

# Annual Report 2018-2019

---



---

## Milford-on-Sea Parish Council

22 High Street, Milford-on-Sea,  
SO41 0QD. [milfordonsea.org.uk](http://milfordonsea.org.uk)  
**01590 644410**



---

The Parish Council is the custodian of land/property owned on behalf of its community. It manages:

- The Pleasure Grounds – Local Nature Reserve
- Sharvells Copse (Shorefields Copse) – Local Nature Reserve
- Centenary Copse
- Barnes Copse – Local Nature Reserve
- Studland Common – Local Nature Reserve and Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)
- Studland Common Grazing Field – Local Nature Reserve and SINC
- Studland Community Orchard
- Barnes Lane Recreation Ground and Pavilion, sheds and grass cutting equipment
- Carrington Lane Play Park
- Swallow Drive/Grebe Close public open spaces
- Baskets Grazing Field (Keyhaven)
- The Community Meadow (Next to All Saints Churchyard)
- The Old Putting Green (Hurst Road)
- The Village Greens at both Keyhaven and Milford-on-Sea
- The Bowling Club Green and Pavilion (The Bowling Club now maintain and manage the facility)
- Dance Studio in Sea Road Car Park (Managed by the VCCC)
- Bird Hide at Sturt Pond Nature Reserve (Managed by Milford Conservation Volunteers)

Contractors are appointed by the Parish Council to maintain all the above land and property (except where indicated). Hordle Grazing Field and the Hurst Road Sea Front Play Park are owned by the District Council but leased to the Parish Council who maintains them.

The Parish Council employs two part time Clerks for a total of 44.5 hours per week.

The Parish Council Planning Committee make valuable observations to the local planning authority (New Forest District Council and the National Park), on every single planning application and all tree works orders for the Parish, which are taken into account by the relevant bodies when making their final decisions.

---

Producing the annual budget takes several months (including several working group meetings) and is then passed through to the full Parish Council Meeting, which is open to the public and to which residents are invited to attend and contribute to the process under a Public Participation Scheme (details of which are available from the Parish Office during normal office opening times).

The annual expenditure budget for 2018/19 was £184,110. For 2019/20 the expenditure budget has been set at £138,439 (Inc. Capital Expenditure) This sum covers employment, property, administration, contracted general maintenance, sports facilities, projects, capital expenditure, community support village enhancements, and other grounds maintenance costs.

Due to financial constraints being experienced across the country we have set a budget for 2019/20 that includes a minimal increase to meet the following requirements:

1. £10.0k Contingency for sponsored memorial seats (renovation & insurance over 20 years)
2. £4.10k Possible Parish Election
3. £5.50k Working Reserve
4. £5.00k Community Support
5. £8.00k Maintenance of Play Equipment
6. £4.00k Youth Activities
7. £1.00K Community Meadow

To meet the 2018/19 budget, the Parish Council needed a precept of £101,944 (the difference between income received by the Council from grazing rent, reclaimed VAT, grants and interest etc.) and the total expenditure for the year. This represented a 3% increase on the previous year's precept to Milford-on-Sea Council Tax payers.

To meet the 2019/20 budget, the Parish Council needs a precept of £108,570, this equates to a 6.5% increase on the previous year. Below is a summary of the proposed expenditure for 2019/20 compared with 2017/18 and 2018/19. The additional is being taken up through reserves held and windfall receipts.

<b>Employment:</b>	<u>2017/18</u>	<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>
Salaries – two part time staff (three in 2019/2020).	£28,580	£30,686	£48,820
National Insurance and Pensions.	£ 6,329	£ 7,133	£13,891
<b>Property:</b>			
Rent, Rates, Insurance and Utilities.	£12,814	£13,180	£12,380
<b>Administration:</b>			
Newsletters, Telephone & Broadband, Travel, Stationary, Photocopying, Community Support, Training & Audit.	£14,510	£14,660	£14,810
<b>Contracted General Maintenance:</b>			
Strimming, Dangerous Trees & Dog Bins. (Grass & Hedges removed for 2019/20)	£23,739	£23,739	£ 7,808
<b>Sports &amp; Play Parks:</b>			
Recreation Ground, Sea Front & Carrington Lane.	£ 5,560	£ 5,000	£ 8,000
<b>Projects:</b>			
Community Meadow, Hanging Baskets, Youth Activities, Loan Repayment, Hedge Waste, Footpaths & Village Enhancements. (Sea Front Play Park Project completed 2018)	£80,410	£84,712	£19,041
<b>Land Maintenance:</b>			
Woodland/Common Management, Grazing Fields & River Revetment.	£ 5,500	£ 5,000	£ 4,500
<b>Totals</b>	<b><u>£177,442</u></b>	<b><u>£184,110</u></b>	<b><u>£129,250</u></b>
Capital Expenditure (CIL).	£ 0	£ 0	£11,095

---

It should be noted that in 2019/20 the Parish Council have decided to employ a Groundsman for 24.5 hours per week. This is due to the growing season lasting longer, additional land inherited, better value for money and increased working time, for the same cost as using self-employed contractors but gaining additional working hours.

## **Parish Council Achievements in Partnership with Village Groups, Associations and Sponsors for 2018/2019 and Projects in the Pipeline for 2019/2020**

- 10-year Natural England Higher Level Stewardship grazing agreement continues with the clearing of several scrub sections at Studland Common as well as stump grinding to all cleared areas.
- Continuation of a 10-year Programme to manage the Upper & Lower Pleasure Grounds.
- To turn land bequeathed into a Community Meadow.
- Reduction of all Parish owned hedges to 4.5ft in height (over three years).
- Continued upgrade of footpaths, culverts, bridges ditches and revetments in the Upper and Lower Pleasure Grounds.
- Additional Play Equipment at Milford Sea Front, including surface repairs to the Toddler Play Area.
- Continuing to upgrade and repair benches along the Cliff Top, Keyhaven and the Village Centre.
- Three major revetment works along the Danestream
- Improvements to overlapping pitches at Barnes Lane Recreation Ground.
- Speed Indicator Unit

*Volunteers help extensively around the village in many ways. They spend hundreds of hours of their own time each year supporting the Council and enhancing community facilities. The Parish Council welcomes this support, which benefits the wider community and thanks those that give so much of their time so freely to the village.*

The Parish Council is made up of 12 elected representatives, all of which serve a four-year term.

Residents are welcome to attend all parish council meetings and may address the committees in the public participation sections.

The Parish Newsletter is in the bi-monthly *Village Voice* and on our website [milfordonsea.org.uk](http://milfordonsea.org.uk).

## **Contact us:**

**Telephone**            **01590 644410**  
**Email**                 **[milfordpc@btconnect.com](mailto:milfordpc@btconnect.com)**  
**Letter to**             **The Parish Office, 22 High Street, Milford-on-Sea, SO41 0QD**

**Opening Hours:**    **Monday to Friday 9.30am – 3.30pm**