

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 20th APRIL 2020

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the 378th meeting of the Parish Council held Monday 16th March 2020 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		Mr. Josh Mantock	p
Mrs. Patricia Banks	p	Mr. Donald Darbshire	p	Mr. Tony Coleman	p
Mr. Kenneth Cameron		Mrs. Pauline Taylor		Ms. Anne Cullen	

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Graham Wells (Parish Clerk), District Cllr Hopkins, Roz Waters (Lymington Times)
14 members of the public

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Mantock for item 6d.
2. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Mr. Howard Farmer for item 8. Mr. Neil Peacock for item 7. Mr. Andrew Smith for item 6d.
3. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Taylor, Cameron, Cullen, Jennions. District Cllr Hawkins.

With the agreement of members, the Chair brought forward item 7.

7. **UPDATE ON COASTAL EROSION AND MILFORD SEA WALL:**

The Chair invited Mr. Peacock, representative of Needles Point Management Company to speak. Mr. Peacock reported that the main concern was for the footpath to be opened as soon as possible due to local amenities being affected. Also, that he had attended a meeting convened by New Forest District Council (NFDC) where other stakeholders and interested parties had participated. Mr. Peacock suggested that both NFDC and the company who owns the land in question both denied any responsibility to undertake repairs and that this cost might have to be borne by property owners who are potentially affected, this cost could be as high as £4 million and that a suggested a form of crowd funding needed to be set up.

Another member of the public also expressed concern that the footpath was closed near to the White House as well as towards Barton which could affect public safety and businesses.

District Cllr Hopkins reported that NFDC were taking the lead on this issue by getting all the interested parties together to find a solution. Cllr Goode suggested that Natural England needed to review its policy regarding encroachment and damage done by coastal erosion.

Cllr Bishop reported that the Parish Council had been in discussions concerning the footpath from Milford-on-Sea to Barton with NFDC and Natural England over many years. The Parish Council had also written several times to local MP Sir Desmond Swayne urging him to make representation to government authorities. Cllr Bishop also suggested obtaining the minutes of the recent meeting.

Cllr Whitlock suggested that a member of the community could lead any crowd funding, but the Parish Council would be happy to publicise this should it happen. Cllr Cowell suggested NFDC should take the lead on this matter and that if possible, a representative of the Parish Council attend any meetings held.

Nine members of the public left the meeting.

With the agreement of members, the chair brought forward item 8.

8. MILFORD-ON-SEA BOWLS CLUB REPAIRS:

The Clerk reported that following the February meeting he had delved into the paperwork regarding the lease between the Parish Council and the Bowls Club. Even though there were many years of negotiations the lease was never formally agreed. However, it was highlighted within the paperwork that the Bowls Club were responsible for repairs as the facility was being offered rent free. The Clerk reported that he had spoken to New Milton's Town Clerk to understand the arrangements they have with various local sports facilities and that New Milton charge a substantial rent to these clubs. The Clerk reported that relationships between the Parish Council and the Bowls Club were very good and there was a joint willingness for this to remain. Following a further meeting with the Bowls Club Chairman it had been agreed that the Bowls Club would cover the cost of repairing the pathway/s.

Cllr Goode suggested entering into renegotiating the lease to cover both parties in the future.

Cllr Whitlock reported it was the Bowls Club that had requested a lease several years ago to give them some security and to be able to apply for grants.

Cllr Bishop proposed awarding a small amount of £500 towards the repairs as a gesture of goodwill. Cllr Colman seconded this proposal.

Members voted four in favour and four against. The Chair effected his casting vote in favour.

It was RESOLVED that £500 be awarded to Milford-n-Sea Bowls Club for repairs to the pathway from the 2020/21 Community Support Fund.

With the agreement of members, the Chair brought forward item 6d.

6d. GRANT REQUEST FROM MILFORD YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB:

Chair of the Youth Football Club, Andrew Smith, suggested there was a need for a defibrillator at Barnes Lane as there were a vast number of children and adults using the facility and that the nearest defibrillator was 10 minutes away. He highlighted the importance of responding quickly to incidents and that increasingly other football and cricket club venues are obtaining defibrillators.

Cllr Banks proposed awarding £500. Cllr Whitlock seconded this proposal.

Members voted unanimously in favour.

It was RESOLVED that £500 be awarded to Milford Youth Football Club for a defibrillator at Barnes Lane Recreation Ground paid from the Community Support Fund.

Following a report from Mr. Colin Holdsworth, the Parish Council agreed to become formal owners of the defibrillator located at the village Co-op.

With the agreement of members, the Chair brought forward item 9.

9. REMOVAL OF TELEPHONE BOXES AT NEEDLES EYE AND CLIFF ROAD:

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated a list of telephone boxes that were going to be removed within the District. Members agreed to adopting the red telephone box located at the Needles Eye Café but not the glass box along Cliff Road.

Members voted unanimously in favour.

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council adopt the red telephone box at the Needles Eye Café for £1.
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4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17th FEBRUARY 2020:

Cllr Cowell 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 17 th February 2020 was a true record of the meeting and were duly adopted and signed by the Chair.
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5. **PLANNING MINUTES 2nd MARCH 2020**

Draft Planning Minutes had been circulated.

6. **FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

a) **EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2020:**

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 **February 2020** was a true record of expenditure and were duly adopted and signed by the Chair.

b) **INCOME REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2020:**

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 **February 2020** was a true record of income and were duly adopted and signed by the Chair.

c) **BANK ACCOUNT STATEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2020:**

Statements for February were circulated for information.

Items 7, 8 and 9 previously discussed.

10. **PURCHASE OF PARISH COMMERCIAL VEHICLE:**

The Clerk reported that a working group meeting had been held to discuss all the options related to the purchasing of a vehicle. A consensus of opinion had been achieved and that the Parish Council would continue to hire Mr. Robbins van once a week when bulk equipment was required to be moved or green waste taken for disposal. Also, that investigations be made in to either the possibility of using the grass mower to tow a trailer or for a small electric buggy type vehicle to be purchased so that Mr. Robbins does not have to use his personal car.

11. **DEVELOPMENT AT SOLENT GRANGE:**

Cllr Bishop reported that the gas tanks on the adjacent field had now been removed to within the development site.

With the agreement of members, the Chair invited a discussion relating to Coronavirus.

Cllr Bishop suggested that as the elected body the Parish Council should co-ordinate the responses to enquires and information. He suggested that the increased use of e-mails would be a better way of communicating information now that the recommendation from government sources is to reduce social interaction. Cllr Whitlock reported that the Community Centre had now closed and suggested that the planned meeting for Thursday be cancelled. The Parish Council agreed to cancel all public events on the Village Green for the coming months and to enquire into the technical possibilities of holding future meetings remotely, including how this might impact on planning applications and representations. It was suggested that the Clerk inquire with other local authorities as to their plans regarding holding public meetings.

Cllr Banks suggested this situation could run for several months and that those living alone were most vulnerable.

With the agreement of members, the Chair invited a discussion relating to Keyhaven Village Green.

Cllr Cowell reported that continuous damage was occurring happening at the corner of Keyhaven Village Green, mainly by busses and large vehicles. Although repairs had been undertaken, he suggested a more permanent solution to this problem be undertaken by building a slope from the edge of the Village Green to the existing wooden posts. The Clerk suggested that Hampshire County Council Highways Engineers should be invited to visit the site before any construction take place. The Clerk suggested that laying grass matting might also solve the problem. Members agreed to seek the advice of HCC as soon as possible.

14. COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

No reports received.

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

A. Business, Education & Community

Cllr Whitlock reported all classes in the Community Centre had now been cancelled.

B. Communication & Citizen Engagement

The Clerk reported that the Police were no longer undertaking surgeries as the response was poor. Also, that the Police were no longer able to attend Parish Council or other community meetings.

C. Building & Development

Nothing further to report.

D. Environment & Open Spaces

The Clerk reported that the planned Woodland Interest Group meeting was going to be cancelled.

E. Groups & Societies

Nothing to report.

F. Health & Wellbeing

The Clerk reported that he had attended a Play Park Inspection Course and that inspections and minor repairs were going to fall into his remit.

G. Sea Front & Coastal Protection

Nothing further to report.

H. Transportation & Infrastructure

Nothing to report.

I. Parish Employment

Nothing to report.

15. CORRESPONDENCE:

Nothing to report.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and **CLOSED** the meeting at 8.00pm.

..... Chair

.....Date