

MINUTES

OF THE MEETING OF

HYTHE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD ON THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2006

**Present:** The Mayor of Hythe  
Councillor N A Matthews (In the Chair)

Councillors Mrs K T Belcourt, R Bryan, Mrs A Bryan,  
D R Bushell, R H Carroll, A J Ewart-James, A H Farmer,  
S W Hayward, Mrs D Maskell, N H Meurice, Mrs C Moran,  
Mrs J M Nolan and J A Schoner

**Also Present:** Reverend Brian Barnes and the Town Clerk

**Apologies:** Councillors C J Capon and Mrs W D Harris

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

**Councillor Mrs C Moran entered the room.**

**253/06 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>TH</sup>  
NOVEMBER 2006**

It was

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

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2006, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**254/06 REGISTRATION OF DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The Town Clerk declared a prejudicial interest in Min. No. 263/06 – Standing Orders Committee Meeting.

Councillors Mrs K T Belcourt, A J Ewart-James and N H Meurice declared prejudicial interests in Minute No. 217/06 – CCTV Committee Meeting – Members of Hythe Against Crime.

Councillor D R Bushell declared a prejudicial interest in Minute No. 263/06 – Standing Orders Committee Meeting – Trustee of Age Concern.

Councillors J A Schoner declared a personal interest in Minute No. 263/06 – Standing Orders Committee Meeting – Private Member of Age Concern.

Councillor S W Hayward declared a personal interest in Minute No. 263/06 – Standing Orders Committee Meeting – Age Concern Voluntary Worker.

**255/06 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING FOR PUBLIC INCLUSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO.70**

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor D R Bushell  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor A H Farmer and

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

**Mr J Gammon and 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 Mrs D Maskell  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor D R Bushell and

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

**256/06 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Mayor informed Members that:

1. The complaint outcome regarding Ms C Drury had been embodied in the Minutes of the Standing Orders Committee Meeting of the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2006.
2. A press release had been received from the Civil Aviation Authority "We have been reliably informed that the ability to fly in all weathers is a natural talent inherently enjoyed by reindeer. We wish to inform all residents of Hythe that they will not be affected by any overdue or delayed deliveries on Christmas Eve due to the foggy weather conditions currently delaying flights at some of England's Airports"

**257/06 QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 24(2)**

There were none received.

**258/06 MINUTES OF THE PLANS & WORKS COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON THE 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER AND 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2006**

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor D R Bushell  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt and

**RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Plans & Works Committee Meetings held on the 21<sup>st</sup> November and 12<sup>th</sup> December 2006 be received and the decisions made therein be endorsed.**

**Canon Brian Barnes left the Meeting at this juncture.**

**259/06 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2006**

**Minute No. 238/06 – Annual Revenue Budget 2007/8**

The Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee presented the budget summary to Members.

**Minute No. 241/06 Town Clerk' Report 09/06 – Proposed Sports Facility For Hythe**

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor J A Schoner

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor D R Bushell and

**RESOLVED** – That the Town Clerk's report and the recommendations contained therein be accepted as follows:

The Town Council welcomes the initial findings as presented by the enclosed interim Tribal report and it supports the proposals embodied in the report, subject to the following written guarantees' being provided by Shepway DC :

- 1 The facility mix to remain as per this report, with a commitment being made to the enhancement of the dry changing facilities, as a prime requisite for the Town Council's endorsement of the project. This enhancement to reflect the importance to Hythe of quality recreation ground sports facilities on its recreation ground for its townspeople and to its validating of SEEDA Project No 24.
- 2 The District Council to commit £7m capital to the Hythe facility.
- 3 In addition, the District Council to provide a written undertaking to underwrite and financially commit to both the capital "affordability gap" for Hythe, currently estimated at £1,580m and to the revenue gap, currently estimated at £178,000 per annum, for the lifetime of the lease, to a maximum of 15 years as recommended by Tribal.
- 4 The District Valuer to be requested to provide an opinion on the disposal of the Town Council's land for less than market value, given the reduced circumstances of the project.
- 5 The above endorsements to be subject to the outcome of the current Town Green application.
- 6 The District Council shall use its best endeavours to maximise the capital receipt on the existing swimming pool site in order to maximise the site's value and all proceeds from the sale of this site to be devoted to the Hythe project.
- 7 The Heads of Terms Agreement to incorporate the above factors.

**Carried unanimously.**

It was then

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

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> December 2006 be received and the decisions made therein be endorsed, subject to the above resolution arising.

**260/06 MINUTES OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON THE 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER & 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2006**

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor N A Matthews  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt and

**RESOLVED** - That the Minutes of the Standing Orders Committee Meetings be moved to the end of the Meeting.

**261/06 CCTV COMMITTEE – APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL HYTHE TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**

Members discussed the appointment of a Hythe Town Council Representative to the CCTV Committee following the resignation of Councillor Mrs W D Harris. Councillor J A Schoner thanked Councillor Mrs W D Harris for her work. No additional representation was agreed.

**262/06 SEALING OF DOCUMENTS – STANDING ORDERS NO. 41 (c)**

The Town Clerk reported on the sealing of the Tender for Dry Rot Eradication and Associated Repairs at Hythe Town Hall – Seal Book Entry No. 17.

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor S W Hayward  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt and

**RESOLVED** – That the sealing of the Tender for Dry Rot Eradication and Associated Repairs at Hythe Town Hall be noted.

It was then

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt  
**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:

The Town Clerk left the room at this juncture.

**263/06 MINUTES OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE MEETINGS  
HELD ON THE 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER & 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2006**

**Proposed Amendment**

It was

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor A J Ewart-James  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Mrs K T Belcourt

That in the interest of establishing a harmonious working relationship between the offices of Hythe Town Council and Age Concern, the Town Council requests that the Town Clerk sends a written apology to the Manager of Age Concern.

**The above motion was lost by 12 votes to 2.**

It was then

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

**RESOLVED** - That the Minutes of the Standing Orders Committee Meetings held on the 30<sup>th</sup> November and 14<sup>th</sup> December 2006 be received and the decisions made therein be endorsed.

**The Town Clerk returned to the Meeting at this juncture.**

Meeting closed at 8.12 pm.

Dated the: Day of: 2007

..... CHAIRMAN

Mr J Gammon

Mr Gammon voiced his concerns over the unacceptability of the present site for the reduced facility mix of the proposed new pool and gym and that the present swimming pool site met all the criteria. He further stated that political constraints should be put to one side for the good of the Town.

Mr A Metherell

Mr Metherell spoke on the “little gain and lots of pain” aspect in as much as the District Council were offering little in return for the irrevocable loss of the Recreation Ground land. He added that it was short-sighted not to redevelop the existing swimming pool site on South Road.