

**NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL****MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY  
13 NOVEMBER 2017 AT 6.30 PM IN THE TOWN HALL, ASHLEY ROAD, NEW MILTON**

Councillors:	p	G C Beck	p	R A Reid
	p	G R Blunden	p	A W Rice
	p	S J Clarke	p	D A Rice-Mundy – Chair
	p	K E Craze – Vice Chair	p	A D O’Sullivan
		R B Dagnall	p	Mrs V E Schooling
	p	S P Davies	p	S P Short
		W Davies	p	D N Tungate
	p	D E Hawkins	p	J G Ward
	p	B Murrow		Mrs C Hexter

In Attendance:      Officers:      G P Flexman - Town Clerk  
Joanna Hayward – Administrator

The Chairman welcomed councillors, members of the public and a press representative to the meeting.

61. APOLOGIES

Cllrs R Dagnall, C Hexter and W Davies.

62. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS/MAYOR’S ENGAGEMENTS

The Mayor announced that New Milton’s oldest resident, Mrs Annie Ridout, had recently passed away aged 110 years old.

It was also acknowledged that HCC Cllr Ken Thornber, former County Councillor had recently passed away just after receiving his Honorary Alderman status.

The Mayor shared the engagements he had attended.

- 7 October – attended the Rydal Arms VIP party celebrating new management, new chef and refurbishments.
- 11 October – attended an event to honour the life of HCC Honorary Alderman Harvey Cole
- 12 October – attended the official re-opening of Morrisons store in Station Road
- 14 October – celebrated Gladys Pocock’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday at Quaker Homes
- 16 October – attended the Scarf New Forest AGM at Forest Arts Centre
- 17 October – enjoyed tea and cake at the Wimborne Dementia Friendly Allotments Harvest celebration in Kingston Lacy
- 18 October – Launch of the Poppy Appeal outside Bradbeers store
- 20 October – A great time was had by all who attended at the Mainly 70’s disco fundraising for the Mayors nominated charities
- 21 October - attended the Lions Club anniversary event at BOS Golf Club

- 27 October - visited St Barbe Museum and delighted to see many fossils and art on display
- 2 November - attended the Citation at HCC Winchester conferring Honorary Alderman status to Cllr Alan Rice TD
- 11 November - attended the Armistice Day service at the War Memorial
- 12 November - attended the New Milton Remembrance Day Parade and Service
- 13 November - attended the RBL MOS & Keyhaven Remembrance Service

The Deputy Mayor had attended :

- 3 October - 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations at Waverley House
- 6 October - the official opening of Premier Stores on Station Road
- 2 November - the official opening of the new Poundstore on Station Road

On behalf of the Mayor, Cllr David Hawkins attended the Remembrance Service at Ballard School on Friday 10 November 2017.

### 63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

### 64. MINUTES

The Chairman referred to the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 2 October 2017 and it was

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 2 October 2017 having been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.***

The minutes were duly signed.

### 65. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) The Town Clerk read out an email from Mr Alan Watson thanking NMTC for the Remembrance Day Ceremonies noting that it was a popular event.

Mr Watson also confirmed the Battles Over commemorative event taking place on 11 November 2018 marking the 100 year anniversary of the end of WW1.

- b) NMTP had written a letter of thanks for the financial support for the Christmas Festival and invited councillors to join the lantern parade on 25 November 2017.
- c) A letter of confirmation regarding the Listed Grade 2 status of the Indian Memorial at Barton on Sea. It was noted that representatives from the Sikh Council Hampshire attended on 11 November 2017 to lay a wreath of remembrance.

66. QUESTIONS

None

67. REPORTS BY COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

County Cllr Fran Carpenter referred to the Downton Manor Farm application to extend the gravel extraction for another 15 years and that she had been invited by NMSB to visit the site.

Cllr Carpenter mentioned that she is part of the HCC Sustainability Transformation Board looking at NHS buildings, services, provision, adult social care, and the aim to strengthen and maintain the independence of these services in supporting people

The NFDC coastal team are reviewing the re-opening of the coast path at Hordle Cliff with landowners and other stakeholders.

The Chairman asked about care at home services and Cllr Carpenter responded that there was a current recruitment drive for care assistants.

County Cllr Mel Kendal mentioned HCC have a £500k fund ostensibly for capital projects available that town and parish councils may apply for and that may also be used for maintenance, weeding, lengthsman agreements, etc. This funding would be available from April 2018 noting that there are nearly 300 parishes eligible to apply in Hampshire.

Cllr Kendal also mentioned the £140m savings that HCC need to make that would probably affect bus subsidies, HWRC's, community transport and school crossing patrols all of which are non-statutory services.

The Chairman asked about the Cango bus service and Cllr Kendal responded that HCC officers are currently reviewing this. There is no answer as yet, but there will be by the end of February 2018.

On a lighter note, Cllr Kendal informed members that HCC had made savings of £50m in the last 5 years with their energy saving initiatives including streetlight maintenance operation and reviewing contracts.

The Chairman asked about the New Milton Memorial Centre, Cllr Kendal confirmed there was a further meeting with the Hampshire Cultural Trust expected but communication and figures are not positive.  
Cllr Kendal then left the meeting.

NFDC Cllr John Ward had chaired the Electoral Review Task and Finish group which was interesting and a recommendation had been made. Cllr Ward had attended the Road Traffic Management Meeting and was disappointed that decisions had already been made before the meeting.

NFDC Cllr S Clarke had attended the same meetings and was also disappointed by the Traffic Management meeting.

Cllr Clarke had also attended a PCP meeting and referred to the Rural Crime Scrutiny Panel supporting Community Speedwatch.

NFDC Cllr G Blunden also attended the Traffic Meeting noting that the traffic calming measures for Becton Lane did not meet the criteria but were being considered further by HCC.

NFDC Cllr A O'Sullivan had attended the same Traffic Meeting acknowledging that funding had been reduced. He was also involved in the Budget Task Group reviewing portfolio holders budgets. NFDC were also continuing with the Customer Services review and website access, systems etc were now being looked at.

NFDC Cllr S Davies said that New Milton only has 800 council homes with at least 1,100 still on the waiting list.

Cllr S Davies was involved in the community grant process with applicants being reviewed on 8 December.

NFDC Cllr N Tungate had attended the Electoral Review group and a planning workshop as well as an employment tribunal and a TPO tribunal.

NFDC Cllr G Beck referred to the NFDC Peer Review meeting with a report due soon. He had attended the Ringwood Health & Leisure Centre re-opening event and was involved in the Public conveniences group noting that the Spencer Road toilets were now demolished and not to be replaced.

## 68. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### a) Planning Committee

Cllr S J Clarke, Chairman of the Planning Committee submitted the minutes of three Planning Committee Meetings held on 12 and 26 October, and 9 November 2017.

Cllr Clarke referred to minute 138 b) being disappointed in the lack of quality workmanship in reinstatement of kerbstones etc and requested that the Chairman write to Virgin Media voicing our concerns.

Cllr A Reid referred to minute 147 and Cllr Clarke confirmed this would be referred to in private session, being Neighbourhood Plan update.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Minutes 117-150 inclusive be received.***

b) Amenities Committee

Cllr G Blunden, Chairman of the Amenities Committee, submitted the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 17 October 2017 and moved their adoption.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Minutes 59-75 inclusive be received.***

c) Finance and General Purposes Committee

Cllr S Davies, Chairman of the F&GP Committee, submitted the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Meeting held on 30 October 2017 and moved their adoption.

Cllr Clarke referred to minute 59 c) acknowledging District Councillors contributions to the proposed SID/SLR purchases and when this is likely to happen.

(Post Meeting Note: Meeting with NFDC/HCC representatives took place on 15 November).

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Minutes 51-67 inclusive be received.***

d) Executive Committee

Cllr D Rice-Mundy, Chairman of the Executive Committee, submitted the minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 6 November 2017, and moved their adoption.

Cllr Clarke referred to minute 33 and requested this item be discussed in private session, being Neighbourhood Plan update.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Minutes 23-34 inclusive be received.***

69. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The Schedule of Payments endorsed by the F&GP Committee on 30 October 2017 was submitted for Council approval.

It was unanimously

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Schedule of Payments No 05/17/18 for the period 1 August to 30 September 2017 be approved in the total sum of £149,969.11.***

The Schedule was duly signed.

70. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS SERVING ON EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

Cllr A O'Sullivan reported that Forest Arts Centre continue to be successful and offer different entertainment including Green Room Live, film showings, children's activities including the 4U craft nights aimed at 11-18 year olds.

Cllr Beck reported that he and the Town Clerk had recently attended the HALC AGM reminding members that NMTC are not fully paid up members, but are a training partner suggesting that there may be benefits in membership of NALC which the Town Clerk will investigate.

Cllr Beck conveyed thanks to the Estates & Facilities Team for their preparations for the Remembrance Day ceremonies and asked members for any ideas for next year's parade commemorating the 100 year anniversary of the end of WW1.

Cllr K Craze thanked Cllr Beck and everyone involved in making the Remembrance Day Service a success.

71. REPORT FROM TOWN DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

The Chairman referred to the written report from the TDM, previously circulated, with no comments forthcoming from members.

72. EXTERNAL AUDIT REVIEW

The Town Clerk referred to Appendix 2, previously circulated.

It was noted the External Audit Report and amended Annual Return were endorsed by the F&GP Committee at its last meeting.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March, 2017 be approved and accepted.**

73. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The Chairman referred to Appendix 3, previously circulated.

The Internal Audit Report including recommendations and responses was endorsed by the F&GP Committee at its last meeting.

It was then

***RESOLVED:***

**That the First Internal Audit Report for 2017/18 be approved and accepted.**

74. ANY ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

None

75. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 8 January 2017 commencing 6.30 pm in the Town Hall, 2 Ashley Road, New Milton.

**DEMOCRATIC HALF HOUR**

Cllr Fran Carpenter asked to speak as a resident regarding the process of consultation and referendum for the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Clarke responded that the process will include an internal review, validation and public consultation followed by a referendum.

Robin Ede spoken on behalf of the New Milton Jubilee Fund and particularly the Pedal Car Race thanking NMTC for their support and reporting that 4,500 people attended the race in the town this summer. This event brings positive benefits to the town and the older and younger generations but costs £10k to organise.

The Chairman said this would be considered as part of the annual budgeting process.

The Chairman thanked the public for attending and closed the public session of the meeting at 7.40 pm.

Cllr Clarke asked that the matter of the Neighbourhood Plan be discussed in private session and members agreed.

**PRIVATE SESSION**

**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.

76. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Clarke referred to the draft document regarding the Neighbourhood Plan, previously circulated. This is the first draft and was being reviewed internally and informally at this stage in order to receive comments. It is a confidential document because it is only a draft document at this stage, and further work continues.

Cllr D Hawkins asked about some of the inaccuracies contained within and Cllr Clarke acknowledged they would be corrected in due course, but it was overall policies that are being looked at presently.

There was a show of hands in support of this draft document, and it was unanimously

***RESOLVED:***

***That the draft Neighbourhood Plan be taken to the next stage of development.***

The Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the private session of the meeting at 7.45 pm.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution:

Town Councillors  
District Councillors Mrs C V Ward, Mrs J L Cleary  
County Councillors M Kendal, F Carpenter and K Mans  
New Milton Library  
New Milton Police  
Press  
Focus & NMRA - Alan Watson