



Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee of the New Milton Town Council held on Monday 26 November 2018 at 6.30 pm in the Town Hall, Ashley Road, New Milton.

Chairman	p	G R Blunden	
Vice Chairman	p	D E Hawkins	
Councillors:	p	G C Beck	p W B Davies
	p	D A Rice Mundy	p A D O'Sullivan
	p	A W Rice	R Murrow
		V E Schooling	
Officers:		G Flexman	Town Clerk
		J Hayward	Administrator

The Chairman opened the meeting welcoming councillors, four members of the public and a press representative.

Alan Watson, representing the Battle's Over Steering Group, spoke to give thanks to the community for supporting the Remembrance Sunday events, including the Battle's Over – a Nation's Tribute ceremonies, and particularly to the Estates & Facilities team for all their hard work and assistance.

Speaking on behalf of the NMRA, Alan Watson asked about the HCC Parish/Town Community Fund recently announced and asked if there were any initiatives or projects that the town could apply for.

Local resident, Mrs Djebli, asked the committee to consider the installation of a bench in the grassed area opposite Warwick Avenue.

78. APOLOGIES

Cllrs Murrow and Schooling

79. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Town Clerk confirmed that members have a dispensation to discuss budgets and set a precept.

80. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman was pleased to accept the gratitude from Alan Watson and confirmed it had been passed on to the employees involved.

Referring to the HCC Parish Council community funding, the Chairman said it was early days but the matter would be discussed at agenda item 16. With reference to the requested bench, this would be discussed at agenda item 15.

81. MINUTES

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2018, previously circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

The Minutes were duly signed.

82. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

The Town Clerk confirmed that all items have been or are being addressed.

Minute	Action Points	Action by date	To be actioned by
63	Community Speed Watch	6 November 2018	Police Liaison Meeting
63	Double White Lines	26 November 2018	Town Clerk/Hampshire Highways
67c)	Use of Station Road south	26 November 2018	Town Clerk/Hampshire Highways
67d)	Fireworks Display	10 November 2018	Town Clerk/Police
70	New grazing licence	1 November 2018	Town Clerk/Solicitor
72	Football Club 3G plans	26 November 2018	Town Clerk/NMTFC
75	Old Milton Parade Wall	26 November 2018	Town Clerk/Hampshire Highways
76	Shared Forest 'Clock Change'	23 November 2018	Administrator

The Chairman referred to a previous item of installing dragon's teeth at Bashley Cross Road and these works had been stopped due to essential utilities being discovered just below ground and it was deemed unsafe to continue the required excavations.

Cllr Rice-Mundy suggested that instead of dragon's teeth that perhaps we could consider the installation of a bund which could become a wildflower feature.

The Town Clerk informed members that Sgt Jo Hensley was looking into the matter of Community Speedwatch and the appropriate officer will make contact.



Cllr Beck asked if NMTC are still the treasurers for Community Speedwatch and the Town Clerk confirmed the £3k had been spent on the SID and associated works.

The matter of double white lines at Bashley would be discussed at a meeting with HCC Highways officer Mandy Ware on 29 November 2018.

Cllr W Davies asked about the missing bollards at Caird Avenue.

[Post meeting note: these have been installed]

Cllr Beck referred to the disgusting state of the Old Milton Parade shopping area and in particular the dilapidated wall and accumulating rubbish in this private area.

83. CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk referred to an email from local resident, Michael Angus, requesting better access and disabled friendly provision be made at all town events. A summary of the requirements of the Disability Act was circulated and the Chairman confirmed that we will introduce reasonable adjustments wherever possible.

84. LAND USE REQUESTS

The Town Clerk referred to a request from the Youth Co-ordinator to hold a Youth Festival on 10 August 2019 on the Recreation Ground.

RESOLVED:

The Youth Festival be permitted on the Recreation Ground on 10 August 2019.

85. FEES & CHARGES 2019/20

The Chairman referred to Annex A, Version 1, the Fees & Charges as recommended by the Executive Committee, noting the content of each page of the document. Overall, the Town Clerk said a 3% increase had been applied where appropriate.

On page 17 - Open Space Areas – Cllr Hawkins asked why the Girl Guide Hut rental was a peppercorn £1 annually and the Barton Sea Scouts paid £73 annually. The Town Clerk will refer the matter to the Town Council solicitor for advice.

It was then

RECOMMENDED:

That the Fees & Charges for 2019/20 be endorsed by the Finance & General Purposes Committee at its meeting on 17 December 2018.



86. AMENITIES COMMITTEE BUDGET 2019/20

The Chairman referred to Annex B Version 2, Amenities Committee Budget as submitted to the Executive Committee, noting the content of each page of the document.

The Town Clerk outlined the requirement for pre-planned maintenance of buildings and members acknowledged the need for appropriate and regular on-going maintenance rather than reactive emergency measures.

Page 19 – Cllr W Davies noted a difference in the format of code 4990 transfer to/(from) reserves. The Town Clerk will amend in Version 3.

Page 22 - Fawcetts Field Sports Ground – the condition of the 27 year old boiler had become costly and inefficient to operate and maintain.

Page 25 - Capital Projects – referring to Ashley Sports Ground and seeing slides showing the condition of the facility, the estimated sum of £120k was noted for a new heating and ventilation system at what is the Council's oldest facility.

Cllr O'Sullivan expressed concern that this amount should come from precept meaning it would be a burden to the council-tax payers when funding could come from reserves.

The Chairman referred to a blue paper distributed outlining Amenities projects that need to be prioritised, being page 25 revised for Version 3.

Page 26 - Christmas Lights – Cllr Davies asked if lights for Ashley could be budgeted next year. The Chairman hoped they could be included in 2020/21.

Members were generally in favour of the proposed Amenities Committee Budget. With Cllr O'Sullivan voting against.

It was

RECOMMENDED:

That the Amenities Committee Budget for 2019/20 be endorsed by the Finance & General Purposes Committee at its meeting on 17 December 2018.

87. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

The Chairman referred to Appendix 1, which members supported.

It was

RECOMMENDED:

That the Town Council adopt the Environmental and Sustainability Policy.

88. FESTIVE LIGHTING

The Chairman provided an update on the festive lighting project and that the installation had gone according to plan with the small trees sponsored by small businesses. At the end of the festive period the working party will reconvene to look at the project for next year, including Ashley shopping parade.

89. CHRISTMAS EVENT

The Chairman highlighted our provision of services to the Christmas event not just in terms of a grant of £2.5k but also the time and resources provided by the Estates & Facilities team and other council officers. The value of our input for the event and the preparation and demobilisation afterwards cost in the region of £1.5k plus other costings behind the scenes. Whilst the council is keen to support community activities, the organisers of such events should be made aware of these associated costs and support borne by the Town Council.

90. DOE COPSE WAY

The Chairman provided an update on the Doe Copse Way play area refurbishment noting that works had started. Members noted the progress to date, per overhead slides shown. The works are on target.

91. OPEN SPACE – FERNHILL

The Town Clerk provided members with advice regarding planning permission for installing a small car park at the Northern Field, north of the cricket club at Fernhill. NFDC had indicated planning permission would be required for change of use.

The Grazing Licence runs until the end of April 2019, it was noted.

Cllr Rice-Mundy asked about the lane and the Town Clerk confirmed it is deemed a private lane.

92. PROVISION OF SEAT

The Chairman referred to the provision of a bench in the grassed area on Ashley Road opposite Warwick Avenue which members supported.

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Town Council install a bench along Ashley Road on its open space land opposite Warwick Avenue.


93. COUNCIL INVESTMENT FUND

The Chairman referred to Appendix 2, noting this is a £500k HCC initiative offering town and parish councils the opportunity to apply for capital and resource funding to support various aims.

This new fund will support greater participation in the delivery of local services and reduce reliance upon County Council resources, such as management of green spaces and maintaining Rights of Way.

The Town Clerk had written a letter of enquiry and today received the following response from the Rural Programme Support Officer:

“We have a meeting arranged with the Head of Countryside Access to discuss this, and the other similar enquiries we have received, with a view to establishing a local partnership team to progress the possibility of working with your Parish. We will be in a position to respond to you again soon and arrange a preliminary Partnership Team meeting.”

94. 75th ANNIVERSARY DATES

The Chairman referred to the D-Day Landings anniversary date of 6 June 2019 and VE Day on 8 May 2020.

The Town Clerk read out an email from Alan Watson proposing a D-Day anniversary event on Saturday 1 June 2019 and a VE Day event on Saturday 9 May 2020, both organised by the Lions Club.

A formal land-use request will be required for both of these events.

The Chairman advised members that the street trading exercise had been successful and there would be a further meeting with the Working Party in the near future following the meeting with Mandy Ware on 29 November 2018.

95. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 21 January 2019 at 6.30 pm in the Town Hall, Ashley Road, New Milton.

The Chairman thanked members and the public for attending and closed the meeting at 7.32pm.

CHAIRMAN _____

DATE _____



Minute	Action Points	Action by date	To be actioned by
83	Disabled Access Reasonable Adjustments	On-going	Town Clerk
84	Youth Festival	10 August 2019	Youth Co-ordinator
85	Fees & Charges 2019/20	17 December 2018	F&GP
86	Amenities Budget 2019/20	17 December 2018	F&GP
87	Environmental and Sustainability Policy	7 January 2019	Town Council
88	Festive Lighting Working Party	21 January 2019	Amenities Committee
92	Provision of seat along Ashley Road, opposite Warwick Avenue	21 January 2019	Estates & Facilities Manager
94	75 th Anniversary events	D-Day 2019 VE Day 2020	Lions Club

Distribution:

Town Councillors
 Estates & Facilities Manager
 District Councillors C V Ward, J L Cleary
 County Councillors M Kendal, F Carpenter and K Mans
 New Milton Library
 New Milton Police
 Press
 Alan Watson – FOCUS & NMRA