



18 June 2017 – The Great Get Together picnic was a brilliant afternoon with amazing weather and well done to Alan Watson for arranging this event.

18 June 2017 – attended the Annual Hampshire County Service at Winchester Cathedral and a great service in a great venue.

24 June 2017 – participated in the commemoration of Armed Services Day at the War Memorial, but disappointingly only the Mayor and one British Legion representative attended.

The Deputy Mayor, Cllr K Craze, attended one engagement at the Amazing Thai Festival on 10 June 2017, and pleased to report it was a wonderful occasion.

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

19. MINUTES

The Chairman referred to the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 8 May 2017 and it was

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 8 May 2017 having been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.***

The minutes were duly signed.

20. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) The Town Clerk read out an email from Alan Watson referring to two more Lions Centennial events and thanking NMTC for their support.
- b) The Town Clerk referred to an email received from Brian Hill, HCC Engineer, about notification of proposed works to the railway footbridge requesting our input to help manage the road closures and traffic issues this will bring.

21. QUESTIONS

The Chairman referred to Cllr S Clarke's question submitted under SO 24 regarding the council's tree replacement policy.

The Town Clerk advised that the total number of new trees planted last year equates to approximately one a month with less than £1k being spent and the tree replacement policy was drawn up following advice from Bryan Wilson of the New Forest NPA at the time.

Cllr Clarke suggestion that we consider replacement trees to be sponsored in remembrance instead of donated benches, which will be considered by the Donated Seats Working Party.

Cllr Blunden confirmed the council's commitment to the tree policy and noted that we support environmental groups such as Friends of Ballard Water Meadow and the Andrew Lane Neighbourhood Group in planting trees. Furthermore, Barker Mill Foundation had recently planted 12,000 trees at Ashley Manor Farm and had an ongoing planting policy.

Cllr A Rice had recently contacted Nik Gruber, Senior Tree Officer at New Forest NPA about tree felling who had responded that he hadn't noticed any increase in tree felling requests in New Milton.

It was agreed the suggestion of sponsored trees rather than benches has merit and will be considered by the Working Party when reviewing council policy regarding donated / replacement seats.

## 22. REPORTS BY COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

County Councillor Fran Carpenter reported on her activity as a newly-elected county councillor participating in the Adult and Social Care Select committee which was very interesting and she was pleased to report that HCC provide a strong, robust and highly effective service supporting children and families affected by domestic abuse. She had also attended to district council issues concerning heating and housing on the Marrayat Road estate as well as dealing with traffic and speeding issues around Kennard Road and Manor Road junction.

County Councillor Keith Mans reported that overall education results in Hampshire are good compared to grammar schools in Kent. Children in Hampshire having a good grasp of Maths and English. HCC has made savings of £340m over the last 6 years however another £140m savings is required over the next 2 years.

Cllr Mans was aware of the Bashley 30mph signage issues but supported the Bashley residents with their campaign for repeater signs. Although it could be a complicated matter, he believed a common sense approach should be adopted.

Cllr Mans also mentioned that he has a small budget of £8k available for community engagement projects in his area.

The Chairman took the meeting out of session to allow Keith Bloodworth, Bashley resident, to speak regarding the 30mph signage at Bashley.

*Keith Bloodworth appreciated the limited responsibility of NMTC in terms of traffic and road management concerns but asked for an update on their previous request for roundel repeater signage. Another Bashley resident, Dan Smith, voiced his concerns that we shouldn't have to wait for a death before action is taken.*

The Chairman closed the public participation period and returned to the meeting at 7.10 pm.

The Town Clerk referred to the recent response from Hampshire Highways (see F&GP Minute 16b). Cllrs agreed NFDC Transportation Section should be approached for further advice and guidance, before sending a follow-up letter to the Portfolio Holder.

NFDC Cllrs Clarke, Blunden, Tungate and O'Sullivan had nothing to report.

Cllr S Davies reported that the NFDC disabled facilities grant had received additional funds allowing an increase to the grant cap per dwelling from £30k to £40k and allow for the recruitment of an Occupational Therapist to assist in the assessment of 80 applications on the waiting list.

Cllr Davies, as Governor of Tiptoe School, had attended Forest School based at Hoburne Bashley, a private woodland management scheme managed by Paul Brockman and funded by Hoburne. This was an inspired and impressive environment promoting learning and education of woodland crafts, skills and awareness.

## 23. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### a) Planning Committee

Cllr S J Clarke, Chairman of the Planning Committee submitted the minutes of five Planning Committee Meetings held on 8, 11 and 25 May plus 8 and 22 June 2017.

Cllr Clarke referred to minute 20 and advised that NFDC had deferred the local plan consultation to after September which affected the NMTC neighbourhood plan consultation as well.

Cllr Clarke referred to minute 20 (i) and was particularly disappointed and aggrieved that NMTC had not been consulted regarding the Wiggle Cycle event affecting roads and traffic in Bashley and North New Milton on Saturday 1 July when over 1,000 cyclists would take part. Members agreed it was unacceptable they were not formally consulted. It was noted a similar event will happen again on 16-17 September. The Chairman asked for a letter to be sent requesting that we be consulted and a letter to Bashley Village Hall as well to clarify their involvement with the Wiggle Event.

Cllr A Reid referred to minute 43 (e) and put forward the options suggested for timing of the works to replace the new footbridge at the railway station. Members agreed it should not take place in November/December and not when Virgin Media undertake their works in the vicinity. The preferred option being early 2018 in January/February as this was considered a quieter time of year. This was unanimously agreed by members.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Minutes 1 - 45 inclusive be received.***

b) Amenities Committee

Cllr G Blunden, Chairman of the Amenities Committee, submitted the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 8 and 30 May 2017 and moved their adoption. Noting amendments to minute numbering and the inclusion of Cllr A O'Sullivan as an attendee on 8 May 2017.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Minutes 1 - 23 inclusive be received.***

c) Finance and General Purposes Committee

Cllr S P Davies, Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee submitted the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Meeting held on 8 May and 12 June 2017 and moved their adoption.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Minutes 1 - 20 inclusive be received.***

24. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The Schedule of Payments endorsed by the F&GP Committee on 12 June 2017 was submitted for Council approval.

It was unanimously

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Schedule of Payments No 01/16/17 totalling £141,260.96 for the period 1-30 April 2017 and 02/17/18 in the sum of £125,221.16 for the period 1-31 May 2017 be approved in the total sum of £266,482.12.***

The Schedule was duly signed.

25. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2016/17

The Chairman referred to Appendix 1, previously circulated.

The Town Clerk referred to an item requiring amendment following a review by F&GP: On page 3, Cllr K E Craze title was changed from Deputy Mayor to Vice Chairman.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Financial Statements for 2016-17 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.

26. ANNUAL RETURN

The Chairman referred to Appendix 2, Annual Return, previously circulated.

The Town Clerk referred to Page 2 of the Annual Return.  
It was

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Annual Governance Statement for 2016/17 be approved and signed by the Chairman and Town Clerk.**

Town Clerk then referred to restatement of Box 8 on page 3, noting 2016 figures may be similarly amended subject to discussions between accountants / internal auditors.

Members of the Council considered the accounts for the year, noting Boxes 8 and 9.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Accounting Statements for 2016/17 be approved.**

27. BRITAIN IN BLOOM

The Chairman referred to Appendix 3, previously circulated.

The South & South East in Bloom judging will take place on 30 June 2017 assessing our town centre entry. The Town Clerk will circulate further information with the minutes.

Cllr G Blunden complemented the Estates & Facilities team for all their work maintaining the town's appearance, particularly sports facilities and floral displays under challenging conditions and having received three wonderful compliments from local residents recently with everything looking good.

28. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2017/2018

The Chairman referred to Appendix 4, Calendar of Meetings, noting three highlighted amendments at the end.

To confirm, the Mayors Charity Ball will take place on Saturday 10 March 2018 and the Annual Civic Service will be held on Sunday 15 April 2018 (not 17 April 2018).

Cllr Blunden asked if Armed Forces Day could be added to the civic calendar to act as a reminder for councillors to attend in future.

An amended calendar will be sent out with the minutes.

29. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS SERVING ON EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

Cllr A O'Sullivan was pleased to report that Forest Arts Centre are going from strength to strength and continuing to develop activities and relationships within the town.

The Milton Heritage Society exhibition launch was very successful and 53 people had signed up for membership at £12 per annum offering six talks a year in the Memorial Centre.

30. REPORT FROM TOWN DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

The Chairman referred to the written report from the TDM, previously circulated, noting the update to the new website which looks very good.

Cllr V Schooling confirmed that the TDM and TESH were confident the new website would be easier to maintain and the TESH had made a decision that the TDM and the Admin Apprentice would be responsible for that.

Cllr K Craze praised the TDM for her hard work in producing the website and her work on the Smart Town proposal and the science parks.

Referring to the smart town initiative, Cllr D Hawkins asked for pressure to be applied to get Virgin Media installed in Barton on Sea and Cllr Craze suggested we seek local MP support.

Cllr Blunden had concerns regarding Virgin Media working in Station Road and the impact to the paving stones which are Chinese with no replacements readily available. The works in the high street must be competently undertaken and carefully handled.

31. ANY ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

Although not an urgent matter, the Chairman allowed Cllr S Clarke to mention his concerns regarding the bridge on the A35 and wants to know what is going on there as this will impact on New Milton residents.

(Post Meeting Note: In regard to the scheme to replace the old Holmsley Railway bridge near the Tearooms, due to the sensitive location and need to save up sufficient funds, works are not likely to start for a couple of years. In the meantime, HCC are looking at measures to keep the existing bridge going)

32. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 7 August 2017 commencing 6.30 pm in the Town Hall, 2 Ashley Road, New Milton.

**DEMOCRATIC HALF HOUR**

Cllr Fran Carpenter referred to an email she had received from HCC Operation Resilience with information regarding works taking place at Bashley Cross Road roundabout starting Friday 30 June 2017 and how this might impinge on the Wiggle Cycle event on Saturday 1 July 2017. There is a fully signed diversion in place.

(Post Meeting Note: The works have been delayed until 4 July, to avoid any conflict)

The Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.05 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