

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 ZOOM MEETING ON THE 19th APRIL 2021.

Minutes of the 389th meeting of the Parish Council held **Monday 22nd March 2021.**

It should be noted that due to the current Coronavirus situation this meeting was held via Zoom. The public were made aware of the agenda and the link to the meeting,

MEMBERS

Mr. Bob Bishop	p	Mr. Matthew Goode	p	Mrs. Susan Whitlock	p
Mr. Tim Cowell		Mr. Peter Jennions	p	Ms. Anne Cullen	p
Mrs. Patricia Banks	p	Mr. Donald Darbshire		Mr. Tony Coleman	
Mr. Kenneth Cameron	p				

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Graham Wells (Parish Clerk), County Cllr Carpenter, District Cllr Hawkins, Roz Waters (Lymington Times) 16 members of the public.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.
2. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Mr. Jon Crouch for item 8.
3. **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs Coleman & Darbshire.
4. **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22nd FEBRUARY 2021:**
Cllr Banks proposed the minutes be accepted. Cllr Cameron seconded this proposal.
Members voted unanimously in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on **22nd February 2021** was a true record of the meeting and would be signed by the Chair at the earliest opportunity.

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

8. **USE AND SEATING ON THE VILLAGE GREEN:**

The Clerk reported that four requests from catering outlets had been received requesting additional seating on the Village Green due to the recent restrictions being imposed.

Mr. Jon Crouch representing The Cave reported that 90% of the feedback from last summer's agreement to allow additional seating had been positive and that it was crucial to individual catering businesses, hit hardest during the pandemic, that all opportunities to regain from imposed closures would be welcomed. He confirmed that if the Parish Council agreed to additional seating, that no advertising on benches would occur.

Cllr Whitlock suggested that any agreement should be formalised which would include controlling rubbish, agreeing the number of covers and adhering to other events that might be taking place during the summer.

Cllr Goode suggested an agreed termination date for this arrangement and it should not be taken for granted that the Village Green be an extension for catering outlets in future years.

Cllr Bishop suggested the Clerk produce terms and conditions and circulate to members prior to seating being placed on the Village Green.

The Clerk reported that a request had been received from the Church to erect a cross and banner on the Village Green over the four-day Easter period.

Cllr Jennions suggested that should any other faith request the use of the Village Green the Parish Council consider this on its individual merits.

District Cllr Hawkins reported the NFDC and New Milton Town Council also looked at this type of request without discrimination.

Members voted five (5) in favour, Nil (0) against and two (2) abstentions

It was **RESOLVED** that a cross and banner be placed on the Village Green by representatives of the church for the four-day Easter period.

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

6. AN UPDATE ON PROGRESS REGARDING SEA DEFENCE WORK ALONG MILFORD SEA FRONT AND FOOTPATH NEAR TO THE WHITEHOUSE:

Member of the public, Mr. Neil Peacock, reported that progress to reinstate the footpath was going well and that there was a good chance it would be completed by Easter. He also requested that the Parish Council advertise via its usual channels, that pedestrians keep to the footpath and not detour onto private land.

Cllr Bishop thanked residents of Shingle Bank Drive, Needles Point, The White House and Nautica Reach for their patience and good will on the Sea Wall Project and agreeing terms to facilitate the construction of the footpath. He also thanked New Forest District Council (NFDC) and contractor Earlcote for the work undertaken.

The Clerk reported on other projects being undertaken along Milford Sea Front including shingle movement at Hurst Spit and Groyne Repairs which are hoped to be completed before Easter.

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

9. GRAZING AT SCHOLARS RETREAT FIELD:

The Clerk reported that from 1st April the existing grazier was no longer going to graze animals at Scholars Retreat Field and that he had approached Matthew Cobb, the owner of the neighbouring farm to ascertain if he would be interested in taking over grazing the field.

Prior to the meeting Mr. Cobb had produced a summary on the condition of the field which had been circulated to members.

Mr. Cobb introduced himself and reported on the working practices of the farm and concerns over Scholars Retreat Field. He suggested that it may take several years to turn the field into a productive grazing area and that this, along with additional investment for fencing and water supply, would be a commitment he was willing to undertake. However, he was not prepared to pay rent whilst this was being undertaken.

Cllr Banks suggested the Parish Council had a responsibility as landowners to make the field a viable concern and that if Mr. Cobb was willing to invest in restoring the field, he should be offered a long-term lease.

Cllr Goode suggested that the Parish Council should protect its asset and that any agreement that protect both parties.

Cllr Bishop suggested that the Clerk liaise with Matthew Cobb and report back and that no rent be paid until the field is useable.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a) **EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2021:**

The Clerk had, prior to the meeting, circulated copies of the Expenditure Report for the above period and highlighted some stand-alone expenditure items.

Members had no further comments on expenditure items.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Expenditure Report for **February 2021** was a true record of expenditure.

b) **INCOME REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2021:**

The Clerk had, prior to the meeting, circulated copies of the Income Report for the above period.

Members had no further comments on income items.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Income Report for **February 2020** was a true record of income.

7. MOS1 OPEN SPACE CONSULTATION:

The Clerk reported that the consultation process had started and would also appear in the next edition of the Village Voice, already there had been over 60 responses of varying suggestions. He suggested reporting back with some further details after the Easter break.

Cllr Bishop reported that after 30th April the Parish Council would consider all responses and start to formulate the second phase of the consultation.

The Clerk reported that a request to NFDC and Pennyfarthing to construct smaller allotment plots had been made thus enabling more than 8 plots to be offered. Further meetings were due to take place in the coming weeks.

10. COMMUNITY MEADOW AND STUDLAND ORCHARD:

The Clerk reported that a great deal of work had been undertaken at these two sites and thanked Sue Crabbe and her team of volunteers as well as Tony Locke and members of the MCV for all the work achieved.

The Clerk reported that he was looking at costs of a small sign indicating the location of the Community Meadow and a small interpretation board for the Community Orchard.

11. COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

County Cllr Fran Carpenter reported that surface dressing was planned to be undertaken along the Ancient Highway and that residents of the Swifts had raised concern about the junction of School Lane and Lymington Road (B3058).

District Cllr Hawkins reported that he was looking into reports of floating debris at Keyhaven with NFDC Officers.

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

A. Business, Education & Community

Cllr Whitlock reported that the Community Centre were working on a schedule of events for the Autumn as well as small scale events as lockdown eases.

B. Communication & Citizen Engagement

Nothing to report.

C. Building & Development

Nothing to report.

D. Parish Council Open Spaces

The Clerk reported that work on the damaged bridge near New Valley Road was due to take place on 25th March.

E. Climate Emergency

Cllr Cameron reported that the Greening Campaign was being publicised in the Village News, also in local shop windows and potentially as an insert into the Village Voice Magazine.

Cllr Cullen reported that she and Cllr Cameron were looking at future progress and informing the wider community via the village directory and suggested that additional volunteers might be required to contact groups and societies.

F. Groups & Societies

Prior to the meeting Cllr Banks had circulated a report from the New Forest Consultative Panel.

G. Health & Wellbeing

The Clerk reported that concern had been raised over advertising at Barnes Lane Recreation Ground and that he and the Planning Clerk had informed the Football Club that this was likely to be a requirement. He reported that the football club were due to meet with NFDC to discuss this issue.

A member of the public expressed concern over the newly constructed Log Store. Cllr Bishop suggested an early

site meeting.

H. Sea Front & Coastal Protection

Discussed under item 6.

I. Transportation & Infrastructure

A local resident reported that extremely large lorries were using Barnes Lane and suggested there had previously been an agreement on the size of lorries using the lane. County Cllr Carpenter and District Cllr Hawkins agreed to look into this matter and report back at a later meeting.

Cllr Goode reported that a number of potholes had appeared close to the Downton Lane Junction of the B3058 which was posing a high level of danger.

Cllr Bishop reported that a large pothole had appeared at the Barnes Lane / Manor Road Junction.

County Cllr Carpenter agreed to investigate these holes.

J. Parish Employment

Nothing to report.

12. CORRESPONDENCE:

None received.

13. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION:

Nothing to report .

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and **CLOSED** the meeting at 8.35pm.

..... Chair

.....Date