



Minutes of the Zoom online meeting of the Amenities Committee of the New Milton Town Council held on Tuesday 13 April 2021 at 6.30 pm via Zoom.

Chairman p G R Blunden

Vice Chairman p D E Hawkins

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

In Attendance

Councillors: S Clarke, S Davies, A Reid, D Samber, N Tungate,

Officers:

G Flexman Town Clerk

T Elliott Assistant Town Clerk

S King TDM

J Hayward Communications Officer

M Jeffries Estates Manager

S Ramsaywack YSM

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The Chairman welcomed councillors, 8 members of the public, 6 officers and a press representative to the online meeting.

The Chairman referred to the recent death of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and offered condolences to the Queen and the Royal Family.

There followed 2 minutes silence.

The Chairman invited the Town Mayor, Cllr Alvin Reid, to share some words on Prince Philip's life and he recounted some interesting information about his naval connections.

The Town Clerk referred to wreaths and flowers being laid at the War Memorial if required and that any messages will be recorded, noting that online messages can be recorded at [Books of Condolence | The Royal Family](#)

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Julia Stamper representing NMRA CIA referred to the Community Garden project supporting the identified location north west of Ballard Meadow and that there had been 70 expressions of interest from residents wanting to be involved.

Bob Lord representing Conservation Connection New Forest South thanked the Council for their enthusiastic support for the Big Bee Rescue and identifying an area at Fawcetts Field entrance for planting native wildflowers.

Bob Lord representing the Friends of Ballard Water Meadow applauded the Community Garden initiative but asked for the identified location of north west of Ballard Meadow to be reconsidered and offered his thoughts on alternative locations.



Cary Lightfoot representing the Creative Kids Charity outlined her request to host an event to the rear of The Barn utilising part of the youth football area at Fawcetts Field to the rear of the Barn on August Bank Holiday weekend.

266. APOLOGIES - Cllr A Rice

267. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

268. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman noted the comments regarding the Community Garden, and this would be discussed further as Agenda item 10.

The Chairman said the Creative Kids event would be discussed at Agenda item 7 Land Use Requests.

269. MINUTES

It was

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2021, previously circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.***

The Minutes would be signed in due course.

270. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Minute	Action Points	Action by date	To be actioned by	Status
249	Extended leave of absence Cllr Rice	29 March 2021	Town Council	Completed
254	Purdah advice from Matt Wisdom NFDC	6 May 2021	Members	Completed
256	Col Wheeler Plaque location on the Rec	13 July 2021	Amenities	Noted
257	CCTV at BoS meeting of ward members	29 March 2021	Cllr B Murrow	Completed
258	CIL funding for Green Routes of £30k	15 March 2021	F&GP	Endorsed
265	Review Bowls Club rent from April 2021	15 March 2021	F&GP	Town Clerk Estates Man

271. CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk referred to the following items of correspondence:



Two emails received from residents at Doe Copse Way regarding inconsiderate parking alongside the play park outside their homes.

Cllr S Clarke confirmed that inconsiderate parking was a regular occurrence here and that Doe Copse Way is a narrow road therefore affecting residents' access.

The Estates & Facilities Manager will review the situation and recommend a solution.

## 272. LAND USE REQUESTS

The Town Clerk referred to the following Land Use Requests:

- a. Circus Ginnett requesting to use Moore Close Field from 9 - 22 August 2021.  
Agreed subject to any prevailing Covid restrictions.
- b. Bowls Club Clubhouse 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration August Bank Holiday weekend.  
Agreed subject to any prevailing Covid restrictions.
- c. Wreath-laying at the Indian Obelisk at Barton on Sea on Saturday 10 July 2021.  
Agreed subject to any prevailing Covid restrictions.
- d. Remembrance at the New Milton Memorial Clock on Monday 23 August 2021.  
Agreed subject to any prevailing Covid restrictions.
- e. Afternoons of Music at the Performance Pavilion on Sunday 4 July and Sunday 1 August. Agreed subject to any prevailing Covid restrictions.
- f. Creative Kids requesting use of the youth football pitches at Fawcetts Field on August Bank Holiday weekend.

Cllr S Clarke asked Creative Kids to include the local police in the planning of any events and to refer the matter to the NFDC Licensing process.

The Chairman expressed his concerns about using Fawcetts Field for vehicular access of up to 40 VW vehicles for this event with the Estates Manager advising that pitch renovations would have been completed by then in time for any pre-season friendlies/tournaments at the start of the season.

Councillors supported the idea of the Creative Kids festival but suggested further discussion take place with the event organiser before any decision is made.  
Event subject to further discussion.

- g. NFDC request to erect Heras Fencing on the NMTC side of the plot of land at Moore Close to allow site assessment works including trial pits to be undertaken.  
To place the fence on the development side of the boundary would involve cutting back a substantial number of large trees and branches.  
Agreed.

**273. LONG MEADOW**

The Chairman provided an update to the recent complaints about the damage to the woodland area at Long Meadow and discussions on site about a BMX track, suggesting a Working Party meeting to progress the matter further. Long Meadow forms part of Barton Common, and is therefore a protected area, designated SINC.

The Chairman mentioned the possibility of the BMX track at Moore Close as well as another play park commissioned by NMTC. There followed debate and discussion regarding general play provision in the town.

**274. CCTV**

The Chairman asked Cllr O'Sullivan to provide an update on the Working Party visit to Barton on Sea cliff top to review the CCTV proposal with Brian Byrne of NFDC. In summary, having looked at the toilets on the cliff top, and on the beach, it was determined local CCTV cameras may be the answer, as at Fawcetts / Bowling club.

**275. COMMUNITY GARDEN**

The Chairman referred to Appendix 1, map of north west Ballard Meadow, identifying a suggested location for the Community Garden.

Councillors considered the comments made in public participation and agreed a Working Party needs to be formed working with NMRA CIA.

The Chairman said that the proposal for the Community Garden should include how it would be financed, design and implementation, maintenance, administration including public liability and risk assessment, bearing in mind this is a community garden and not an allotment.

**276. TOWN CENTRE**

Chairman referred to Appendix 2, plans to improve facilities and appearance of the Town Centre with a recommendation to complete these works as soon as possible.

Cllr Mrs V Schooling thanked the Estates Manager for a comprehensive report and asked about the status with HCC's maintenance responsibilities.

Cllr N Tungate suggested removing the resin mulch around the Station Road trees and planting flowers instead. The Estates Manager will look at the practicalities.

Cllr O'Sullivan asked if there had been a response from Natwest regarding the untidy area outside the old building. The Estates Manager has the matter in hand.

It was

***RESOLVED: That all remedial works be undertaken as soon as possible.***

277. FESTIVE LIGHTS

The Chairman referred to Appendix 3, the comprehensive contract for 2021-23 displays that was noted by members.

The Chairman thanked the Assistant Town Clerk for her excellent report.

278. BEE PROJECT

The Chairman referred to Appendix 4, Conservation Connections New Forest South request for a native wildflower site and the proposed site at Fawcetts Field entrance. Bob Lord representing Conservation Connection New Forest South had expressed his enthusiastic support for the Big Bee Rescue and use of this area.

279. NO.1 PROJECT

The Chairman deferred this item as there is no further update available at this time.

280. ASHLEY RECREATION GROUND

The Chairman referred to Appendix 5, being draft plans for Ashley Recreation Ground.

NFDC Landscape Architect, Jill Colclough, outlined a summary of the play area and equipment and the intention to get stakeholder feedback in the coming weeks.

The Chairman said an Extraordinary meeting would be held via Zoom on a date to be confirmed w/c 26 April to share the plans.

(Post Meeting Note: Tuesday 27 April at 6.30 via Zoom was subsequently agreed)

281. OTHER UPDATES

The Chairman advised Councillors that the next Amenities Committee meeting may take place at another venue if the Town Hall was not considered suitable under prevailing Covid restrictions.

The Communications Officer provided a reminder about the Neighbourhood Plan Team being in attendance at the NMTC Gazebo on Wednesday Street Trading days 14 & 21 April and 5 May.

282. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

**Tuesday 1 June 2021 at 6.30pm.** Further details to be confirmed on Agenda.

The Chairman thanked members of the public for attending and closed the public part of the meeting at 8.11pm.

**PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

The Chairman may move that the public be excluded from the meeting for any item(s) 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.

283. ASHLEY RECREATION GROUND

The Chairman referred to Appendix 6 being four quotes received for a new play area as part of the overall draft plan and Councillors confirmed the decision to appoint Hags as the main contractor to supply a new play park in the sum of £95k plus £5k for purchase of an individual item (Climbing Cube) from Kompan. Total £100k.

It was

**RECOMMENDED:**

***That NMTC appoint HAGS to supply a new play park costing £95k at Ashley Recreation Ground with an item of equipment costing £5k from Kompan.***

The Chairman thanked Members and Officers for attending and closed the meeting at 8.14pm.

CHAIRMAN \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Minute	Action Points	Action by date	To be actioned by
<b>272 f</b>	Creative Kids use of Fawcetts Field	1 June 2021	Estates Manager
<b>272 g</b>	Heras fencing of Moore Close boundary	TBA	NFDC / Estates Manager
<b>273</b>	BMX Track at Moore Close site	1 June 2021	Working Party
<b>275</b>	Start Community Garden Working Party	1 June 2021	Communications Officer
<b>276</b>	Town Centre improvement works	1 June 2021	Estates Manager
<b>280</b>	Extraordinary Meeting – Ashley playpark	26 April 2021	Town Clerk

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  
 Jill Colclough - NFDC