

MILFORD-ON-SEA PARISH COUNCIL
The Old Clock House ~ 22 High Street ~ Milford-on-Sea ~ Hampshire ~ SO41 0QD



THESE MINUTES WILL BE APPROVED AT THE NEXT FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON THE 18th MARCH 2019

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the 368th meeting of the Parish Council held Monday 18th February 2019 in the Village Hall at 6.30pm

MEMBERS

Mr. Bob Bishop	p	Mr. Matthew Goode	p	Mrs. Susan Whitlock	p
Mr. Tim Cowell	p	Mr. Peter Jennions	p	Mr. Ivan Chandler	p
Mrs. Patricia Banks	p	Mr. Donald Darbshire		Mrs. Jane Coster	p
Mr. Kenneth Cameron	p	Mrs. Pauline Taylor	p	Ms. Anne Cullen	

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Graham Wells (Parish Clerk), County Cllr Fran Carpenter.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.
2. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.
3. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Darbshire and Cullen, District Cllr's Hopkins and Kendal.
4. **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21st JANUARY 2019:**
Cllr Goode proposed the minutes be approved, Cllr Banks seconded this proposal.
Members voted unanimously in favour of the minutes being approved.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on **21st January 2019** was a true record of the meeting and were duly adopted and signed by the Chair.

5. **PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 4th FEBRUARY 2019:**
Minutes of the planning meeting had been circulated.
6. **FINANCIAL MATTERS:**
 - a) **EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR JANUARY 2019:**
The Clerk had, prior to the meeting, circulated copies of the Expenditure Report for the above period.
Members voted unanimously that the Expenditure Report be approved.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Expenditure Report for **January 2019** was a true record of expenditure and were duly adopted and signed by the Chair.

- b) **INCOME REPORT FOR JANUARY 2019:**
The Clerk had, prior to the meeting, circulated copies of the Income Report for the above period.
Members voted unanimously that the Income Report be approved.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Income Report for **December 2019** was a true record of income and were duly adopted and signed by the Chair.

- c) **BANK ACCOUNT STATEMENTS FOR JANUARY 2019:**
Statements for January were circulated for information.

d) **CONTRIBUTION TO FENCE ALONG VILLAGE GREEN:**

Cllr Bishop suggested that contributing to this would set precedent with other properties that boarder Parish Council Land.

Cllr Chandler proposed £250 there was no seconder

Members voted nine (9) against awarding funds and one (1) in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that no contribution for the fence replacement be made to the owners of the fence around the village green.

e) **GRANT APPLICATION TO MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY:**

Cllr Bishop requested an update of available funds and reported that historically the Parish Council awards small amounts to varying charities. Cllr Banks suggested that this event would bring additional tourists into the village. Cllr Goode considered this was a large event for the village and suggested awarding the amount requested (£1000). Cllr Cameron proposed awarding £350, there was no seconder. Cllr Jennions proposed awarding £500, Cllr Taylor seconded this proposal.

Members voted seven (7) in favour of this proposal and three (3) against.

It was **RESOLVED** that £500 be awarded to Milford Historical Society to support the Cornwallis event paid from the Community Support Fund.

GRANT REQUEST FROM THE COMMUNITY LIBRARY:

The Clerk reported that the application had been received one working day prior to the meeting. Several Councillors suggested the official form needed to be completed but felt there was enough information to conclude the matter on this occasion. Cllr Cameron proposed awarding £250. Cllr Jennions seconded this proposal

Members voted eight (8) in favour of awarding £250 and two (2) against.

It was **RESOLVED** that £250 be awarded to Milford-on-Sea Community Library from the Community Support Fund.

7. **LEASE OPTION FOR THE CENTENARY GARDEN:**

The Clerk informed members that the lease from NFDC for the Centenary Gardens had expired and NFDC were proposing a further 20-year lease on the area. He also reported that a meeting had been held with a representative of the Gardening Club to confirm their willingness to maintain the garden.

Members voted unanimously in favour of agreeing a new 20-year lease.

It was **RESOLVED** that Milford-on-Sea Parish Council enter into a new 20-year lease with NFDC to maintain the Centenary Garden.

8. **REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE COMMUNITY MEADOW:**

Prior to the meeting, the Clerk had circulated the minutes of the recent meeting that had discussed the Community Meadow; he reported that talks were being held with the MCV and the Gardening Club later in the week to discuss the next stages as agreed at the meeting. Cllr Chandler suggested the next meeting should be held in part, on site to observe what progress had been made. The Clerk reported that no further information had been received from "Friends of Christchurch Priory" on the use of the land bequeathed to them.

9. **APPOINTMENT OF GROUNDS / MAINTENANCE OPERATIVE:**

The Parish Clerk reported that all five applicants for the vacant position had been invited to an interview and that he, Cllr Bishop and Cllr Darbishire had undertaken the interviews. The interview panel were recommending to the Parish Council the appointment of Mr. Jason Robbins. Cllr Bishop informed members that Mr. Robbins was aware that the contract of employment was for one year followed by a review.

Members voted unanimously in favour of the interview panel's recommendation.

It was **RESOLVED** that Mr Jason Robbins be employed as Grounds / Maintenance Operative for Milford-on-Sea from 1st April 2019 under a one-year contract.

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated options for purchasing hand held tools for the above position. Cllr Cowell suggested option three (purchasing new equipment) be considered as the other options were to the

detriment of Mr. Robbins. Cllr Jennions felt option one (using Mr. Robbins current equipment) would mean less capital outlay for the Parish Council.

Cllr Goode suggested enquiring as to the insurance costs for the new equipment and what excess was in place. He also suggested there was a moral obligation for the Parish Council to supply equipment for its employee.

The Clerk reported at previous meetings discussing this subject, it was felt by those Councillors who attended, there needed to be a clear distinction on what equipment was in the ownership of the Parish Council and what was in the ownership of Mr. Robbins.

Cllr Jennions proposed option one, there were no seconders.

Cllr Cowell Proposed option three. Cllr Taylor seconded this proposal

Members voted seven (7) in favour and three (3) against.

It was **RESOLVED** that new petrol-powered hand tools be purchased and used by the new Grounds / Maintenance Operative, Mr. Jason Robbins from 1st April 2019 at an estimated cost of £3,000, paid from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) fund.

Cllr Bishop suggested that Parish Councillors be fully informed as to the financial commitment in providing hand tools, storage facilities and purchasing larger pieces of equipment to enable Mr. Robbins to undertake the duties required by the Parish Council. To this end he had requested the Parish Clerk provide an estimated breakdown of additional costs and purchasing options.

The Clerk circulated information on the options for purchasing larger machinery.

Cllr Goode suggested caution when deciding the purchasing of new equipment and to consider varying depreciation models, also that further information needed to be supplied on tax and insurance for any road worthy vehicle as well as provision for repairs and maintenance.

Cllr Banks suggested the Parish Council needs to be prepared should it receive large parcels of land in the near future.

Cllr Bishop suggested caution in committing large amounts of CIL money straight away.

Cllr Cameron enquired as to the storage of all the equipment.

The Clerk reported that positive discussions had been held with NFDC Open Space Officers regarding the use of the storage depot adjacent to the Marine Café.

Cllr Bishop suggested the Clerk report back to the Parish Council on all the items discussed.

10. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOWING THE MEETING WITH OPEN SPACE OFFICERS ON COASTAL ISSUES, STURT POND AND STORAGE:

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated the minutes of a meeting held with NFDC Officers. The Clerk summarised the main points and informed members that further discussions were due to take place which would include other interested parties within the community.

The Clerk had, prior to the meeting, also circulated a draft document prepared by NFDC Officers indication proposed work along the sea front which Parish Councillors were invited to comment on.

Cllrs. Taylor and Whitlock were concerned that the requested cycling signage along the coastal path might be limited to one small area only.

Cllr Bishop suggested that members forward their comments and observations to the Parish Clerk so he could relay these to the Open Space Officers prior to the consultation process.

11. OUTCOMES OF THE M₀S1 APPEAL HEARING:

Cllr Bishop thanked Cllr Whitlock for compiling and delivering the Parish Council's opening and closing statements to the inquiry and noted that a public round of applause had been received following her statement. Cllr Whitlock suggested some information be placed on the Parish Council Web Site along with the two statements.

Cllr Coster reported that the inspector had mentioned 4 – 6 weeks was the expected time to wait for his judgement.

12. PROCEDURES FOR LOCAL PLAN REVIEW INQUIRY:

The Clerk had, prior to the meeting, circulated the timescale for the inquiry and reminded members of the dates effecting Milford-on-Sea and that he would be informing the Inquiry Clerk of the Parish Councils request to speak at the designated sessions.

Cllr Cameron suggested the Parish Council presents evidence on Milford related subjects.
Cllr Bishop suggested a Working Group meet shortly to discuss the Parish Council's response to the Inquiry.
Cllr Whitlock suggested inviting representatives of SLAM to this meeting.

Cllrs Taylor and Cameron left the meeting at 8pm.

13. COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

County Councillor Carpenter confirmed that Council Tax was due to rise by 2.99%, also that the County Council were preparing for "Brexit" and informed members that the County employs 300 EU Nationals. Cllr Carpenter reported that a large area of repair was due at the Manor Road / Lymington Road junction. She reported that Councillor Grant Applications were now closed and there was a possibility that future funds available would be reduced; she confirmed that money was given in the current financial year to Milford projects including: The Speed Indicator, Tourist Footpath Maps, the Community Library, Litter Picking Equipment, Equipment for the School and Solent Mead Residents.

14. PROJECT LEADER/REPRESENTATIVE/CLERK REPORTS AND UPDATES:

A. Business, Education & Community

Nothing to Report.

B. Communication & Citizen Engagement

The Clerk reported that the Local Police Officer would be showing a greater presence around the village.

C. Environment & Open Spaces

Nothing to Report.

D. Groups & Societies

Cllr Banks reported she and the Clerk had attended the recent NFALC meeting. Also, that she had attended the South West Quadrant meeting which had not proved very productive. Cllr Banks informed members that she was unable to attend the Consultative Panel Meeting on the 7th March.

E. Health & Wellbeing

The Clerk informed members that a break-in had occurred at the Pavilion and that the damage had now been cleaned up. He also informed members that a meeting was being held the following week with representatives of the Football and Cricket Clubs to discuss future aspirations.

F. Sea Front & Coastal Protection

The Clerk reported that a meeting was being held the following day with NFDC's Deputy Chief Executive to discuss issues at Milford Sea Front.

G. Transportation & Infrastructure

Cllr Whitlock request the Parish Office chase HCC Highways, to give an indication on when the new traffic signals at the school would be installed.

The Clerk reported that the Speed Indicator Unit was due for delivery the following week.

15. CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

16. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION:

Cllr Chandler reminded members of the "Big Info Day" at which 40 different organisations were going to be represented, including the Parish Council.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and **CLOSED** the meeting at 8.25pm.

..... Chair

.....Date