

MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF
HYTHE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD ON THURSDAY 1ST MARCH 2007

- Present:** The Mayor of Hythe
Councillor N A Matthews (In the Chair)
- Councillors Mrs K T Belcourt, A J Ewart-James, A H Farmer,
S W Hayward, Mrs D Maskell and J A Schoner
- Also Present:** Reverend Brian Barnes and the Town Clerk
- Apologies:** Councillors R Bryan, Mrs A Bryan, D R Bushell, C J Capon,
R H Carroll, Mrs W D Harris, Mrs C Moran and Mrs J Nolan

The Mayor invited Reverend Brian Barnes to open the meeting with prayers.

339/06 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 1ST FEBRUARY 2007 & THE EXTRA-ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 15TH FEBRUARY 2007

It was

- PROPOSED BY:** Councillor J A Schoner
SECONDED BY: Councillor A H Farmer and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Council Meetings held on the 1st February and 15th February 2007, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

340/06 REGISTRATION OF DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were none declared.

341/06 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING FOR PUBLIC INCLUSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO.70

There were no verbal or written questions from the public and no adjournment.

342/06 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor informed Members that:

1. Councillor Mrs A Bryan was recovering after her recent fall and that the Town Clerk had delivered flowers on behalf of Members. The Mayor wished her a speedy recovery.
2. Councillor R H Carroll had invited Members to a Concert at St Leonard's Church on Saturday 3rd March 2007 at 7.30 pm.
3. The Mayor had had numerous telephone calls regarding the incorrect entry in the Hythe Directory and was well aware of the error!

343/06 QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 24(2)

There were none received.

344/06 MINUTES OF THE PLANS & WORKS COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON THE 30TH JANUARY, 12TH FEBRUARY & 20TH FEBRUARY 2007

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mrs D Maskell
SECONDED BY: Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Plans & Works Committee Meetings held on the 30th January, 12th February and 20th February 2007 be received and the decisions made therein be endorsed.

345/06 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 15TH FEBRUARY 2007
Minute No. 325/06 – Hythe Sports Facility/Pavilion

The Chairman reported on the updated position regarding the Sports Centre.

It was then

PROPOSED BY: Councillor J A Schoner
SECONDED BY: Councillor S W Hayward and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on the 15th February 2007 be received and the decisions made therein be endorsed.

346/06 CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT ON THE REVISED CODE OF CONDUCT – TOWN CLERK'S REPORT 12/06 REFERS

Members considered the Town Clerk's report 12/06 and the recommendations contained therein. A copy of the Consultation Document had been previously circulated to Members.

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor J A Schoner
SECONDED BY: Councillor S W Hayward and

RESOLVED – That:

1. The Town Clerk be commended on her report.
2. The report and its recommendations be sent to the Department for Communities and Local Government as follows:

- 1 That this report be submitted to the DCLG, with the responses to the posed questions as itemised below.
- 2 Notwithstanding the responses contained in this Report that the following particular recommendations be put to the DCLG for consideration:
 - (i) It is recommended that the Code incorporates a definition of bullying, such as that provided by ACAS, for the avoidance of doubt.
 - (ii) In regards to the provisions of Paragraph 5 it is recommended that any member who is so lobbied should declare that lobbying as a safeguard against action under the Code.
 - (iii) In respect of the new paragraph 6, it is recommended that the DCLG give more guidance on this new requirement, as to how it might be audited, as there is no guidance upon this subject within the Consultation Document.
 - (iv) With regard to the new Public Service Interest, it is recommended that this should be better defined, with its own Section so that it is clear as to what it covers.
 - (v) With reference to Paragraph 7 (vi) it is recommended that any gift or hospitality over the value of £25 be registered in line with the present Code requirements in the interest of transparency and as an anti-corruption measure.
 - (vi) In respect of Part 3 – Registration of Members’ Interests – it is recommended that the Register should continue to refer to the “Registration of Financial and Other Interests” for the avoidance of doubt.

347/06 HONORARY FREEMEN

The Town Clerk informed Members as to the status to date of the proposal by the Confederation of the Cinque Ports Committee to request the addition of requisite legal requirements for the establishment of Honorary Freeman within the Confederation.

It was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt
SECONDED BY: Councillor J A Schoner and

RESOLVED – That the Town Council support any legislation that would give the right for the creation of Honorary Freeman by Hythe and other Cinque Port Towns, including the Charter Trustees if possible.

Meeting closed at 7.19 pm.

Dated the: Day of: 2007

..... CHAIRMAN