

NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5 MAY 2021 at 5 pm VIA ONLINE ZOOM.

Councillors:	p R A Reid		p K E Craze
	p M Brownsea		p D A Rice-Mundy
	p G R Blunden		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
	p D E Hawkins		p C V Ward
	p D Samber		J G Ward
	p R Murrow		p H Wallis-Dowling

In Attendance: Officers: Graham Flexman - Town Clerk
 Theresa Elliott - Assistant Town Clerk
 Joanna Hayward – Comms Officer
 Helen Ormerod - Admin Assistant
 Suna King – Town Development Manager

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed Councillors and members of the public to the Annual Meeting, which could not be held last year due to Covid-19 pandemic.

The Chairman thanked Councillors and staff for their support during his term of office and that it had been a pleasure to represent New Milton as Town Mayor, meeting many wonderful people and organisations. He also thanked local residents for electing him as a Councillor.

1. APOLOGIES

Cllrs A Rice and J Ward

2. ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR / CHAIRMAN FOR 2021/22

The Chairman of the Council, Cllr A Reid in the Chair.

The Town Clerk read out a nomination for Chairman of the Council for 2021/22. Cllr K Craze was proposed by Cllr A Reid and seconded by Cllr R Murrow. Cllrs Reid and Murrow spoke in support of Cllr K Craze.

There being no other nominations

It was then

RESOLVED:

That Cllr K Craze be appointed Chairman / Mayor of the Council to remain in office until the next Annual Meeting of the Council in 2022.

Cllr K Craze duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Mayor.

3. ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR / VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2021/22

The Chairman of the Council, Cllr K Craze in the Chair.

The Chairman called for nominations for Vice Chairman/Deputy Mayor of the Council for 2021/22. The Town Clerk read out a nomination for Vice-Chairman for 2021/22.

Cllr R Murrow was proposed by Cllr K Craze and seconded by Cllr D Samber. Cllrs Craze and Samber spoke in support of Cllr R Murrow.

There being no other nominations

It was then

RESOLVED:

That Cllr R Murrow be appointed Vice-Chairman / Deputy Mayor of the Council to remain in office until the next Annual Meeting of the Council in 2022.

Cllr R Murrow then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Deputy Mayor.

4. TO APPOINT THE FOLLOWING STANDING COMMITTEES FOR 2021/22

The Chairman advised that the membership of Standing Committees comprising 9 Councillors on each would be the same as the previous year noting a change of Chairman for Finance & General Purposes to Cllr N Tungate with current Chair Cllr S Davies becoming Vice-Chairman at its next meeting.

The names of Councillors for each Committee remain as follows:

a) Finance & General Purposes Committee

That membership of the F&GP Committee for 2021/22 is as follows:

S J Clarke	K Craze	S Davies
R A Reid	A D O'Sullivan	D N Tungate
J G Ward	G Blunden	M Brownsea

b) Amenities Committee

That membership of the Amenities Committee for 2021/22 is as follows:

G Blunden	D E Hawkins	A D O'Sullivan
B Murrow	V E Schooling	M Craze
A W Rice	D A Rice-Mundy	C V Ward

c) Planning Committee

That membership of the Planning Committee for 2021/22 is as follows:

S J Clarke	D E Hawkins	S P Davies
R A Reid	K E Craze	D N Tungate
B Murrow	D Samber	H Wallis-Dowling

d) Executive Committee

The Executive Committee comprises Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council and Chairs of Standing Committees.

5. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO EXTERNAL BODIES FOR 2021/22

The Chairman referred to Appendix 1, a schedule of existing appointments to external organisations.

Members then agreed the schedule of representatives to external bodies for 2021/22, as listed.

6. TO APPROVE THE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2021/22

The Chairman moved that the proposed Calendar of Meetings (Appendix 2) having been circulated to all members prior to the meeting be adopted.

It was then

RESOLVED:

That the attached Calendar of Meetings for 2021/22 be approved and adopted.

The Town Clerk confirmed there would be a Planning meeting on 31 March 2022.

The Assistant Town Clerk confirmed that arrangements had been made with Incuhive Business Centre to accommodate Council meetings in person in a Covid-safe way from 7 May until all Covid restrictions had been lifted on 21 June 2021.

7. TO CONFIRM AUTHORISED CHEQUE SIGNATORIES FOR THE COMING YEAR

It was agreed that the number of approved signatories is restricted to the Executive members and the Vice-Chairmen of the standing committees.

8. MINUTES

The Chairman referred to the minutes of the Town Council meeting held 29 March 2021.

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 29 March 2021, having been circulated, be confirmed, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

The Minutes were duly signed.

9. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

The Chairman referred to Appendix 3, and the General Power of Competence.

It was then

RESOLVED:

That the Town Council still meets the criteria to take on the General Power of Competence and resolves to continue to do so, subject to the guidance notes previously approved and adopted by the Town Council.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk referred to the following items:

- a) Correspondence from Barclays Bank regarding the proposed closure of the Barclays Bank branch in New Milton on Thursday 22 July 2021.

Cllr D Hawkins asked for a letter to be sent to Barclays outlining the impact this closure would have on the town, asking them to reconsider.

- b) Referring to Appendix 4, an email from Alison Talbot of CAB seeking sites for Community Pantry(s) in the town.

11. QUESTIONS – None

12. REPORTS BY COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

HCC Cllr K Mans sent a copy of his Annual Report, now attached to these minutes.

NFDC Cllr S Davies referred to a busy few weeks considering waste management strategy, as well as looking at the introduction of electric vehicle charging points in NFDC car parks. There was also a large project to be undertaken relating to coastal erosion at Barton on Sea and a suitable contractor was being sought.

NFDC Cllr N Tungate had nothing of local interest to report.

NFDC Cllr S Clarke reported on the NFDC Greener Housing Group and the aim for carbon neutral social and private housing, noting that fuel poverty affected families in New Milton.

NFDC Cllr A O'Sullivan had nothing of local interest to report.

NFDC Cllr C Ward also referred to local venues being provided for families to buy fresh fruit and vegetables for a donation of £2.50, as at Ashley Baptist Church.

Cllrs G Blunden and K Craze had nothing to add in addition to the above reports.

13. COMMITTEE MINUTESa) Planning Committee

Cllr S Clarke submitted the minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on 25 March, 8 and 22 April 2021 and moved their adoption.

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes 403 to 434 inclusive be received.

b) Amenities Committee

Cllr G R Blunden, Chairman of the Amenities Committee, submitted the Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 13 April 2021 and moved their adoption.

Noting minute 276 Town Centre remedials works and minute 283 Ashley Recreation Ground redevelopment.

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes 266 to 263 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 Meeting held on 26 April 2021 and moved their adoption.

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes 247 to 263 inclusive be received.

14. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The Schedule of Payments endorsed by the F&GP Committee on 26 April 2021 was submitted for Council approval.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the Schedule of Payments S/No 08/20/21 totalling £109,664.77 for the period 1 - 31 March 2021 be approved.

The Schedule was duly signed.

17. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Town Council will take place on Monday 28 June at 6.30 pm. Venue to be confirmed.

DEMOCRATIC HALF HOUR

Alan Watson and Julia Stamper representing NMRA congratulated Cllr K Craze on his appointment as Chairman and Mayor of New Milton.

Cllr D Hawkins thanked the members of the New Milton Neighbourhood Plan team attending the Gazebo on market days over the last 4 weeks.

There being no further business to discuss the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the Annual Meeting at 5.31pm.

Chairman _____ Date _____

Distribution:

Town Councillors

District Councillor Mrs J L Cleary

County Councillors M Kendal, F Carpenter, K Mans

New Milton Library

New Milton Police

Press

Alan Watson – Focus & NMRA