NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY 19 JULY 2024 AT 14.30 HRS AT THE TOWN HALL.

Councillors: p R A Reid – Chairman

p M Craze – Vice Chairman

p G R Blunden

p D N Tungate

p S J Clarke

In attendance:

Officers: G Flexman - Town Clerk

The Chairman welcomed members to this first Executive Committee meeting for 2024.

- 1. APOLOGIES None
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None

4. MINUTES

The Chairman referred to the minutes of the last meeting held on 1 December 2023. It was,

RESOLVED: That the minutes of 1 December 2023 be signed as a correct record.

The minutes were duly signed.

- 5. MATTERS ARISING None
- 6. CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk referred to the following items:

a) An official complaint dated Friday 12 July 2024 from a local resident about swings being out of action at **Long Meadow play park** and not having received a written response from NMTC. Having waited several weeks for a response, the resident spoke to Mark Jeffries, but progress remains very slow and Long Meadow play area remains closed.

The Town Clerk replied in writing on Monday 15 July 2024 explaining the swing set had been affected by rot and the swings had to be removed for safety reasons, expressing the hope that they would be reinstated in time for the summer holidays. The Town Clerk advised we were in the hands of a specialist firm that had recently inspected the swings.

While the matter had taken longer than we would have liked, it was now in hand. Noted.

b) An email from HALC, NMTC having sought their advice on providing a draft **Data Sharing Protocol** to NMYT who were concerned about the "onerous" nature of the document. Having reviewed the document, HALC don't believe it is particularly onerous. HALC will pass the document to Hampshire Legal Services (HLS) for review, as they are able to provide an hour's free advice, so we've taken advantage of that offer. Noted.

- c) An email from Simon Quincey Transition Lymington asking the council to reconsider and back their proposed tube-style map showing cycle routes to/from New Milton. At a meeting on 27 November, the Amenities Committee supported the New Forest Local Cycling & Walking Implementation Plan (LCWIP) concept, while recognising much work is required to determine the actual safest cycling routes. That remains the case. Noted.
- d) An email from SGN about essential **gas main replacement work** on Bashley Common Road. Due to ongoing leakage, there is a need to replace the section of gas main between the cattle grid (near Rising Sun Pub end) to approximately the junction of Ossemsley South Drive. This work needs to be completed before the winter months when pressure for gas increases. SGN plan to complete the works in early September.

There were two options that Executives considered, as follows:

Option 1 – a full road closure with a duration of 8 to 10 weeks Option 2 – traffic lights with an approximate duration of 16 weeks

<u>RECOMMENDED</u>: That Option 1 full road closure for 8–10 weeks be implemented.

- e) An A&T article today regarding a major worldwide IT outage, affecting services locally. A technical issue involving a **Crowdstrike** update is affecting Microsoft users. Crowdstrike is a cybersecurity company specialising in endpoint security protection; it tries to prevent malicious software / files from hitting corporate networks; it also aims to protect the data of corporations that have shifted from guarding it under their own roof /on own servers to so-called cloud providers. The Town Clerk confirmed that NMTC was unaffected. Noted.
- 7. ASHLEY RECREATION GROUND The Town Clerk circulated details of official openings.
- 8. ASHLEY SHOPPING PARADE The Town Clerk circulated details of the official opening.
- 9. FREEDOM OF THE TOWN

Sammy Miller is available on Wednesday 25 September 2024 for the Special Meeting. He has asked if the meeting and event could start earlier than our normal evening start times, suggesting 4.00pm at the Town Hall, followed by refreshments at the Museum from 5pm.

<u>PRIVATE SESSION</u>: With members permission, the Chairman moved that the meeting go into private session for the following item 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.

10. YOUTH TRUST - Members agreed and recommended a proposed MOU with the NMYT.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 3.25 pm.

CHAIRMAN	 DATE

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