

NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 11 MAY 2020 AT 6.30PM VIA ZOOM VIDEO COMMUNICATION.

Councillors:	p R A Reid (Chairman)		p K E Craze (Vice-Chairman)
	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
	M Levitt		J G Ward
	p R Murrow		p H Wallis-Dowling

In Attendance:	Officers:	G Flexman - Town Clerk
		J Hayward - Administrator
		M Jeffries – Estates & Facilities Manager
		T Elliott – Assistant Town Clerk
		S King – Town Development Manager

The Chairman welcomed Councillors, five Officers, two members of public and a press representative to the virtual meeting of the Town Council.

The Chairman reminded attendees of the virtual meeting protocols, to remain muted until acknowledged by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman when wanting to speak.

The Chairman confirmed that this meeting should have been the Annual Council Meeting and that the Council Chairman, Council Vice-Chairman, Committee Chairs and membership will remain the same for the new civic year.

115. APOLOGIES

Cllrs M Levitt, A Rice and J Ward.

116. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman referred to the effects of the current Covid-19 pandemic and thanked the community and everyone for working together, particularly noting New Milton Lions, New Milton Rotary and the New Milton Covid-19 Support Group.

Reference also to VE75 Day on Friday 8 May when we should have been remembering and celebrating and asked attendees to remember the 8 May 1945.

117. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

118. MINUTES

The Chairman referred to the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 17 February 2020.

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 17 February 2020, having been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

The minutes were duly authorised and will be signed by the Chairman in due course.

119. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) The Town Clerk referred to the Government's 50-page published document entitled: **"Our plan to rebuild: The UK Government's Covid-19 recovery strategy"**
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/884171/FINAL_6.6637_CO_HMG_C19_Recovery_FINAL_110520_v2_WEB_1_.pdf
- b) The Town Clerk also referred to the Coronavirus Regulations and in particular modifications removing the requirement for councils to hold annual meetings, and also enabling meetings to be undertaken on-line:- <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/coronavirus>

120. QUESTIONS - None121. REPORTS BY COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

HCC Cllr M Kendall reported on the HCC Adult Social Care situation noting homes were well staffed despite some absences and adequate nursing support was being provided.

The HCC AGM would be held as a virtual meeting on 29 May 2020 and Cllr Kendall should become Chairman of HCC at that time.

HCC Cllr F Carpenter provided an update on schools and also referred to speeding issues along the A337 from New Milton to Lymington. HCC Community Grants had been granted to First Opportunities, Sewing for the NHS, and New Forest Basics Bank.

NFDC Cllr S Davies referred to the NFDC Housing development plan and the Shared Ownership Scheme recently announced.

NFDC Cllr S Clarke provided an update on NFDC Health & Leisure Review which is currently on hold noting Leisure Centres are currently closed with loss of revenue of £600k per month.

NFDC Cllr G Blunden referred to the NFDC Cabinet Meeting containing interesting presentations which can be viewed at <http://www.nfdc.gov.uk/article/19456/Virtual-meetings>. NFDC Community Grants have been provided to Ashley Schools & New Forest Basics Bank.

NFDC K Craze had also provided NFDC Community Grants to First Opportunities and New Forest Basics Bank.

NFDC Cllr A O'Sullivan had attended NFDC virtual meetings and was expecting the NFDC new website to be completed in the next couple of months.

NFDC Cllr Mrs C Ward had attended the same virtual meetings as others and it was noted that NFDC Planning Meetings were now taking place weekly.

NFDC Cllr N Tungate had also attended the NFDC Health & Leisure Review and had provided NFDC Community Grants to Lions Feed the Children. He also referred to HCC Cllr Carpenter report and mentioned there had been speeding incidents at Bashley.

The Chairman referred to the NFDC Cabinet meeting and thanked NFDC for forwarding the first half-year precept to Town and Parish Councils at the end of April.

122. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Chairman asked Committee Chairman to present their minutes in their entirety and not minute by minute.

a) Planning Committee

Cllr S Clarke submitted the minutes of the Committee Meetings held on 27 February, 12 March, 9 April and 7 May 2020 and moved their adoption.

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes 181 to 216 inclusive be received.

b) Amenities Committee

Cllr G Blunden, Chairman of the Amenities Committee, submitted the Minutes of the Committee Meetings held on 2 March and 14 April 2020 and moved their adoption.

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes 122 to 153 inclusive be received.

Cllr Blunden asked for the following Minutes to be noted.

Minute 136 – Open Space Access and that Driving Motor Vehicles on a Common is a criminal offence under the Road Traffic Act 1998.

Minutes 139 – Tree Work Policy and 140 Tree Replacement Policy are adopted.

Minute 141 – Bus Shelters required further investigation.

Minute 151 – Covid-19 regulations regarding allotments and that they have remained open throughout lockdown and now the one-hour time limit will be removed.

Cllrs Murrow and Tungate supported the removal of restrictions for accessing allotment sites.

In line with NFDC cliff-top amenity car parks, our gravel car parks will re-open later this week.

c) Finance and General Purposes Committee

Cllr S Davies, Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, submitted the Minutes of the Committee Meetings held on 16 March and 27 April 2020 and moved their adoption.

It was

RESOLVED:

That Minutes 108 to 137 inclusive be received.

d) Executive Committee

Cllr K Craze, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee, submitted the Minutes of the Committee Meetings held on 2 March and 6 May 2020 and moved their adoption.

It was

RESOLVED:

That Minutes 53 to 72 inclusive be received.

123. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The Schedule of Payments, previously circulated, was submitted for Council approval.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the Schedule of Payments No 08+09/19/20 totalling £155,942.59 for the period 1 February to 31 March 2020 be approved.

The Schedule was duly approved and will be signed appropriately in due course.

124. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS SERVING ON EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

Cllr R Murrow referred to the Canteleu Twinning Visit which it was now hoped would take place on the weekend of 6-9 November 2020 to coincide with Remembrance Sunday.

125. TOWN DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

The Chairman referred to the report from the Town Development Manager, previously circulated, which was noted.

126. ANY ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

The Chairman referred to virtual council meetings and invited comments and suggestions.

The Chairman thanked NFDC councillors for donating their NFDC Community Grants to the local community worthy causes and thanks to the Estates Manager and his team for all their support delivering food parcels from the New Forest Basics Bank.

Cllr Craze also thanked the Estates Manager and his team for their prompt attention to a tree issue along Grove Road.

127. NEXT MEETING

The next Town Council Meeting will take place on **Monday 29 June 2020** at 6.30 pm.

DEMOCRATIC HALF HOUR

Mr Chris March, New Milton A&T press representative, requested a copy of the TDM Report.

Mr Alan Watson, representing the VE75 and VJ75 Steering committee regrettably announced that the planned for combined event on 15 August 2020 was now postponed until 5 June 2021. He also confirmed that NMRA have ring-fenced funds for this event to take place next year.

He also asked about car boots taking place this year and the Town Clerk said this would be a matter for the Amenities Committee to consider at its next meeting on 1 June.

Mr John Evans representing New Milton Town Partnership asked if the funding for the Xmas Festival had been ratified, and the Town Clerk confirmed that the Town Council had just endorsed it.

The Chairman thanked members of the public, officers and press for attending and closed the virtual meeting at 7.16 pm.

Chairman _____ Date _____

Distribution:

Town Councillors

District Councillor Mrs J L Cleary

County Councillors M Kendal, F Carpenter, K Mans

New Milton Police

Press

Alan Watson – Focus & NMRA

Mark Jeffries – Estates & Facilities Manager