

NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 29 MARCH 2021 AT 6.30PM VIA ZOOM VIDEO COMMUNICATION.

Councillors: p	A Reid (Chairman)	p	K E Craze (Vice-Chairman)
	M Brownsea		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
	R Murrow	p	J G Ward
p	H Wallis-Dowling	p	D Samber
Officers:	G Flexman - Town Clerk		S King - TDM
	E Towler - Business Administrator		J Hayward - Administrator

The Chairman welcomed Councillors, Officers and two members of the public to the meeting as well as Sergeant Katrina Smith.

230. APOLOGIES- Cllrs M Brownsea, B Murrow, D Rice-Mundy & A Rice

231. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reminded members that the deadline for Citizen of the Year applications is 15th April with completed applications to be sent to joanna.hayward@newmiltontowncouncil.gov.uk

It was also suggested that a five-minute break is taken after one hour on zoom before continuing with the meeting.

232. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

233. MINUTES

The Chairman referred to the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 15 February 2021.

It was then,

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 15 February 2021, having been circulated, be confirmed, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

The minutes will be signed in due course.

234. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) An email from Alan Watson of the NMRA informing members of the Public Open General meeting on the Neighbourhood Plan taking place Thursday 29th April at 3:00 pm and 7:30 pm as part of the democratic process before Referendum.
- b) An email from NFDC regarding extension of virtual meetings after 6th May with a copy of the Ministers letter informing us that the Government has concluded that it is not possible to bring forward emergency legislation on this issue at this time.

The Chairman went out of session at 6.34pm to speak to Alan Watson regarding the Open General Meeting. <http://newmilton.net/> will provide more information on the meeting and how to attend. The Chairman went back into session at 6.37pm.

235. QUESTIONS

The Town Clerk referred to messages received from local residents about the loud music at the skatepark. Sergeant Smith confirmed it is part of the Police patrol although it is a place for young people to enjoy, providing they are respectful of local residents.

Cllr Clarke wished to thank Sgt Smith and her team for enforcing speeding regulations along Stem Lane. Sgt Smith also informed members that the Police will be engaging in a Pub Watch and visiting licensed premises ahead of the easing of lockdown.

There was a question whether CCTV at Barton Clifftop was a good idea. Sgt Smith stated CCTV prevents and detects crime and supports its use generally. She can provide us with crime statistics for Brian Byrne ahead of an on-site meeting tomorrow.

[Post Meeting Note: Sgt Smith provided details of incidents straight after the meeting].

236. REPORTS BY COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

NFDC Cllr Davies attended a taxi licensing hearing and a housing panel meeting, the latter included a presentation of making housing in New Milton more environmentally friendly. There was also an update on the Moore Close planning proposal.

NFDC Cllr Tungate attended the Lymington event hearing. NFDC Cllr K Craze attended two meetings in March on the proposed closure of the Barton undercliff toilets. It was agreed that they will remain open during the summer months of 2021.

NFDC Cllr J Ward had nothing to report following a stay in Hospital that he has fully recovered from. NFDC Cllr Blunden also attended the Barton toilets meeting as well

as the Community & Leisure Panel which was recorded and on YouTube if people want to view it.

NFDC Cllr C Ward attended the same meetings as Cllr Davies.

NFDC Cllr Clarke warned members about scammers knocking on doors and offering people services including tree cutting in the local area. He urged people to check credentials before letting anyone carry out work. Sgt Smith confirmed that this issue will be added to the Beat Surgeries due to take place in person again soon and they will also upload a warning post to their Facebook page about Cold Callers.

237. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Planning Committee

Cllr Clarke, Chairman of the Planning Committee, submitted minutes of the Committee Meetings held on 25 February and 11 March 2021, and moved their adoption.

It was then,

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes 393 to 402 inclusive be received.

b) Amenities Committee

Cllr Blunden, Chairman of the Amenities Committee, submitted the Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 1 March 2021 and moved their adoption.

Cllr Blunden referred to minute 254b regarding damage to the copse at Meadow Way and confirmed he had visited the site along with the Town Clerk, the Youth Services Manager and Estates Manager who spoke to some of the BMX riders.

Cllr Blunden also highlighted minute 258 Green Routes with the recommendation that £30k CIL monies be used towards this project as endorsed by F&GP.

It was then,

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes 249 to 265 inclusive be received.

c) Finance and General Purposes Committee

Cllr Davies, Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, submitted the Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 15 March 2021 and moved their adoption.

It was,

RESOLVED:

That Minutes 228 to 246 inclusive be received.

238. RISK ASSESSMENT

The Chairman referred to Appendix 1, Risk Assessments for 2021, previously circulated, which was noted by members.

It was unanimously.

RESOLVED:

That the Risk Assessments for 2021 be approved and signed off accordingly.

239. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2021

The Chairman referred to Appendix 2, Calendar of Meetings, the Town Clerk highlighting a change of F&GP from Mon 14th to Tues 15th June due to an extraordinary NFDC (Neighbourhood Plan) council meeting as well as a change to Planning from Thurs 6th to Tues 4th May due to the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum taking place on 6 May. The Annual Towns meeting will take place 30th April at 6.30pm via Zoom.

In regard to the Annual Meeting, it was agreed to hold this on-line on Wed 5 May 2021.

240. NOTICE OF REFERENDUM

The Chairman referred to Appendix 3, Notice of Referendum, that he asked the Town Clerk to recite which was noted by members, as follows.

A referendum will be held on Thursday, 6 May 2021 to decide on the question below:

‘Do you want New Forest District Council and New Forest National Park Authority to use the Neighbourhood Plan for New Milton area to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?’

241. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Chairman referred to the ‘Market Day’ sessions to promote the Neighbourhood Plan which will be attended by Officers and Councillors. There is also the Open General Meeting hosted by the NRMA and the Neighbourhood Plan leaflet door drop.

242. TOWN DEVELOPMENT MANAGER REPORT

The Chairman referred to Appendix 4 TDM report which was noted by members.

Cllr O’Sullivan asked how confident the Council are that the NP leaflets would reach all households in the town. The TD Manager confirmed that there is a contract with Royal Mail to deliver to all BH25 postcodes in the town.

243. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

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

RESOLVED:

That the Schedule of Payments 07/20/21 in the sum of £163,351.48 for the period 1 January to 28 February 2021 be approved.

The authorisation would be signed in due course.

244. RECORDING OF MEETINGS

Following the suggestion from F&GP, members discussed the pros and cons of recording meetings including the fact that recording meetings will mean availability for all to view, especially residents that cannot normally attend the evening meetings.

Cllr K Craze suggested a Working Party be set up which was agreed by members. It also was agreed that Cllr Davies, as Chairman of F&GP, would arrange this.

245. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS SERVING ON EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

On the 17th February, Cllr Wallis-Dowling attended a New Forest Community Partnership Dementia meeting which was well attended by groups across the Forest.

Cllr O'Sullivan shared good news that the No1 New Milton project had been granted £1k from the Tesco Bags of Help scheme.

246. NEXT MEETING

The **Annual Meeting** will take place on **Wednesday 5 May 2021 at 6.30pm via Zoom.**

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow for a period of Public Participation.

Alan Watson thanked the Police for their swift reply following a recent scam. He will also include a warning about these scams in the next FOCUS magazine, and to cold calling.

The Chairman thanked members of the public for attending and closed the public part of the meeting at 7.25pm.

The Chairman moved that the meeting go into private session to discuss the following item.

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 The Chairman will move that the public be excluded from the meeting for the above 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.

247. MEMORIAL CENTRE

It was agreed that with the help of the Youth Services Manager, a new Charity would be set up.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked officers and Councillors for attending and closed the meeting at 7.42pm.

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