

MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF
HYTHE TOWN COUNCIL'S
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY 26TH JULY 2007

Present: Councillor J A Schoner (In the Chair)

Councillors K T Belcourt, A J Ewart-James Mrs Z Harris,
Mrs A Mayne, A Mayne, J Oliver, Mrs L Oliver, D Owen and
R Watson.

Also Present: The Town Clerk

Apologies: Councillors R H Carroll, S W Hayward and A Smith

**104/07 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28TH JUNE 2007**

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt
SECONDED BY: Councillor A Mayne and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 28th June 2007, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Councillor Mrs Z Harris entered the Committee Room.

105/07 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillors Mrs A Mayne and A Mayne declared personal interests in Min No 113/07 – Members of the Hythe Green Preservation Society.

**106/07 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING FOR PUBLIC INCLUSION IN
ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO. 70**

There were no written or verbal questions from the public.

**107/07 APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD TO 30TH JUNE
2007**

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor A J Ewart-James
SECONDED BY: Councillor J Oliver and

RESOLVED – That the payments for the period to 30th June 2007, covering cheque numbers 010510 – 010575 be authorised, as appended to these Minutes.

108/07 APPROVAL OF BUDGET STATEMENT TO 30TH JUNE 2007

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt
SECONDED BY: Councillor Mrs A Mayne and

RESOLVED – That the Budget Statement to 30th June 2007 be approved.

109/07 APPROVAL OF BALANCE SHEET & INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT TO 30TH JUNE 2007

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor D Owen
SECONDED BY: Councillor J Oliver and

RESOLVED – That the Balance Sheet and Income & Expenditure Account to 30th June 2007 be approved.

110/07 REPORT OF RECEIPTS TO 30TH JUNE 2007

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor K T Belcourt
SECONDED BY: Councillor A Mayne and

RESOLVED - That the Receipts for the period to 30th June 2007 be accepted.

111/07 AUTHORISATION OF TRANSFER OF FUNDS

- (i) To authorise the transfer of £1,000 Interest from Capital in respect of 2007/8 revenue budget provisions – Resolved Min. No. 396/06 refers.
- (ii) To authorise the transfer of £300 from Revenue to Capital in respect of 2007/8 revenue budget provisions Eaton Lands Allotment Land rent – Resolved Min. No. 396/06 refers.

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor A J Ewart-James
SECONDED BY: Councillor R Watson and

RESOLVED – That the above transfer of funds be authorised.

112/07 SOUTH ROAD RECREATION GROUND

- (a) Minutes of the Sports Pavilion Sub-Committee of the 29th June 2007

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor A J Ewart-James
SECONDED BY: Councillor Mrs L Oliver and

RECOMMENDED – That the Minutes of the Sports Pavilion Sub-Committee held on the 29th June 2007 be received and the decisions contained therein be endorsed.

- (b) Application for Financial Assistance to Shepway District Council
Members discussed the contents of the previously circulated letter from Shepway District Council. The current position was noted in respect of the further delay to the 22nd August 2007 of the report to the Cabinet.
- (c) Update on Town Green Application
The Town Clerk reported on progress to Members in respect of the site meeting to be held on the 2nd August 2007 followed by the hearing in at Kent County Council in Maidstone. The report by Kent County Council had been previously circulated to Members. Shepway District Council appeared to have removed its objection to its becoming a Town Green, despite being a landowner. A non-statutory inquiry was now likely to take place in October or November 2007, if decided upon.
- (d) Outcomes of the PFI Steering Group Meeting of 16th July 2007
The Chairman reported on the outcomes of the above meeting. A copy of the final version of the PFI report had been requested from Shepway District Council and was yet to be received. The report was to be appraised by the District Scrutiny Committee.

113/07 USE OF HYPHE GREEN

Members discussed the previously circulated request from the Kent Fire & Rescue Service in respect of its request for free use of the Green for a Community Safety Event on the 15th September 2007. The Town Clerk provided further details on the proposed event.

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt
SECONDED BY: Councillor J Oliver and

RECOMMENDED – That the Kent Fire & Rescue Service be given free use of the Green for its Community Safety Event on the 15th September 2007, subject to the usual conditions' being met.

114/07 SURVEYOR'S REPORTS

Members discussed the previously circulated Surveyor's reports on the Town Hall, Sanford House and the Library totalling cf40k. It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor K T Belcourt
SECONDED BY: Councillor A Mayne and

RECOMMENDED – That £10k per annum, via the property maintenance item within the revenue budget, be allocated for the next four years to carry out repairs.

115/07 DAVIS OAKLAND DEFICIT – RESOLVED MIN NO 280/06 REFERS

The Chairman gave an account of the background to this issue.

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor J A Schoner
SECONDED BY: Councillor A J Ewart-James and

RECOMMENDED – That:

1. Hythe Town Council withdraws its financial support to the Davis Oakland Charity until the Charity Trustees obtain a satisfactory solution from the Charity Commission as to the use of the Permanent Endowment.
2. Hythe Town Council continues its endorsement of the proposals put forward in the Town Clerk’s letter of 23rd October 2006 to the Charity Commission.

116/07 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 2007/8

The Town Clerk reported that the cost of the current year’s contract was to be comprised of equal monthly payments. Members then considered arrangements for a new maintenance contract as from the 1st April 2008.

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor A J Ewart-James
SECONDED BY: Councillor D Owen and

RECOMMENDED – That:

1. The Town Clerk prepare a tender document for placing the grounds maintenance Contract out to tender to both Kent County Council and Shepway District Council for the financial year 2008/9.
2. The tender document be brought back to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.

117/07 LAND NORTH OF THE SKATEBOARD PARK – RESOLVED MIN NO 43/07 REFERS

The Chairman and the Town Clerk reported on progress to date in negotiations and costings in respect of the land north of the Skateboard Park for the development of a junior cricket area for Hythe Cricket Club, by way of licence.

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt
SECONDED BY: Councillor J Oliver and

RECOMMENDED – That:

1. Approval be given in principle, subject to the Cricket Club’s obtaining planning consent for its proposal and subject to final approval by the Town Council.
2. All necessary legal costs’ being met by the Cricket Club.

The Meeting closed at 8.29 pm.

Dated the Day of 2007

.....CHAIRMAN