



Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee of the New Milton Town Council held on Monday 15 March 2021 at 6.30pm through Zoom video communications.

	Chairman	p	S P Davies	
	Vice-Chairman	p	D N Tungate	
Councillors:	p	G R Blunden	p	S J Clarke
	p	K Craze	p	A D O'Sullivan
	p	A Reid		J G Ward
	p	M Brownsea		
In attendance:	Cllrs D Hawkins, R Murrow & H Wallis- Dowling			
Officers:	G Flexman - Town Clerk			
	E Towler - Business Administrator			
	S Ramsaywack - Youth Services Manager			

The Chairman welcomed councillors, officers, and two members of the public to the virtual meeting.

228. APOLOGIES – Cllr J Ward

229. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - none

230. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - none

231. MINUTES

The Chairman referred to the minutes of the last meeting.

The Town Clerk referred to Minute 215 and suggested the following wording:

“Members agreed that the £500 grant aid previously awarded to the New Milton Lions Club could be retained by the Lions for a future event if this year’s May Fair was postponed due to Covid restrictions.” Members agreed the change of wording.

It was then,

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2020, having been circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to the above amendment.

The minutes will be signed in due course.

232. MATTERS ARISING

All action points had been completed in the timescale given.

Min 218b) - The start time of meetings was discussed and agreed to remain at 6.30pm.

Min 221 - A local discussion was advised by NFDC before the matter is taken any further.

Minute	Action Point	Date	Action By
215	Lions Club grant retention	15.02.21	Town Council
218 b)	Start time of meetings	05.02.21	Execs Mtg at 4pm
221	Request CCTV for Barton	15.02.21	Town Council

233. CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk referred to the following correspondence:

- a) An email from Matt Wisdom of NFDC Democratic Services regarding the Extraordinary NFDC Council meeting proposed to take place 14th June for the Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed that the F&GP meeting would be moved from the 14th to the 15th June to accommodate this.
- b) A final invoice received from Lacey's Solicitors which has come in under budget.

234. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The Chairman referred to Appendix 1, Schedule of Payments for the period 1 Jan - 28 Feb 2021 in the sum of £163,351.48, as previously distributed. The Town Clerk highlighted the following items over £1,000:

- a) CGA Consulting - Green Routes project - £2,079.60
- b) Christchurch Powr Tools - machinery servicing - £1,398.78
- c) Gristwood & Toms - Tree work for November and December - £2,754.53
- d) Npower - usage at Fawcetts and Ashley for October - November - £1,480.96
- e) Spark X - Christmas Lights installation - £4,191.00
- f) Atech - electrical works at Barton and Fawcetts - £6,210.00
- g) Hillier Nurseries - Orders for the Plant a Tree scheme - £3,973.20
- h) NFDC - CCTV line rental April - September 2020 - £2,465.00
- i) RMB Hydroseeding - wildflower mix - £3,180.00
- j) Christchurch Machinery - annual machine servicing - £1,874.71
- k) Atech - completion of lighting upgrades at Fawcetts - £7,875.32 CAPEX
- l) Bournemouth Water - August 2020 - February 2021 - £1,047.01
- m) Collaborative Impact - commissioned work for NP - £4,800
- n) Site Safety - Rapid test kits - £1,296.00

Cllr Blunden queried whether the Council could claim money back for the rapid test kits through HCC or NFDC. The Town Clerk said this would be looked into.

ENDORSED:

The Schedule of Payments 07/20/21 covering the period 1 Jan - 28 Feb 2021, in the sum of £163,351.48 was ENDORSED for Council approval.



235. MONTHLY ACCOUNTS

The Chairman referred to Appendix 2, which was noted by members.

The Clerk highlighted that Amenities is close to budget having recently benefitted from the NFDC Covid payment of £15,773.

F&GP have savings to date of £96k, including savings within the Neighbourhood Plan and Youth Work budgets, plus Communications & Media and Events expenditure / Grant Aid.

236. AMENITIES REFERRED MATTERS

The Chairman referred to Appendix 3, referred matters.

Referring to Amenities minute 258, and following a presentation made by Jill Colclough of NFDC on Green Routes, there was a suggestion that £30k CIL monies be used to support this project.

Councillors supported the idea suggesting it be recommended to Town Council for endorsement.

It was then

RECOMMENDED:

That £30k CIL monies be used towards Green Routes.

237. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Chairman referred to Appendix 4, Neighbourhood Plan Referendum costs, which was noted by members, there being a legal limit of £3,642, like election expenses.

Cllr Tungate asked for the Town Development Manager to check the printing costs and see whether they could be secured cheaper elsewhere.

238. RISK REPORT

The Town Clerk referred to Appendix 5, Risk Assessment Report, which was noted by members, especially some new risks associated with Covid-19 Coronavirus.

It was

RECOMMENDED:

That Risk Assessments for 2020-21 be presented to Town Council for endorsement and signing off at its meeting on 29th March 2021.

239. FESTIVE LIGHTS

The Town Clerk referred to Appendix 6, Festive Lights financial report 2020/21, £1,750 savings noted by members having previously been presented to the Amenities Committee.

240. INVESTMENTS

The Town Clerk referred to Appendix 7 regarding additional other investment opportunities.

It was noted that the CCLA have a Local Authorities Property Fund the Council may consider for long term investment. It was agreed a Working Party meet to discuss options.

241. YOUTH GRANT AID

The Chairman went out of session at 7.04pm to speak to Elaine Ramsdale about the ASBOC Youth Grant Aid application.

Ms Ramsdale highlighted the fact that the ASBOC building has had to close during the pandemic and they hope to host outdoor activities from June-October which will include the hire of professional sports coaches and equipment. Following discussion, it was

RECOMMENDED:

That ASBOC be granted £8,150 from the Youth Grant Aid budget.

The Chairman went back into session at 7.14pm.

242. GRANT AID

The Chairman referred to Appendix 9, a Grant Aid application from the charity Compass Counselling to provide 1 on 1 counselling to local residents.

Cllr Blunden proposed granting 50% more than what was originally asked for (£450) which was supported by members.

The Chairman wished to thank the charity for the important work that they are doing. It was

RESOLVED:

That Compass Counselling be granted £750 from the Grant Aid budget.

243. YOUTH WORK

The Youth Services Manager provided an update on youth work including the Ashley Youth Club which is well attended every Wednesday at Ashley Rugby Club in small groups. There are planned activities taking place during the Easter holidays, both indoors and outdoors.

The Play & Youth Forum was well attended with local community groups sharing concerns and working together to overcome issues. The YSM also confirmed that the youth team will be highlighting the benefits of the Neighbourhood Plan to the youth of the town.

244. ANY OTHER UPDATES

The Clerk asked the Business Administrator to update members about the idea of recording Council meetings and uploading online which was acknowledged favourably by members.

The planned platform will be YouTube with members voicing their preference on holding meetings on Zoom rather than MS Teams due to it being more user friendly for larger audiences.

The Chairman suggested that this be taken to Town Council for further discussion with Town Council procedure and standing orders to be reviewed.

245. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held via Zoom on **Monday 26th April 2021** at 6.30pm.

The Chairman thanked members of the public for attending and closed the public part of the meeting at 7.30pm.

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.

246. FEES & CHARGES

Following a request from the Bowls Club to undertake maintenance of the bowling greens it was suggested that their rental charge could be reviewed from 1 April 2021. It was agreed that a further discussion will need to be had with the bowls club.

With there being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked members, and officers for attending and closed the meeting at 7.36pm.

Chairman _____

Date _____

Minute	Action Point	Date	Action By
236	£30k CIL fund Green Routes	29.03.21	Town Council
238	Risk Assessments 2020-21	29.03.21	Town Council
241	Youth Grant Aid - ASBOC	29.03.21	Town Council

Distribution:

Town Councillors

District Councillors Mrs C V Ward, Mrs J L Cleary

County Councillors M Kendal, K Mans, F Carpenter

New Milton Police

Press

NMRA – Alan Watson