

Minutes of the Zoom online meeting of the Amenities Committee of the New Milton Town Council held on Monday 13 July 2020 at 6.30 pm.

Chairman	p	G R Blunden
Vice Chairman	p	D E Hawkins

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

In Attendance

Councillors: S Clarke, A Reid

Officers:	G Flexman	Town Clerk
	M Jeffries	Estates & Facilities Manager
	J Hayward	Administrator

The Chairman welcomed councillors and five members of the public to the online meeting, together with three officers from the Town Council, and asked attendees to note the online meeting protocols.

Mr Bob Lord referred to the previous meeting and minute 156, particularly the Chairman's comments regarding tree-felling and ivy-banding and asked if the Chairman had any further comments.

Mr Lord also referred to the FBWM poster (Appendix 2) advising that the contact details were now changed from the current Chairman to the FBWM website.

He also informed the meeting of the current Swift surveying being undertaken by Hampshire Swifts <https://www.hampshireswifts.co.uk/> on the North Milton estate and recommended observers to come along early evening and see the spectacular flight display as they returned to their nest sites. Mr Lord suggested that swift nest boxes could be installed at the Town Hall, if NMTC could discuss with the landlords NFDC.

Mr Alan Watson referred to car-boots and if they will be started again, noting the additional costs of running them in terms of sanitisation stations and increased insurance requirements and premiums.

Mr Watson also referred to the volume of emails he had received from residents regarding their concerns of the traffic flow management instigated by NMTC and particularly the Osborne Road closure.

Mr Adrian Duckett, representing New Milton Men's Shed, referred to the current facility at Fernhill Sports Ground and asked for consideration of an extension to their current tenancy.

170. APOLOGIES - None

171. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

172. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman thanked Mr Lord for his comments and advised that there will be a written response forthcoming regarding the ivy-banding. In respect to the previous meeting comments, the Chairman confirmed his comments remain as is.

The suggestion regarding the Swift nest boxes was welcomed.

Responding to Mr Watson, the Chairman confirmed that there is no change to the cancellation of this year's car boot sales.

In respect to the comments regarding the road closure at Osborne Road, the Chairman reiterated the reasoning which was to mitigate against overwhelming crossing traffic at this junction. The matter is reviewed weekly.

The Chairman acknowledged the comments made by Mr Duckett which would be discussed at agenda item 10.

173. MINUTES

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 June 2020, previously circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

The Minutes would be duly signed in due course.

174. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE

None

175. CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk referred to an email from local resident Julia Stamper regarding the unsightly shipping container at Ballard Lake. Correspondence from Pam Petheridge of FBWM who had offered to arrange an artist to depict and paint typical wildlife flora and fauna on the container thereby providing tasteful camouflage.

Members supported this idea.

176. LAND USE REQUESTS

The Town Clerk referred to the following request:

A review of the proposed Remembrance Service commemorating the 80th anniversary on 23 August 2020 of the bombing of New Milton during WWII.

Members did not consent to this request but suggested that we could commemorate the event via social media and the newspaper.

Members agreed to cancel all events on the Recreation Ground for the rest of the year, pending further Government advice.



177. PLAYPARKS

The Estates & Facilities Manager confirmed that the town's playparks and MUGA had been inspected and reopened for the public to use. The equipment and usage would be reviewed regularly.

178. GREEN ROUTES

The Town Clerk referred to an email received from Jill Colclough from NFDC with an update on the various projects within the NFDC Greenway Scheme in New Milton.

A working party meeting will be arranged in due course.

179. MEN'S SHED

The Chairman referred to Appendix 1, a letter from New Milton Men's Shed regarding a temporary extension to their licence for using the shed at Fernhill Sports Ground.

There was a consensus of support from Councillors for the Men's Shed and to extend their licence.

Cllr A O'Sullivan suggested that rather than 6-month extension a 12-month extension be considered which was supported by other members.

It was then

RECOMMENDED:

That New Milton Men's Shed licence be extended for 12 months to 30 September 2021.

180. BALLARD WATER MEADOW

The Chairman referred to Appendix 2, the poster from Friends of Ballard Water Meadow.

The proposed change of contact details was noted and would appear on our website.

181. AFTERNOONS OF MUSIC

The Chairman referred to the August & September Afternoons of Music and it was noted that these events had generated a lot of interest on social media.

The Estates & Facilities Manager referred to the government guidance regarding outdoor events and in particular it would be our responsibility to risk-assess and risk-manage any events as well as police the social distancing requirements which would prove difficult on public open space.

Arrangements for the proposed War Memorial Centenary commemoration on 27 September were also noted.



Members agreed that all Council organised outdoor events be postponed for this year.

182. CENTENARY ROSE GARDEN

The Chairman referred to Appendix 3, proposed Centenary Rose Garden report and thanked the Estates Manager for compiling this report and the following report at minute 183 at short notice.

This project will be considered with other community groups and would also seek to be part-funded by sponsorship as well as via CIL monies.

Cllr A O'Sullivan was opposed to the project as he does not consider the Recreation Ground to be an appropriate place for a Rose Garden and asked that the terms of use for the War Memorial Charity be reviewed to see if this is acceptable.

Members supported the project.

It was

RECOMMENDED:

That up to £15k CIL monies be earmarked for this project.

183. CHILDREN'S FAIRY DOORS WALK

The Chairman referred to Appendix 4, proposed walk from Doe Copse Way to Ballard Lake area.

Councillors supported the proposal and were keen to include educational and seasonal messages supported by the FBWM and Men's Shed.

It was

RECOMMENDED:

That up to £3k CIL monies be earmarked for this project.

184. OTHER UPDATES

The Town Clerk confirmed that we continue to support the Basics Bank food parcel deliveries on Fridays and expected this to be ongoing for the foreseeable future.

The Town Clerk confirmed that Street Trading had improved with good quality stalls available for residents to visit and fresh food produce seemed very popular.

The Chairman referred to the Traffic Management measures in place in the town and confirmed these remained in place to aid the required social distancing. However, these measures would continue to be monitored on a weekly basis.

Following recent verbal abuse directed at the Estates & Facilities Manager from a local trader in Station Road, it was noted that Council officers will not tolerate such abuse and are permitted to discontinue conversations where verbal abuse takes place. The Town Clerk will inform the Police of such incidents in future.

185. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 8 September 2020 at 6.30 pm. Location will be confirmed on the Agenda.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked members, officers, and the public for attending and closed the meeting at 7.35pm.

CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____

Minute	Action Points	Action by date	To be actioned by
172	Swift nest boxes Town Hall NFDC	8 September	Administrator
175	Camouflage container at Ballard Meadow	8 September	FBWM
178	Green Routes Working Party	8 September	Town Clerk
179	Men's Shed Licence	27 July	F&GP
180	Ballard Water Meadow Poster	8 September	Administrator
182	Centenary Rose Garden	27 July	F&GP
183	Children's Fairy Doors	27 July	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
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 Alan Watson – FOCUS & NMRA