

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE MEETING OF**  
**HYTHE TOWN COUNCIL'S**  
**FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**  
**HELD ON THURSDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2007**

Present: Councillor J A Schoner (In the Chair)  
  
Councillors R H Carroll, A Ewart-James, Mrs Z Harris,  
S W Hayward, A Mayne, Mrs A Mayne, J Oliver, D Owen,  
Mrs L Oliver, A Smith and R Watson

Also Present: The Town Clerk

Apologies: Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt

The Chairman called for a minute's silence to be observed in memory of the late Mr John Spencer who had recently died.

**246/07 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2007**

It was

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

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2007, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**247/07 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillors S W Hayward, Mrs L Oliver, D Owen and A J Ewart-James declared prejudicial interests in Min No 255/07 – Shepway District Councillors.

Councillor S W Hayward declared a prejudicial interest in Min No 256/07 – employee of Age Concern.

**248/07 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING FOR PUBLIC INCLUSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO. 70**

There were no written or verbal questions from the public.

**249/07 APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD TO 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2007**

It was

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

**RESOLVED** – That the payments for the period to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2007, covering cheque numbers 010680 – 010741 be authorised, as appended to these Minutes.

**250/07 APPROVAL OF BUDGET STATEMENT TO 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2007**

It was

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

**RESOLVED** – That the Budget Statement to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2007 be approved.

**251/07 APPROVAL OF BALANCE SHEET & INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT TO 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2007**

It was

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

**RESOLVED** – That the Balance Sheet and Income & Expenditure Account to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2007 be approved.

**252/07 REPORT OF RECEIPTS TO 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2007**

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor R Watson and

**RESOLVED** - That the Receipts for the period to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2007 be accepted.

**253/07 ANNUAL REVENUE BUDGET FOR 2008/9**

Members considered the previously circulated proposals for the Revenue Budget 2008/9 and the accompanying Town Clerk's Report (06/07) and recommendations which refer. The Chairman then went through the report and the proposals. The item was then opened up for discussion.

**Hythe Festival Grant**

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor A Smith and

**RECOMMENDED** – That notwithstanding the grant allocation of £1,000 in the budget, the Hythe Festival Company be advised that for any particular items at events, it be referred for application to the Youth Fund.

It was further

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor R H Carroll  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Mrs L Oliver and

**RECOMMENDED** – That Option B (apart from the path at Horn Street Recreation Ground) not be considered in the present year's revenue budget.

It was further

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Mrs L Oliver  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor J Oliver and

**RECOMMENDED** – That the cost of the path repairs at Horn Street be taken from the Playground R/R Capital Fund.

**Councillor R H Carroll left the meeting at this juncture.**

It was then

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

**RECOMMENDED** – That the Town Clerk’s report in respect of Option A be accepted as follows:

- 1 The contents of this report be received and the recommendations as outlined within it be adopted.
- 2 The proposed base draft revenue budget be approved as contained within the draft budget statement - Option A, representing an increase of 14.86% and a commensurate Precept level of £259,437.
- 3 Any further inclusions, as per the draft budget statement - Option B, be as determined by the Town Council.
- 4 Appropriate changes, as they impact upon the Draft Capital Budget statement, be incorporated into the Capital programme for approval at the January meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

**Councillor A Mayne recorded his vote against.**

Councillors S W Hayward, J A Schoner, A Smith and the Town Clerk declared personal interests in Min No 254/07 – Members of the Hythe Twinning Association.

Councillor A J Ewart-James declared a personal interest in Min No 254/07 – President of the Hythe Twinning Association.

#### **254/07 APPLICATION TO THE ARTS, CULTURE & LEISURE FUND**

The Chairman ruled that this matter had been previously resolved and could not therefore be discussed.

#### **255/07 TOWN GREEN COSTS**

As this was an item for report only, the District Councillors remained in the Chamber. The Chairman stated that a “without prejudice” meeting had been held with Mr P Wignall earlier in the day. The meeting had comprised a full and frank discussion. The Chairman stated that this item was a matter of report only and not for discussion.

**Councillor S W Hayward left the meeting at this juncture.**

It was then

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

**256/07 SANFORD HOUSE – TOWN CLERK’S REPORT 07/07 REFERS**

Members considered the previously circulated Town Clerk’s Report 07/07 and the recommendations contained therein, together with the related attachments.

Councillor A Mayne declared a prejudicial interest in Min No 256/07 – resident of Stade Street during the early discussion on this item.

**Councillors A and Mrs A Mayne left the meeting at this juncture.**

**Councillor Mrs Z Harris left the meeting during the discussion on this item and returned to the Chamber prior to the vote.**

It was

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

**RECOMMENDED – That the Town Clerk’s report 07/07 and the recommendations contained therein be accepted as follows:**

1. Age Concern be advised that the land to the south of Sanford House is not available for its proposed development.
2. The Assets Working Group considers the current land use of the area to the south of Sanford House and its immediate environs.
3. Legal advice be sought on the potential development of the Stade Street frontage of Sanford House in the light of the remaining period left of the current lease.

Meeting closed at 9.24 pm.

Dated the                      Day of    2008

.....CHAIRMAN