



## PARISH COUNCIL OF DENMEAD

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2017 IN THE DENMEAD COMMUNITY  
CENTRE, SCHOOL LANE, DENMEAD COMMENCING AT 8.05pm

<u>Members:</u>	Cllr Andreoli	(P)	Cllr I Brown	(P)
	Cllr C Hargreaves	(P)	Cllr F Hull	(P)
	Cllr A Huntington	(P)	Cllr N Lander-Brinkley	(P)
	Cllr P Langford-Smith	(P)	Cllr N Rusbridger	(P)
	Cllr K Scholey	(P)	Cllr G West	(P)
	Cllr M Willoughby	(P)		

Also present: a member of the public.

**134/17C** Apologies There were no apologies for absence.

**135/17C** Declarations of Interest Cllr Hull recorded a personal interest in the agenda item regarding the review of the Denmead Youth Partnership as the Parish Council's representative on youth issues, as the Honorary Secretary of Denmead Swings & Things, as a Trustee of the Denmead Swings & Things charity and as the Denmead Activity Nights organiser.

**136/17C** Public Participation (S.O1(d)): At 8.09pm the meeting recessed into open forum to allow questions and comments from a member of the public. The meeting re-convened at 8.11pm. During the discussion that followed there was another occasion where the meeting recessed into open forum where a further comment was made.

**137/17C** The Denmead Youth Partnership.

- (a) The Parish Council received the response from the trustees of the Denmead Swings & Things Charity following the review of the Denmead Youth Partnership (previously circulated).
- (b) The Parish Council received an amended report of the review of the Denmead Youth Partnership (previously circulated).
- (c) The Parish Council had a lengthy discussion following the receipt of the two documents. The following points were made.
  - The commitment of Mrs Felicity Hull towards youth provision in Denmead cannot be questioned.
  - There should have been consultation with the residents of Denmead as part of the review.
  - If the Denmead Youth Partnership is dissolved there should be a new agreement in its place.
  - It is clear that poor office procedures have been identified.
  - The review document prevents a balanced decision to be made.
  - It is accepted that Cllr Hull fulfils too many roles in the partnership but this was primarily as a result of no others being prepared to help.
  - Denmead Youth Partnership was set up for the youth of Denmead.
  - If the partnership is to be dissolved then it must be by serving the contractual notice period.
  - The review was too negative and did not report too many positives.
  - Letters were sent to all councillors from a member of the public using inflammatory language.
  - Children should not be driven to and from the youth club with only one adult in the car.
  - Why wait three months before dissolving the partnership.
  - A disregard for safety and poor practices could result in safeguarding issues.
  - Nobody was fully aware of how many children attended each session.

- There is currently no succession plan to cater for the sickness or long-term absences of key personnel.
- There has been misrepresentation of the facts.
- Ending the partnership is best for the children.
- The Parish Council should be managing any money.

**It was RESOLVED to dissolve the Denmead Youth Partnership with three months' notice.**

**Denmead Parish Council takes over with immediate effect the 'day-to-day' running of Monday and Tuesday youth clubs, and continues running the senior youth group.**

**The Youth Support Workers on long term contracts are to be retained to ensure continuity of value and experience.**

**It was RESOLVED to employ an interim professional youth leader as a consultant to manage the delivery of youth services on behalf of the Parish Council.**

**The interim youth leader will manage the day to day running of the Youth Service ensuring that all relevant policies (including child protection) are put in place.**

**They will assess and advise on the 'best practice' options available for future development of the service in an interim report to be presented at the full Council meeting on the 5th April 2017 for a decision.**

**It was RESOLVED that the interim youth leader consultant will report to a steering group of three parish councillors and the Parish Clerk until the interim report is received on the 5th April 2017.**

**Following on from this the Full Council will revisit the Terms of Reference of the Youth Provision Working Party.**

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.21pm

The next scheduled Council Meeting is on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017

**PUBLIC SESSION**

**Full Council 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

Mr Stefan Nienaltowski spoke in the public session only to indicate his willingness to answer questions if by doing this it could contribute to the discussion that was about to take place.