



Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee of New Milton Town Council held on Tuesday 7 September 2021 at 6.30 pm at the Town Hall, Ashley Road, New Milton, BH25 6AS.

Chairman p G R Blunden

Vice Chairman p D E Hawkins

Councillors: p M Craze p C V Ward
 D A Rice-Mundy p A D O'Sullivan
 A W Rice R Murrow
 p V E Schooling

In Attendance

Councillors: S Clarke, S Davies, H Wallis-Dowling, D Samber, K Craze

Officers: G Flexman - Town Clerk J Hayward - Communications Officer
 M Jeffries – Estates Manager

The Chairman welcomed Councillors, Officers, 2 members of the public and a press representative to this first face to face meeting in the Town Hall for 18 months.

The Chairman referred to the sad news of the death of former New Milton Town Councillor Tom Merifield who was first elected a Town Councillor for the Fernhill Ward in May 2003, serving 3 terms of office until May 2015, as an active member of both the Amenities Committee and Planning Committee throughout his 12-year tenure with the Council.

The funeral service is due to take place on 23 September 2021 at 11am at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Mount Avenue with interment thereafter at Milford Road Cemetery.

Bob Lord referred to Agenda item 8, particularly the proposed NFDC development on land adjacent to Moore Close. He shared his concerns about the apparent loss of Biodiversity Net Gain on this site and asked for further mitigation to be considered.

36. APOLOGIES

Cllrs D Rice-Mundy, A Rice and B Murrow.

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

38. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman thanked Bob Lord for his comments and suggested he refer to NFDC. Cllr S Clarke confirmed that this matter had been previously brought up by Mr Lord at our Planning Committee.

39. MINUTES**RESOLVED:**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 July, previously circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

The Minutes would be signed in due course.

40. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

The Town Clerk confirmed all action points listed had been addressed, with a further Pavement Facilities WP taking place this week.

Minute	Action Points	Action by date	To be actioned by
22	Land Use Requests approved	ASAP	Communications Officer
27	Centenary Clock Repairs £978	7 Sep 2021	Town Clerk
28	Heritage Board Recreation Ground	7 Sep 2021	Estates Manager
29	Fernhill Crossing Point £4.5k CIL	26 July 2021	F&GP
30	Pavement Facilities Working Party	7 Sept 2021	Town Clerk
33	Festive Lighting Contract £7,185	26 July 2021	F&GP
35	Resurface Rec Play Area £68,395	26 July 2021	F&GP

The Chairman referred to Minute 23 Listed Buildings and in particular the images of the proposed enhancements at the old Air Raid Shelter on the corner of Station Road/Avenue Road that could not be shown at our last meeting.

The images were shown on the projector screen and the enhancements were noted by members.

41. CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk referred to the following items of correspondence:

- a) An email from HCC regarding the new proposed Station Road Footbridge advising the scheme is progressing slowly, after 12 years.
- b) An acknowledgement letter from the PCC thanking us for our letter expressing interest in the new ASB Task Force being set up.

42. LAND USE REQUESTS

The Town Clerk referred to the following:

a) **ASBOC**

An email from Elaine Ramsdale of ASBOC requesting a community sporting project take place on Ashley Recreation Ground from 23-25 October 2021.

RESOLVED: Agreed subject to terms and conditions of use being agreed.

43. MOORE CLOSE

The Chairman provided an overview of the facilities at Fawcetts Field and Moore Close. An image was shown on the projector screen of the current facilities, and it was noted future impacts could be a BMX pump track, Community Garden, reconfiguration of the pitches, and enhancement of the training pitch. These would be considered as part of an upcoming Green Space Management Plan working with NFDC Planning.

Cllr S Davies suggested that we also consider looking at neighbouring parish council facilities for comparison.

44. RECREATION GROUND

The Estates & Facilities Manager provided an update on the surfacing works at the Play Park in late September, expected duration 4 weeks, and the Skate Park, thereafter, expected duration 2 weeks.

It was noted that the Muga had been repaired and reopened but had suffered again from further vandalism.

There was a discussion regarding CCTV noting further pressure is being put on NFDC and also a request for costings for other types of CCTV.

45. ASHLEY RECREATION GROUND

The Chairman provided an update from the Working Party proposing Scheme B to be undertaken from mid-October, starting with the playpark. Subject to prevailing weather conditions. The youth building/storage would be started in March 2022 with the final phase of the car park being carried out thereafter.

An image was shown of Scheme B on the projector screen which members noted.



46. BUS SHELTERS

The Chairman invited Cllr Mrs V Schooling to provide an update to members on behalf of the Working Party, stating 3 new bus shelters would be purchased, two replacements required and one new one alongside Bradbeers.

An image was shown on the projector screen of the proposed type of bus shelter design. Cllr Schooling highlighted the following that was agreed.

RECOMMENDATION:

That 3 new bus shelters be purchased, two replacements for Station Road south (eastern side) and Whitefield Road, funded from reserves of £26k, and a brand new one for outside Bradbeers in Station Road south (western side) in the sum of £14k from CIL monies.

47. PAVEMENT FACILITIES

The Chairman provided an update on the initial Pavement Facilities Working Party Meeting which had explored the vibrancy of the town centre and consideration of initiatives to work with traders. A further meeting will take place later this week.

48. ANY OTHER ITEMS

- a) Cllr K Craze provided an update on the No.1 project noting a further Zoom meeting would take place with SWR regarding the appointment of contractors by SWR, confirmation of funding, and moving forward with the work. It was agreed the meeting would include 2 Officers and 2 Councillors noting that the lease would not be signed until the monetary arrangements were correct and confirmed.
- b) The Chairman noted that the Afternoon of Music held on Sunday 5 September was a successful event, with an estimated 400 people in attendance, and was delighted to note that no litter was left when the event finished. The Chairman thanked the Estates team for their continued hard work and efforts in putting on these events.
- c) The Chairman advised members that we had temporarily installed pumps to oxygenate Ballard Lake following reports of struggling fish gasping at the surface during the current heatwave.
- d) The Chairman referred to HLS sites at Ballard Water Meadow and Barton Common noting that conservation grazing of cattle/ponies would soon resume on these sites. Other HLS works at Barton Common would take place soon particularly scrub and gorse clearance in the Autumn.

Cllr D Samber voiced his concerns about the dangers of the public feeding grazing livestock and the Chairman confirmed that signage would again be put up saying 'no feeding', 'keep dogs under control' and 'close the gates'.

49. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 18 October 2021 at 630pm at the Town Council Offices.

The Chairman thanked members of the public for attending and closed the Public Session of the meeting at 7.35pm to allow for a Private Session.

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

The Chairman moved that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items 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.

50. BARTON COMMON LANE

The Chairman referred to Appendix 1, email regarding Barton Common Lane and members noted a request from a utility company to install services. The Clerk was asked to write to them explaining that would be dependent on planning permission.

51. MOORE CLOSE MITIGATION

The Chairman referred to Appendix 2, email from NFDC regarding mitigation for Moore Close development of land off Caird Avenue. It is understood that this is already an allocated green space, and this could be a 'double' allocation. It was agreed the Clerk would reply to NFDC accordingly.

52. FAWCETTS FIELD LED FLOODLIGHTS

The Chairman referred to Appendix 3, information regarding LED floodlights at Fawcetts Field. After a brief discussion, it was

RECOMMENDED:

That the quote from Eco Club in the sum of £28k be accepted and an order placed for the work to be carried out.

The Chairman thanked Councillors and Officers for attending and closed the meeting at 7.50pm.

CHAIRMAN _____

DATE _____



Minute	Action Points	Action by date	To be actioned by
42 a)	Land use request granted ASBOC Sporting project	ASAP	Communications Officer
46	Recommendation regarding 3 x Bus Shelters to be Purchased	20 September 2021	F&GP
50	Utility Company request, Common	ASAP	Town Clerk
51	Clarification of mitigation for NFDC Moore Close development	ASAP	Town Clerk
52	Recommendation to purchase Fawcetts Field LED Floodlights	20 September 2021	F&GP

Distribution:

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