



## NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE **ANNUAL MEETING** OF NEW MILTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 11 MAY 2026 AT 6.30PM IN NEW MILTON TOWN HALL

Councillors:	J Adams	p	P Moores
	J Baker	p	R Murrow
	p G Blunden	p	A D O'Sullivan
	p S Clarke	p	R A Reid - Chairman
	p D Rice-Mundy - Vice Chairman	p	D N Tungate
	p M Craze	p	V Schooling
	p S Davies	p	M Scott-Johns
	W Davies	p	K Trehorn
	p D Hawkins	p	R Maynard

#### In Attendance:

T Elliott – Assistant Town Clerk

J Bean – Administrative Officer

S Welch – Administrative Officer

The Chairman, Cllr R A Reid, welcomed Councillors, Officers, 7 members of the public and a representative of the press to the first meeting of the new municipal year which he opened at 6.30pm.

He began with a report on his activities since the last Town Council meeting on 30 March.

19 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Chair of NFDC civic service at St Wins, Totton, attended by Deputy Mayor.
25 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Opening of First Friends Nursery in New Milton
7 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Durlston prizegiving - unwell
8 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Soft opening of The Walkers Arms by the new landlord

The Chairman went on to thank the members for their support over the last two years, and for filling in for him when he was not well over the course of his tenure. He also thanked the officers for their support and guidance. Finally, he thanked his wife.

#### 1. **APOLOGIES**

Cllrs J Adams, J Baker, and W Davies

**2. ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR/CHAIRMAN FOR 2026/2027**

The Chairman of the Council, Cllr R A Reid, asked for nominations

The Assistant Town Clerk read out a nomination for Chairman of the Council for 2026/27. Cllr D Rice-Mundy was proposed by Cllr A Reid and seconded by Cllr D Hawkins who both spoke in support of Cllr D Rice-Mundy.

There being no other nominations, it was,

**RESOLVED:**

***That Cllr D Rice-Mundy be appointed Chairman/Mayor of the Council to remain in office until the next Annual Meeting of the Council in 2027.***

Cllr D Rice-Mundy duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman and Town Mayor and took the chair, once Cllr A Reid handed over the Badge of Office.

**3. ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR/VICE-CHAIR FOR 2025/26**

The Chairman of the Council, Cllr D Rice-Mundy in the Chair.

The Chairman called for nominations.

Cllr R Maynard was proposed by Cllr S Davies and seconded by Cllr S Clarke who both spoke in support of Cllr R Maynard .

There being no other nominations, it was,

**RESOLVED:**

***That Cllr R Maynard be appointed Vice-Chair/Deputy Mayor of the Council to remain in office until the next Annual Meeting of the Council in 2027.***

Cllr R Maynard duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Vice-Chair and Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr D Rice-Mundy handed over the Badge of Office.

**4. TO APPOINT THE FOLLOWING STANDING COMMITTEES FOR 2026/27**

The Assistant Town Clerk advised of the current membership of Standing Committees comprising 9 Councillors on each and this was agreed, as follows:

a) Finance & General Purposes Committee

That membership of the F & GP Committee for 2026/27 is unchanged as follows:

S J Clarke	R Maynard	W Davies
R A Reid	A D O'Sullivan	D N Tungate
G Blunden	J Adams	M Scott-Johns

b) Amenities Committee

That membership of the Amenities Committee for 2026/27 is unchanged as follows:

G Blunden	D E Hawkins	A D O'Sullivan
B Murrow	V E Schooling	M Craze
J Baker	K Trehorn	D A Rice-Mundy

c) Planning Committee

That membership of the Planning Committee for 2026/27 is unchanged as follows:

S J Clarke	D E Hawkins	S P Davies
R A Reid	R Maynard	P Moores
B Murrow	M Scott-Johns	W Davies

d) Executive Committee

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

**5. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO LOCAL BODIES**

The Chairman referred to Appendix 1, a schedule of existing appointments to external organisations. Following a discussion, some changes were made as appear on the amended schedule attached. Members then agreed the revised schedule of representatives to external bodies for 2026/27.

**6. TO APPROVE THE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2026/27**

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,

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Calendar of Meetings for 2026/27 be approved and adopted.***

**7. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE**

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

**RESOLVED:**

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

**8. MINUTES**

The Chairman referred to the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 30 March 2026.

It was,

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30 March 2026, having been circulated, be confirmed, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.***

The minutes were duly signed.

**9. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Assistant Town Clerk referred to:

- a) An email from Hampshire County Council advising of the results of the County Council elections on 11<sup>th</sup> May.

***“The full political make-up of the 78 seats on the County Council is as follows:***

***Conservative - 27***

***Liberal Democrats - 26***

***Reform - 20***

***Green - 1***

***Labour - 1***

***Independent - 1***

***Whitehill & Bordon Community Party - 1***

***Community Campaign (Hart) – 1”***

Cllr S Clarke suggested that the Town Clerk write to the two new, Hampshire County Councillors for the New Milton area to remind them of the requirement to attend Town Council meetings.

- b) An email from Cllr Bob Murrow to remind members of the Twinning visit from 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> June and that he will be representing the Town Council with the Twinners on Sunday and Wednesday. He also mentioned that the Dementia Allotment is having an open day on 19<sup>th</sup> May from 11am.
- c) An email from Alan Watson President of the Lions Club, concerning an issue with the Osborne Road Car Park which they were planning to use for their Community Carnival on 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

Cllr G Blunden advised that the issue has now been resolved.

## **10. REPORTS BY COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

There were no County Councillors present.

### **Cllr G Blunden**

Cllr Blunden advised that there had been a further cliff fall by the golf course towards Becton Bunny. The golf club had worked closely with NFDC to amend the fencing and this had lead to the path remaining open. He said that if you are planning to visit the cliff path take care.

Cllr Blunden added that phase 3 of the new waste collection scheme is being implemented, this has involved 36,000 households and the delivery of over 90,000 bins to the Totton area.

### **Cllr D N Tungate**

Cllr Tungate had nothing to report from the District Council but took the opportunity to remind members of his sponsored walk on Saturday for the Oakhaven Hospice.

**Cllr S Davies**

Cllr Davies referred to the last meeting where had had mentioned the Orchard Gate Development at Dibden Purlieu which are now completed. 11 of the properties will be added to the NFDC housing register. He also stated that the Becton Centre re-development by Vivid Housing Association will be completed shortly and those properties are subject to nomination rights by the District council.

**Cllr S Clarke**

Cllr Clarke advised that he had recently encountered a workman weeding the gutters in his road. He had a chat with him and was advised that he had walked over 8 miles by mid-morning that day clearing the gutters. He thanked him.

**Cllr A D O' Sullivan**

Cllr O' Sullivan had nothing to report.

**11. RISK REGISTER 2026-27**

The Assistant Town Clerk referred to Appendix 4a and 4b being the Operational Risk Assessments that were noted by the Amenities Committee on 14 April 2026 and the Governance & Management Risk Assessments endorsed by F&GP on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2026 respectively.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

**The Operational Risk Assessments and the Governance & Management Risk Assessments 2026/27 be approved.**

**12. STANDING ORDERS & FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

The Assistant Town Clerk referred to Appendix 5 being the amended Standing Orders and Financial Regulations approved by F&GP on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

**The amended Standing Orders and Financial Regulations be approved.**

**13. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS CONTRACTOR**

The Assistant Town Clerk referred to Appendix 6 being the amended Christmas Lights contract endorsed by F&GP on 27 April.

It was then

**RESOLVED:**

**The Christmas Lights Contract with Icthus Event Solutions appointed on a rolling contract be approved.**

**14. COMMITTEE REPORTS****a) Planning Committee**

Cllr S Clarke, Chairman of the Planning Committee, submitted the minutes of the Committee meetings held on 2, 16 and 30 April 2026 and moved their adoption.

**RESOLVED:**

***That Minutes 228 to 256 inclusive of the meetings held on 2, 16 and 30 April 2026 be received.***

**b) Amenities Committee**

Cllr G Blunden, Chairman of the Amenities Committee submitted Minutes of the meeting held on 7 April 2025 and moved their adoption.

**RESOLVED:**

***That Minutes 107 - 121 inclusive of the meeting held on 14 April 2026 be received.***

**c) Finance & General Purposes Committee**

Cllr D N Tungate, Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee submitted Minutes of the meeting held on 27 April 2026 and moved their adoption.

The Assistant Town Clerk referred to minute 117d relating to the War Memorial Recreation Ground and advised that the receipts and payments for the charity are now ready to be signed off. The Chairman signed the Receipts and Payments form.

The Assistant Town Clerk then referred to Minute 115f relating to the payment of £15k to New Milton Youth Trust seeking approval to make that payment. Cllr A Reid queried the Service Level Agreement mentioned in the Minute suggesting no payment should be made until this has been seen.

***[Post Meeting Note The letter from NMYT dated 21st April previously sent to all Councillors and attached, comprises the detail required and allows payment to be made]***

**RESOLVED:**

***That minutes 110 to 124 inclusive of the meeting held on 27 April 2026 be received.***

**13. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

The Schedule of Payments covering February and March previously endorsed by F&GP, was submitted for Council approval.

It was unanimously,

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Schedule of Payments No. 11&12/25/26 in the sum of £250,90.631 for the period 1 February to 31 March 226 be approved.**

**14. NEXT MEETING**

**Monday 29 June 2026 at 6.30 pm at the Town Hall.**

The Chairman closed the public session of the meeting for the Democratic Half Hour. Matt Wale Chair of New Milton Rugby Club advised that New Milton Rugby Club is doing very well with 400 children playing rugby regularly, 3 men's teams, 2 women's teams and they have just started a team for girls. The Rugby Club will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. He said that this is an unusual occurrence as there are not many rugby clubs which have gone on to last 100 years. The Club plans to celebrate and has already secured some funding from the governing body the RFU as well as the local Hampshire RFU. He wishes to make a date to invite councillors to visit the club to discuss plans for the future of the club and its legacy heading into the next 100 years.

The Chairman thanked him for attending and advised that they would wait to hear further from him with a proposed date.

As nobody else wished to speak under Public Participation the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7pm.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution:

Town Councillors

District Councillors J L Cleary

County Councillors F Carpenter, D Poole and J Vigor,

New Milton Police

Press

Alan Watson – NewMilton.net

Sue Larking - NMRA

Mark Jeffries – Estates & Facilities Manager

Editor - Focus

**REPRESENTATIVE ON EXTERNAL BODIES**

**CURRENT APPOINTMENTS**

New Milton Play & Youth Forum – Councillor S J Clarke

New Milton Youth Trust – Cllrs S J Clarke and R A Reid are Trustees

Forest Arts Centre Management Committee – Cllr A D O’Sullivan

NM Twinning Association – Councillor B Murrow

Memorial Centre Redevelopment – Cllrs A D O’Sullivan and G Blunden

Indian War Memorial – Councillor A D O’ Sullivan

Dementia Allotment – Councillor B Murrow

NMRA - Councillor Rob Maynard

Updated 12 May 2026

Graham Flexman,  
Town Clerk  
New Milton Town Council  
Town Hall  
2 Ashley Road  
New Milton  
BH25 6AS

21<sup>st</sup> April 2026

Dear Graham,

### **Thank you for your continued support of New Milton Youth Trust**

The Trustees and I want to extend our sincere thanks to New Milton Town Council for your ongoing financial support of New Milton Youth Trust. Your backing is crucial in helping us deliver the quality youth work that young people and families in New Milton and surrounding areas rely on every day.

Over the past year, we have experienced significant growth and expanded our services to meet growing demand. We were recognised as New Forest Charity of the Year in 2025, reflecting the impact of our work and the trust our community places in us. More importantly, we have supported 275 young people, with many telling us that our services have made a real difference to their lives.

### **What we do**

New Milton Youth Trust delivers youth work in three ways. Our building-based work runs from the Empire Skate Building at New Milton Recreation Ground, where we offer a weekly drop-in session and our Safe Haven project for young people with SEND and social anxiety. Our detached youth work takes us into New Milton and surrounding areas, meeting young people where they naturally gather—in parks, on streets, at community spaces—building relationships and trust. We also work closely with local schools on pupil reintegration, wellbeing support, and mentoring, helping young people who have struggled to stay engaged with education.

We also run creative projects and provide one-to-one mentoring and support. We deliver practical assistance to remove barriers to education, including uniforms, school bags, and revision resources. We have recently launched our Parent Support Brunch, which provides guidance and support to parents and carers on issues including mental health, housing, and school processes.

New Milton Youth Trust  
64 Brook Avenue North, New Milton Hampshire BH25 5HQ  
Charity number: 1186952

## **Our planned development**

We are at an exciting point in our journey. Over the next three years, we plan to expand our services significantly to meet the growing demand we see every day. We will expand our core youth work, develop new services for families (including play work provision for younger children), and work towards opening a purpose-built Youth and Family Hub with you. This expansion is ambitious but achievable. It requires careful planning, strong partnerships, and sustained funding. Your support is essential to making this happen.

## **How your funding supports our work**

Your financial support is essential to sustaining our core youth work services in New Milton and surrounding areas. It enables us to continue delivering quality provision to young people and families who rely on us every day. Your backing also strengthens our applications to other funders. Major grant-makers look favourably on organisations that have demonstrated local authority support and match funding. Your commitment signals to other funders that New Milton Town Council believes in our work and is investing in our future. This significantly increases our chances of securing additional funding from sources such as the National Lottery Reaching Communities and Children in Need.

In short, your support does double duty: it sustains our core services, and it opens doors to additional funding that will allow us to expand and develop new provision.

## **Our commitment to partnership**

We value our working relationship with New Milton Town Council and recognise the importance of collaboration with local organisations. Together, we can better understand and respond to the needs of young people and families in New Milton. We are committed to delivering quality youth work and maintaining a visible presence in the community.

## **Looking forward**

We are grateful for your support and look forward to continuing our work together as we grow and develop. If you would like more information about our work or wish to discuss our plans further, please do get in touch. I have attached our impact report for the past year, which provides detailed information about what we have achieved and how your funding has been used.

Thank you for believing in young people in New Milton and surrounding areas, and for supporting New Milton Youth Trust.

Yours sincerely,



Helen Wallis-Dowling  
Chair, New Milton Youth Trust

**Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee of New Milton Town Council held on Monday 11 May 2026 at 7.00pm at the Town Hall, Ashley Road, New Milton, BH25 6AS.**

Councillors:           p       K Trehorn                   p       B Murrow  
  J Baker                   p       A O' Sullivan  
  p       G R Blunden           p       D Rice-Munday  
  p       M Craze               p       V Schooling  
  p       D Hawkins

Officers:           T Elliott – Assistant Town Clerk  
                          J Bean – Administration Officer  
                          S Welch – Administration Officer

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1.     ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

(The Council Chairman, Cllr D Rice-Mundy in the Chair)

The Council Chairman, Cllr D Rice Mundy in the Chair, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Amenities Committee

Cllr G Blunden was proposed by Cllr Bob Murrow and seconded by Cllr A O' Sullivan Murrow.

**It was**

**RESOLVED:**

**That Cllr G Blunden remain as Chairman of the Amenities Committee for the municipal year 2026/2027**

2.     ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Committee Chairman, Cllr G Blunden in the Chair, called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Amenities Committee.

Cllr M Craze was proposed by Cllr G Blunden and seconded by Cllr Valya Schooling.

**It was**

**RESOLVED:**

**That Cllr M Craze remain as Vice-Chairman of the Amenities Committee for the municipal year 2026/2027**

3.     DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday 26 May 2026** at 6.30pm in the Town Hall, Ashley Road, New Milton.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.01pm.

CHAIRMAN \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution:

Town Councillors

Estates & Facilities Manager

District Councillors J L Cleary

County Councillors F Carpenter D Poole and J Vigor

New Milton Police

Press

Alan Watson – NewMilton.net

Sue Larking - NMRA



**Minutes of the meeting of Planning Committee for New Milton Town Council, held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7.01pm at the Town Hall, Ashley Road, New Milton, BH25 6AS.**

Councillors: p S J Clarke p P Moores  
p R Maynard p B Murrow  
p S Davies p A Reid  
W Davies p M Scott-Johns  
p D Hawkins

Officers: T Elliott - Assistant Town Clerk  
J Bean - Administration Officer  
S Welch - Administration Officer

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

(The Council Chairman, Cllr D Rice-Mundy in the Chair)

The Council Chairman, Cllr D Rice Mundy in the Chair, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Planning Committee

Cllr S Clarke was proposed by Cllr Alvin Reid and seconded by Cllr Bob Murrow.

**It was**

**RESOLVED:**

**That Cllr S J Clarke remain as Chairman of the Planning Committee for the municipal year 2026/2027**

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Committee Chairman, Cllr S Clarke in the Chair, called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee.

Cllr P Moores was proposed by Cllr S Clarke and seconded by Cllr Alvin Reid.

**It was**

**RESOLVED:**

**That Cllr P Moores remain as Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee for the municipal year 2026/2027**

3. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday 12 May 2026** at 6.30pm in the Town Hall, Ashley Road, New Milton.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.03pm.

Chairman\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_

Distribution:

Town Councillors  
District Councillors J L Cleary;  
County Councillors F Carpenter, D Poole and J Vigor  
New Milton Police  
Press  
Sue Larking - NMRA

**Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of New Milton Town Council held on Monday 11 May 2026 at 7.04pm at the Town Hall, Ashley Road, New Milton, BH25 6AS.**

Councillors:	J Adams	p	A O' Sullivan
	G Blunden	p	A Reid
	S J Clarke	p	M Scott-Johns
	R Maynard	p	D N Tungate
	W Davies		

Officers: T Elliott - Assistant Town Clerk  
J Bean - Committee Administrator  
S Welch - Committee Administrator

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**ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

(The Council Chairman, Cllr D Rice-Mundy in the Chair)

The Council Chairman, Cllr D Rice Mundy in the Chair, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

Cllr D N Tungate was proposed by Cllr Alan O' Sullivan and seconded by Cllr S Clarke.

**It was**

**RESOLVED:**

**That Cllr D N Tungate remain as Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee for the municipal year 2026/2027**

2. **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

The Committee Chairman, Cllr D N Tungate in the Chair, called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee.

Cllr A O' Sullivan was proposed by Cllr D N Tungate and seconded by Cllr S J Clarke.

**It was**

**RESOLVED:**

**That Cllr A O' Sullivan remain as Vice-Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee for the municipal year 2026/2027**

3. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**Monday 15 June 2026** at 6.30pm in the Town Hall, Ashley Road, New Milton.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.05pm.

CHAIRMAN \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution:

Town Councillors

Estates & Facilities Manager

District Councillors J L Cleary

County Councillors F Carpenter, D Poole and J Vigor

New Milton Police

Press

Alan Watson – NewMilton.net

Sue Larking - NMRA