

## NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 24 JUNE 2019 AT 6.30PM IN THE TOWN HALL, ASHLEY ROAD, NEW MILTON, BH25 6AS

Councillors:	p	R A Reid	p	K E Craze
	p	M Brownsea	p	D A Rice-Mundy
	p	G R Blunden	p	A W Rice
	p	S J Clarke	p	A D O'Sullivan
	p	M Craze	p	V E Schooling
	p	S P Davies	p	D N Tungate
		D E Hawkins	p	C V Ward
	p	M Levitt		J G Ward
	p	R Murrow	p	H Wallis-Dowling

In Attendance: Officers: G Flexman - Town Clerk  
J Hayward – Administrator  
M Jeffries – Estates & Facilities Manager  
S King – Town Development Manager

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The Chairman welcomed Councillors, 11 members of the public and a press representative to the meeting.

Referring to concerns about anti-social behaviour in the town, the Chairman invited Brian Byrne, NFDC's Service Manager of Community Safety, to share further information. He said his team met with residents and businesses but had received no direct reports to date. It appears that **reported** ASB/crimes are down, with only one statistic showing that violence against persons, ie. domestic violence had increased by 42 incidents in the last 12 months. Noting that New Milton is generally a safe place, a multi-agency forum had been established, comprising NMTC, NFDC and the Police, which included looking at licencing of alcohol, Shopwatch and CCTV. The residents were asked to continue reporting incidents via 101 and for shopkeepers and residents on Station Road to also complete the Community Diary which will be sent to all high street shops by NFDC.

Members of the public voiced their frustrations about the reporting to 101 which is a cumbersome and lengthy process, if the caller gets through to an operator. Another frustration voiced is that reporting online doesn't allow for ASB incidents. In the event of an emergency, calling 999 is the way to contact the police for action.

The Chairman then opened the meeting at 6.58pm.

18. APOLOGIES

Cllrs D Hawkins and J Ward

19. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS / MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS

The Chairman referred to his nominated charity and asked Mrs Sarah Dibben, Headteacher of Ashley Infants School and lead of Ashley Family Hub, to share information. The Chairman went out of session at 7pm.

Mrs Dibben highlighted the services that Ashley Family Hub provide to local families and how this has improved lives for those in need. A leaflet about the group was circulated at the meeting.

The Mayor concluded by saying that he wanted to "collect coppers for charity" in support of the Ashley Family Hub, his chosen charity for the year and invited all residents to get involved.

The Chairman went back into session at 7.40pm.

The Mayor shared his recent engagements.

19 May	Junior Parkrun anniversary event at Fawcetts Field
20 May	Walking for Health at Ballard Lake
25 May	Lions It's a Knockout on the Recreation Ground

- 02 June Afternoon of Music with We are Robot
- 10 June Young Citizen of the Year at Ashley Rugby Club
- 17 June John Spencer 100<sup>th</sup> birthday
- 18 June New Biz BBQ
- 18 June Visit Ashley Hub – nominated charity
- 24 June Imagine the World Art Exhibition at Durlston Court School

On behalf of the Mayor, Cllrs M Craze and C Ward attended the First Opportunities AGM on 23 May and Cllr K Craze attended the NFDIS Opening event on 4 June.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

21. MINUTES

The Chairman referred to the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 13 May 2019

It was

***RESOLVED:***

**That the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 13 May 2019, having been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.**

The minutes were duly signed.

22. CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk referred to two items of correspondence:

- a) A letter from Brice Stafford, Director of the New Forest Shakespeare Festival, outlining the vision of the festival which Councillors noted with interest, per copy attached.

- b) An email from the Town Council Administrator requesting £250 towards the Indian Memorial Event, noting that £800 had been received from HCC Cllr M Kendal county grant.

The Chairman advised the Council were unable to fulfil this request and asked District Councillors to make up the difference of £250 which Cllrs S Clarke (£100), K Craze (£100) and C Ward (£50) obliged.

The Town Clerk also reminded councillors of the Mayor-Making Reception on 28 June, and the Indian Memorial event on 10 July 2019.

23. QUESTIONS – None

24. REPORTS BY COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

HCC Cllr F Carpenter announced a list of roads that would be having maintenance works undertaken in the coming months including Ashley Common Road, Station Road, Manor Road, Brockhills, Barrs Wood and Gainsborough Roads.

She informed councillors that Children Services had been awarded an “excellent” report by Ofsted citing strong leadership, effective partnerships and skilled social workers.

HCC Cllr M Kendal also referred to the excellent rating received for Children Services as well as reporting on the current HCC consultation regarding the £80m budget savings needed in the next two years. He also referred to the car sales garage on Sea Road selling vehicles with HCC suggesting a low bund be constructed to stop the parking of vehicles on council land.

District Cllr S Davies reported on a busy month at NFDC referring to Appletree Housing, and Boundary alignment review and the increase in staff in the Housing Maintenance team in order to respond to over 19k reactive maintenance calls.

District Cllr N Tungate had also attended GPL and Boundary review.

District Cllr G Blunden had also been busy attending briefing sessions and expected it to continue being busy.

District Cllr S Clarke had also been busy, as well as looking at a statutory review of polling stations and being on the Police Crime Commissioners Panel.

District Cllr A O'Sullivan had been on holiday but had Chaired the Audit Committee and Corporate Overview Panel on his return.

District Cllr C Ward had been on holiday but likewise had chaired the Planning Committee and attended the Health & Leisure committee.

25. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Planning Committee

Cllr S Clarke, Chairman of the Planning Committee, submitted the minutes of the Committee Meetings held on 9, 13 and 23 May, 6 and 20 June 2019 and moved their adoption.

Cllr Clarke referred to minute 17 highlighting to the press and members of the public that sewage works would be carried out on Fernhill Lane and the road would be closed for 5 days.

Cllr Clarke also referred to minute 30 (g) noting the damaged drain cover had been reported HCC Cllr K Mans.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Minutes 241-249 and Minutes 1 to 31 inclusive be received.***

b) Amenities Committee

Cllr G Blunden, Chairman of the Amenities Committee, submitted the Minutes of the Committee Meetings held on 13 May and 3 and 11 June 2019 and moved their adoption.

Cllr Blunden referred to minute 19, as well as referring to the Judges Portfolio being circulated at this meeting and invited the Estates & Facilities Manager to update the meeting on the In-Bloom preparations.

It was noted the hard work that has been going on and the active involvement of the community and the Cllrs thanked the Estates Manager and team for all their efforts.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Minutes 1 to 28 inclusive be received.***

c) Finance and General Purposes Committee

Cllr S Davies, Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, submitted the Minutes of the Committee Meetings held on 13 May and 17 June 2019 and moved their adoption.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

***That Minutes 1 to 20 inclusive be received.***

d) Executive Committee

The Chairman asked Cllr K E Craze to present the minutes.

Cllr K Craze, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee submitted the Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 14 June 2019 and moved their adoption.

It was

**RESOLVED:**

***That Minutes 1-11 inclusive be received.***

Cllr Craze referred to minute 9 (a) No 1 New Milton, providing an update, and asked the Town Council if it was okay to proceed with the project subject to the lease being signed shortly. Members agreed to the lease being signed once the remaining legal queries had been resolved and agreed by the respective solicitors.

26. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The Schedule of Payments endorsed by the F&GP Committee on 17 June 2019 was submitted for Council approval.

It was unanimously

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Schedule of Payments S/No 01/19/20 totalling £221,409.99 for the period 1 April - 31 May 2019 be approved.***

The Schedule was duly signed.

27. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2018/19

The Chairman referred to Appendix 1, Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Cllr H Wallis-Dowling referred to page 3 and noted the incorrect spelling of her surname, which was subsequently amended.

It was

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Financial Statements for 2018/19 be approved.***

The document was duly signed on page 4 by the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) and the Chairman and Town Clerk / RFO both signed the Balance Sheet on page 10.

28. ANNUAL RETURN

The Chairman referred to Appendix 2, the Annual Return for 2018/19 Section 1 & 2.

- a) The Town Clerk referred to Page 4 - Annual Governance Statement.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Annual Governance Statement for 2018/19 be approved and signed by the Chairman and Town Clerk.***

The Annual Governance Statement was duly signed by the Chairman and Town Clerk.

- b) The Town Clerk then referred to Page 5 - Accounting Statements 2018-19.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Accounting Statements for 2018/19 be approved and signed by the Chairman and Town Clerk.***

The Accounting Statements for 2018-19 were duly signed by the Chairman and Town Clerk.

29. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The Chairman referred to Appendix 3, being the Internal Audit Report for 2018/19.

It was

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Final Internal Audit Report the for 2018-19 be accepted and approved.***



30. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS SERVING ON EXTERNAL BODIES

Cllr R Murrow provided an update on the visit to Canteleu with the New Milton Twinning Association and also Cllr D Rice-Mundy.

The Tall Ships Armada was a spectacular event and the French hospitality was incredible. Cllr Murrow suggested that a budget be made available for hosting the French visitors return visit next year.

Cllr Rice-Mundy added that it was a brilliant event and felt we should be doing more in order to build on our relationships with Canteleu, as indicated in the speech he delivered upon his arrival in France.

31. TOWN DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

The Chairman invited the Town Development Manager to summarise her report which had been previously circulated to members.

Alan Watson was thanked for his work on the Neighbourhood Plan website.

32. ANY ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

a) The Chairman asked members to be considerate when using meeting paper copies and wherever possible to use a tablet or to let the Administrator know if paper copies were required. Two Councillors asked if the meeting papers could be more user-friendly and “bundled together”.

b) The Chairman referred to his Collect Coppers for Charity encouraging councillors to be supportive of his nominated charity.

33. NEXT MEETING

The Town Council Meeting will be taking place on **Monday 12 August 2019** at 6.30pm in the Town Hall, 2 Ashley Road, New Milton.

**DEMOCRATIC HALF HOUR**

The Chairman invited members of the public to speak.

Alan Watson, representing NMRA, referred to the VE75 event being planned for next year and reminded councillors about the Pedal Car Grand Prix on 13/14 July 2019.

Mr Roy 'Tink' Snudden informed Councillors about the dip in the road/footway at the entrance to Spencer Road car park which has been reported to HCC Highways.

*(Post meeting note: HCC Reference 21435306)*

Mr Snudden also referred to poor use of the microphones by those present, which was noted.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.15pm.

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

**Distribution:**

Town Councillors

District Councillors Mrs J L Cleary

County Councillors M Kendal, F Carpenter, K Mans

New Milton Library

New Milton Police

Press

Alan Watson – Focus & NMRA

Mark Jeffries – Estates & Facilities Manager