

Department of transport and the Highways Authority (Hampshire County Council) but the Parish Council is investigating options for the device to log all the speed of traffic in order to develop a record of areas that can then be flagged up to the Highway Authority for attention. It is hoped the device will be in place in the coming months. In addition, the County Council have agreed to replace the flashing lights near the school with larger more impactful ones and it is hoped these will be in situ over the winter. We will keep you informed of progress in future editions.

Sea Road toilet refurbishment brought forward

The planned improvements to the Sea Road toilets by New Forest District Council have been brought forward to this financial year. The plan is for the toilet block to use the same footprint as the current building but would house four unisex cubicles, two family cubicles and one Changing Places disabled unit featuring a hoist and changing bed. The toilets would be a similar design to other block in the district (the nearest being at Keyhaven) and the contract is currently out to tender, with work hoped to start in the New year and be completed by Easter. A section of the car park will be cordoned off during the construction period but as this is a "quiet" time of year, it is hoped this will not have too detrimental an impact. We will keep you informed of progress.

Old Milford Meadow

If you read the update by the Milford Conservation Volunteers you will see the amount of work that they are doing on

behalf of the Parish Council on Old Milford Meadow. You may recall the land was bequeathed to the Parish by the late Mrs Diana Gillespie, whose wish it was that the meadow be preserved for the whole community. Having lain relatively untouched for several years, the brambles have made a huge impact and it is this vital clearance work that the MCV volunteers have kindly agreed to help with.



Once the meadow has been cleared and the access from the Church improved, it is hoped that local residents and groups will be able to use the meadow and garden area that forms part of it. If you have an idea of a specific use or a feature that could be incorporated into the area (such as sensory area, ideas for seating, etc) please contact the Parish Office.

Next meetings

Planning - Monday 1st October & 5th November

Parish Council - Monday 22nd October & 19th November

All meetings are in the Village Hall, Park Lane at 6.30pm. If you would like to come along please drop in. If you would like to speak about an agenda item for up to 3 minutes please let the Parish Know. Agendas will be available from the website 5 working days in advance.

MILFORD-ON-SEA PARISH COUNCIL

The Old Clock House - 22 High Street - Milford-on-Sea - Hampshire - SO41 0QD



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September/ October 2018

Mervyn Couzens

The Parish Council would like to pay tribute to River Warden Mervyn Couzens, who recently passed away. Mervyn was a stalwart of village life and tirelessly contributed many years of service to the upkeep of the Pleasure Grounds and Danestream in particular. Recently he played a key role in investigating and resolving effluent discharge into the Danestream: An active member of the Milford Conservation Volunteers he was also involved with wildlife and conservation measures in many other areas of the parish. He will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him..



Land Management Award

The Parish Council and Milford Conservation Volunteers (MCV) were jointly presented with an award for Land Management by the CLA and National Park Authority. The award was presented by Lord Gardiner of Kimble to Tony Locke from the MCV on behalf of both parties.

Plastic-free Milford-on-Sea

The Parish Council has recently agreed to achieve plastic-free community status. The national scheme is organised by Surfers Against Sewage and currently has over 200 towns and villages on the list, which have all worked to reduce the amount of single-use plastic in their communities.

For those who take part in the regular beach cleans will appreciate the vast amount of plastic that washes up on our beach and the detrimental effect this has on wildlife and our food chain.



Parish Council comment on MOS1 – land north of School Lane

Milford-on-Sea Parish Council strongly opposes the release of Green Belt for the development of 110 homes on Strategic site 7. Building on the Green Belt should be considered only in exceptional circumstances and always in response to local need. NFDC planning officers are reported as stating that Green Belt development is inappropriate, Milford's local need is not for more private sector homes but for family affordable accommodation which would likely form a small part of this proposed development if this land was removed from the Green Belt.

The Parish Council has grave concerns that should this land be released, developers would not comply with the stated requirements for affordable homes to be built. There is strong evidence to support this as recent press coverage on the release of Green Belt has highlighted. This is proved by Milford's recent experience at the school lane site (MoS1), where a recent planning application took little or no regard for the conditions already set down by central government as well as the inspectorate and unbelievably was supported by NFDC Planning officers.

How can residents and the Parish Council have any faith in the new Local Plan bearing in mind these events?

The existing area is on a road leading to the school, which is walked by residents of all ages. The proposed development would therefore adversely impact on a great many residents and should not be

removed from the current Green Belt village boundary.

Soundness: The Local plan is not sound for the following reasons:

The overall assessment of need is exaggerated. Two very different assessments have been presented by NFDC both contain conjecture as to demand.

The assessment of need in Milford-on-Sea is also exaggerated. There is no economic or social housing need that must be accommodated by building on the Green Belt as there are significant vacant sites within the village envelope that stand ready for development. There is an additional Green Belt exception site in the existing Plan for 30 units of varying types which has not been developed.

If these existing sites were developed the real need for affordable housing in the village would benefit local residents and not those migrating into the village who often seek to buy second homes, would be met.

Other sources of additional housing include the steady intensification of land use within the village and the recent conversion of a holiday park to permanent accommodation.

Infrastructure: Milford-on-Sea's infrastructure is already under considerable strain, including:

The Road System: this suffers from a T junction bottleneck leaving the village and added congestion at the school adjacent to the proposed site would render Manor Road, The Lymington Road and other surrounding roads crowded and dangerous

at all times not just during school terms. The proposed development would also add additional pollution to the area where the Junior School is situated. Because the proposed site is some distance from the village centre this would add to the flow of traffic into an already busy the village centre with increasingly little parking available.

Public services: the school is already over-subscribed and the medical services are also at full stretch serving a particularly high proportion of older residents.

Effect on wildlife population: the proposed site hosts diverse and thriving wild life including Roaming Deer, Badgers, Foxes, Buzzards, Nesting Birds, Voles and Owls and thus the proposed development would have an extreme detrimental effect on the village's wild life population.

The sewage system: this frequently causes sewerage to flow into people's homes; despite considerable expenditure by the water authorities the current system is not fit for purpose. Any addition to the current system would be short sighted and possibly dangerous to property and life.

The Consultation Process

NFDC have arranged two consultation processes – both include the holiday months of July and August. The suggested format for responses is, for the responders, in an unfriendly format that is cumbersome, repetitive and time-consuming.

This has inevitably has a chilling effect on the willingness and patience of responders.

Thank you to Chris Wolford

The Parish Council would like to recognise Milford Cricket Club Chairman Chris Wolford for his 30 years of service to the club. As well as organising the club, Chris spends many hours maintaining the pitch at Barnes Lane Recreation Ground, ensuring it is mown to perfection for the regular matches held there. Thank you Chris!

Newcomers' Supper

This year's annual Newcomers' Supper is being held on Saturday 13th October at All Saints church Hall. If you have moved into the village in the past year, which is a wonderful opportunity to find out about the groups, clubs and societies that are available in the village (over 60 at the last count!) and to meet some of your new neighbours. If you would like to come along to this friendly event (and nearly 100 people do every year), contact Ruth Bufton on ruth.bufton@btinternet.com or call 01590 641 875.

SID to arrive in village

The Parish Council recently agreed to purchase a SID (Speed Indicator Device) which will highlight to drivers their speed.

The devices are a good reminder to slow down and will be able to be moved around the village to different "problem" locations. The installation of the device is governed by strict rules from the

