



Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee of the New Milton Town Council held on Monday 4 March 2019 at 6.30 pm in the Town Hall, Ashley Road, New Milton.

Chairman	p	G R Blunden
Vice Chairman	p	D E Hawkins

<u>Councillors</u>		G C Beck	p	W B Davies
		D A Rice Mundy	p	A D O'Sullivan
	p	A W Rice	p	R Murrow
	p	V E Schooling		

In Attendance

Councillors:	S J Clarke
	K Craze
	A Reid
	C Ward

Officers:	G Flexman	Town Clerk
	J Hayward	Administrator
	E Towler	Assistant Administrator

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

The Chairman welcomed Cllr C Ward following her co-election.

113. APOLOGIES

Cllrs Beck and Rice-Mundy.

114. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

115. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

116. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2019, previously circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.



The Minutes were duly signed.

117. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE

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

Referring to minute 103, the Town Clerk informed members that the Doe Copse Way playpark opening will take place on Saturday 9th March at 12pm. Several Councillors voiced their support for the playpark, with a few visiting last week, speaking to parents and local residents and noting its popularity.

118. CORRESPONDENCE

An email received from a resident asking that the playpark be updated at Long Meadow. The Chairman reminded members that it has only been there a few years and that the next playpark to require upgrading is Ashley, built in 2006. The email was noted by members.

The Chairman welcomed Cllr A Rice to the meeting at 6:38pm.

119. LAND USE REQUESTS

a) New Milton Jubilee Fund

A request from the New Milton Jubilee Fund for the use of the Recreation Ground for the New Milton Town Show and Pedal Car Grand Prix on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th July 2019.

RESOLVED:

The New Milton Town Show be permitted to take place on the Recreation Ground on 13th and 14th July 2019.

b) New Milton Lions Club

A request from New Milton Lions Club for the use of the Recreation Ground on Saturday 24th August for the New Milton Food & Drinks Festival.

RESOLVED:

The New Milton Food & Drinks Festival be permitted to take place on the Recreation Ground on 24th August 2019.

c) Afternoons of Music

The Town Clerk confirmed the following dates for the Afternoon of Music events to take place on the Recreation Ground;

- Sunday 2nd June 2019 – featuring We Are Robot



- Sunday 30th June 2019 – Armed Forces Day celebration including a Military Band performance and Army Cadet attendance.
- Sunday 4th August – act to be confirmed.
- Sunday 1st September – act to be confirmed.

120. COMMUNITY HUB

Cllr Rice declared an interest being a member of the Management Committee at the Memorial Centre.

Cllr O'Sullivan gave a verbal update, informing members that the Charity Commissioners will have to agree proposed arrangements. After Lacey's have liaised with Anthony Harris, the Town Council Solicitor, it is hoped a further Working Party meeting will take place at the beginning of April 2019.

121. NO.1 NEW MILTON

Cllr Craze gave an update on the project, informing members that it is progressing well and he thanked Owen Lloyd-Friend for producing the brochure which is currently with the printers. A four-page insert will be going into the April edition of FOCUS magazine, reaching over 3,000 households. Following advice from Jackie Keable of New Forest Disability Information Service, a stair lift won't be fitted but cameras showcasing what is on the first floor will be available. An article is currently being drafted for the A&T, with Eddie Curry voicing his support for the project. Several bids are in the process of being submitted.

122. YOUTH TRUST

Representative Councillors from the Town, District and County Council attended the latest Youth Trust meeting. It was a positive first meeting with the aim of setting up a suitable Charitable Trust. *[Notes of meeting attached]*.

123. ASHLEY PAVILION

Tender documents were received today from Hampshire County Council to be sent to potential Contractors, including locally, for the Heating and Ventilation refurbishment. The plan is to issue the documents for tender on 8th March 2019 via the HCC Minor Works framework, with tender return by 5th April 2019.

124. TREE WORK POLICY

The Chairman referred to Appendix 1, previously circulated.



Councillors noted the addition of paragraph 8 to the Tree Work Policy, being a guide for residents. Cllr Schooling asked how the guide could be better distributed, with suggestions of placing it on our website, Station Road noticeboard and social media platforms.

The Chairman welcomed Cllr W Davies to the meeting at 6:54pm.

125. WAR MEMORIAL

The Chairman referred to Appendix 2, previously circulated, being an email from Nick Saunders about the Centenary of the War Memorial and the Recreation Ground.

Cllr Hawkins suggested involving the Scouts and Girl Guides, as they were during the original opening. A small working group will be set up, the Chairman advising members to contact the Town Clerk if interested in being part of the group.

126. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS REPORT

The Chairman referred to Appendix 3, previously circulated, which members noted. The project was just about on budget this year (2018/19), with increased sponsorship of £7k. The financial matters will be referred to F&GP.

127. MEN'S SHED

The Chairman went out of session at 6:57pm to speak to the Chairman of the New Milton Men's Shed project, Adrian Duckett.

An overview of the group was provided. It is hoped they will acquire a charity status with 30-35 people already taking part, with an average of 18 people attending weekly meetings. Whilst talks, programmes and visits are already taking place, there is not a suitable building for members to undertake practical work. The group are looking into fund-raising options and have already been involved in local community projects.

The Chairman went back into session at 7:05pm.

Fernhill Cricket Ground has a small workshop which, whilst not suitable in the long term, could be suitable in the short term with a self-contained room and toilet facilities. It was suggested it be offered on a peppercorn rent for a year. Cllr Murrow, a Men's Shed member, suggested this be extended to 18 months which was supported by members (subject to operational requirements).

RECOMMENDED:

That the workshop at the Fernhill Cricket Ground be provided for use by the New Milton Men's Shed project for a temporary period of 18 months (subject to operational requirements).

128. CHARGING POINTS

The Chairman provided an update, with possible charging points in NFDC Town Centre car parks. It is hoped that installation will take place next financial year.

129. ANY OTHER UPDATES

The Chairman referred to the ongoing issue of vandalism at Long Meadow, with people creating BMX tracks, cutting down trees of up to 30ft, excavating soil and building 'earth mounds,' which could upset badger setts in the area. If the issue persists, the Police will have to become involved and the Town Council will be looking at criminal damage to common land. It is our duty to protect such common land under our control.

Cllr Murrow gave an update on the Dementia Allotments, thanking Cllr O'Sullivan for his donation towards a permanent wooden gazebo at the site. The Men's Shed are on board to make this, with the Spring party opening due to take place on 23rd April 2019.

130. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 16 April 2019 at 6.30 pm in the Town Hall, Ashley Road, New Milton.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked members and the public for attending and closed the public part of the meeting at 7.26pm.

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

The Chairman moved that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business pursuant to section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reasons of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

131. CCTV

The Chairman referred to Appendix 4, previously circulated.

It was suggested a deployable camera be purchased through NFDC as they were likely to be able to offer the most reasonable deal. This was supported by members.

132. EASEMENT

The Chairman referred to Appendix 5, previously circulated.

Referring to the requested easement along Meadow Way/Solent Drive, the Town Clerk suggested an all-in charge of £20k. Cllr O'Sullivan suggested £15k plus inflation since the valuation some 6 years ago, which members agreed.

It was:

**RECOMMENDED:**

That the Town Council consider issuing an easement for an appropriate sum.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 7.34pm.

CHAIRMAN _____

DATE _____

Minute	Action Points	Action by date	To be actioned by
117	Doe Copse Way Playpark Opening	12 noon 9 March 2019	Estates Manager
119	Land Use Requests	13 March 2019	Administrator
120	Community Hub	Further meeting before Easter	Working Party
124	Publicise revised Tree Work Policy	Ongoing	Assistant Town Clerk
125	Recreation Ground 100 th Anniversary	Set up working party by 31 March 2019	Town Councillors
127	Men's Shed premises	18 March 2019	F&GP Committee
131	Mobile CCTV	31 March 2019	NFDC
132	Easement	18 March 2019	Town Clerk

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