z Harris and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 26th July 2007, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

139/07 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillors Mrs K T Belcourt and M J Lyons declared personal interests in Min No 148/07 – Governors at Hythe Bay School.

140/07 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING FOR PUBLIC INCLUSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO. 70

There were no written or verbal questions from the public.

141/07 APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD TO 31ST JULY 2007

It was

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

RESOLVED – That the payments for the period to 31st July 2007, covering cheque numbers 010576 – 010618 be authorised, as appended to these Minutes.

142/07 APPROVAL OF BUDGET STATEMENT TO 31ST JULY 2007

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor S W Hayward
SECONDED BY: Councillor J Oliver and

RESOLVED – That the Budget Statement to 31st July 2007 be approved.

143/07 APPROVAL OF BALANCE SHEET & INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT TO 31ST JULY 2007

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor R H Carroll
SECONDED BY: Councillor D Owen and

RESOLVED – That the Balance Sheet and Income & Expenditure Account to 31st July 2007 be approved.

144/07 REPORT OF RECEIPTS TO 31ST JULY 2007

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor R H Carroll
SECONDED BY: Councillor Mrs Z Harris and

RESOLVED - That the Receipts for the period to 31st July 2007 be accepted.

145/07 ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 5TH NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS**(i) To Agree Updated Risk Assessment**

Members discussed the previously circulated Risk Assessment in respect of Firework Displays and Bonfires.

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor R Watson
SECONDED BY: Councillor D Owen and

RECOMMENDED – That the previously circulated Risk Assessment for Firework Displays and Bonfires be approved.

(ii) To Agree Arrangements for the Night

Members discussed the arrangements for the evening of the Firework Display on the 5th November 2007.

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mrs L Oliver
SECONDED BY: Councillor A Smith and

RECOMMENDED – That:

1. Councillors R Watson, R H Carroll, M J Lyons, A Smith and friend, J A Schoner and Mrs Z Harris (Chief Steward) be appointed Wardens for the evening.
2. Buckets were to be provided to Stewards for financial collection purposes to contribute towards next year's event.

146/07 CONCURRENT SERVICES – RESOLVED MIN NO 40/07 REFERS

The Town Clerk reported on progress to date and the meeting which was due to take place between the Town and Parish Clerks in October to put pressure on Shepway District Council to reinstate the Concurrent Grant.

147/07 TOWN GREEN APPLICATION & REPLACEMENT SPORTS PAVILION**(i) Closure of the Sports Pavilion**

The closure of the Sports Pavilion had previously been agreed by Council and no adverse comments were received from Members.

(ii) Reduction in Fees for Users to Reflect Closure

Members considered the reduction in fees for users of South Road Recreation Ground to reflect the closure of the Pavilion.

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor D Owen
SECONDED BY: Councillor Mrs L Oliver and

RESOLVED – That:

1. A 50% reduction in fees be agreed for all users of South Road Recreation Ground.
2. The swimming pool be approached to provide changing facilities and the football teams be advised to approach accordingly.
3. The external toilet at the Sports Pavilion to be opened during games.

(ii) Town Green Public Inquiry

The Chairman reported that Shepway District Council had previously agreed payment of the Town Green application costs of the Town Council. He further stated that it was imperative that Shepway District Council lodged its objection, in particular with regard to the PROW. It was anticipated that legal costs for the defence of the Town Green application would be in the order of £15k.

It was **AGREED** that Councillors Mrs L Oliver and D Owen were to work in concert to bring this matter before the District Council to ensure that the District Council both defended the case and acted in accordance with previous resolutions.

Councillor M J Lyons left the meeting during this item.

It was then

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

RESOLVED – That a Barrister be instructed to prepare a defence for the Town Council to vigorously defend the Town Green application.

Carried unanimously.

(iv) Programme in respect of the Replacement Sports Pavilion

Members considered the previously circulated letter and programme for the replacement Sports Pavilion which related to the preparation of quantum and costs.

It was **AGREED** that this matter be held in abeyance pending the outcome of the Town Green Public Inquiry.

(v) Shepway Sport & Leisure Facility Partnership

Members discussed the previously circulated letter from Councillor Mrs Waters in respect of Hythe Town Council's attending an inaugural meeting of the Shepway Sport & Leisure Partnership in September.

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor R H Carroll
SECONDED BY: Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt and

RESOLVED – That:

1. This request be received and noted and referred back for consideration by full Council.
2. The Town Clerk writes to appraise the District Secretary of other clubs and associations within Hythe which did not currently feature on the Shepway District Council list for inclusion within the Partnership.

148/07 GATE ONTO THE GREEN

Members discussed this item which had been remitted back to the Finance & General Purposes Committee in accordance with Standing Order No 21.

It was

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

RECOMMENDED – That Hythe Bay School and Silver Felix Youth Club not be granted permission to install a gate for access onto the Green.

A recorded vote was called for in accordance with standing Order No 10A

Councillor R Watson	For
Councillor R H Carroll	For
Councillor S W Hayward	For
Councillor Mrs L Oliver	Abstained
Councillor J Oliver	Against
Councillor A Smith	Against
Councillor D Owen	Against
Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt	Against
Councillor Mrs Z Harris	Abstained
Councillor J A Schoner	For

The motion was passed on the casting vote of the Chairman.

**149/07 INSTALLATION OF A GRASS TRACK FOR VEHICULAR ACCESS –
RESOLVED MIN NO 101/06 REFERS**

The Town Clerk reported that a response from the Surveyor in respect of an appropriate specification was awaited.

The Meeting closed at 9.03 pm.

Dated the Day of 2007

.....CHAIRMAN