

# 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 19<sup>th</sup> OF JUNE 2023.

Minutes of the 415<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Parish Council held **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023.**  
In the Village Hall, Park Road

### MEMBERS

|                     |   |                        |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Mr. Bob Bishop      | p | Mrs. Christine Hopkins | Mrs. Susan Whitlock | p |
| Mrs. Sue Pepper     | p | Mr. Peter Jennions     | Ms. Anne Cullen     |   |
| Mrs. Patricia Banks | p | Mr. Donald Darbishire  | Mr. Bernie Bennett  | p |
| Mr. Kenneth Cameron | p | Mr. David Royle        |                     | p |

### ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Graham Wells (Parish Clerk), Roz Waters (Lymington Times), County Cllr Carpenter,  
District Cllr Christine Ward and 3 members of the Public.

As the outgoing Chair, Cllr Matthew Goode was not present, members agreed for Cllr Bennett to act as Chair for the meeting. He welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

#### **1. ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR:**

Cllr Banks nominated Cllr Cullen; Cllr Royle seconded this nomination.  
Members voted unanimously in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Anne Cullen is elected as Chair of the Parish Council for 2023/2024.

#### **2. ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL VICE-CHAIR:**

Cllr Whitlock nominated Cllr Bennett; Cllr Bishop seconded this nomination.  
Members voted unanimously in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Bernie Bennett is elected as Vice-Chair of the Parish Council for 2023/2024.

#### **3. ELECTION OF CHAIR OF THE PARISH PLANNING COMMITTEE:**

Cllr Jennions nominated Cllr Banks; Cllr Royle seconded this nomination.  
Cllr Bishop nominated Cllr Whitlock; Cllr Cameron seconded this nomination.  
Members voted four (4) in favour of Cllr Banks and four (4) in favour of Cllr Whitlock.  
The Chair used his casting vote in favour of Cllr Whitlock.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Susan Whitlock is elected as Chair of the Parish Planning Committee for 2023/2024.

#### **4. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR TO THE PLANNING COMMITTEE:**

Cllr Banks nominated Cllr Pepper; Cllr Pepper declined this nomination.  
Cllr Whitlock nominated Cllr Banks; Cllr Darbishire seconded this nomination.  
Members voted unanimously in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Patricia Banks is elected as Vice-Chair to the Parish Council Planning Committee for 2023/2024.

5. **ELECTION OF CHAIR TO THE PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE, AUDIT & COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE:**

Cllr Whitlock nominated Cllr Royle; Cllr Darbishire seconded this nomination.  
Members voted eight (8) in favour and one (1) abstention.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr David Royle is elected as Chair of the Parish Council Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee for 2023/2024.

6. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR TO THE FINANCE, AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE:**

Cllr Whitlock nominated Cllr Bishop; Cllr Cameron seconded this proposal.  
Members voted eight (8) in favour and one (1) abstention.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Bob Bishop is elected as Vice-Chair to the Parish Council Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee for 2023/2024.

7. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None Received

8. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Mr. Rick Underhill and Mr. Keith Metcalf for item 13. Mr. Paul White for item 12d.

9. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Cullen and Cllr Hopkins. District Cllrs Hawkins and Reid.

10. **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023:**

Cllr Royle proposed the minutes be adopted; Cllr Darbishire seconded this proposal.  
Members voted eight (8) in favour and one (1) abstention.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on **17<sup>th</sup> April 2023** was a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair of the meeting.

11. **PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES HELD ON 3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2023:**

Members voted in favour that the Planning Minutes are fully adopted.

12. **FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

a) **EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR APRIL 2023:**

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

Cllr Royle proposed the expenditure report be approved; Cllr Pepper seconded this proposal.  
Members voted unanimously in favour that the Expenditure Report is accepted.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Expenditure Report for **April 2023** was a true record of expenditure and was signed by the Chair.

b) **INCOME REPORT FOR APRIL 2023:**

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

Cllr Royle proposed the income report be approved; Cllr Cameron seconded this proposal.  
Members voted unanimously in favour that the Income Report is accepted.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Income Report for **April 2023** was a true record of income and was signed by the Chair.

c) **RECONCILED BANK STATEMENTS:**

Reconciled bank statements for April were circulated to members for information.

d) **GRANT APPLICATION FOR MILFORD MUSIC FESTIVAL:**

Mr. Paul White addressed the committee and reported that preparations were going well. He reported that a professional planner was required for the event days dealing with several aspects including security and medical cover.

Cllr Whitlock complimented the festival committee for all their hard work in putting the event together.

Cllr Jennions proposed awarding £750; Cllr Darbishire seconded this proposal.  
Cllr Cameron proposed awarding £500; Cllr Royle seconded this proposal.  
Members voted four (4) in favour of awarding £500, five (5) members voted in favour of awarding £750.

|                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that £750 be awarded to the Music Festival, paid from the Community Support Fund. |
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**13. SCHOLARS RETREAT TREE PLANTING PROJECT:**

Prior to the meeting Cllr Cullen had circulated a report about the meeting held with interested parties on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Cllr Darbishire suggested this was a project the Parish Council should support due to the climate requirement to plant trees. Cllr Banks suggested this parcel of land could be used to offset carbon requirements. Cllr Bishop suggested further investigation into the initial and ongoing costs of the project to the Parish Council. Cllr Royle suggested that any new trees or hedging planting might require watering and that there was no water supply to the site.

Cllr Bennett suggested that Hampshire County Council (HCC) produce a plan of the site indicating what type of trees and hedging meet the requirement for an exposed area and the Clerk investigate the fencing cost and water requirements.

**14. THE FORMAT FOR THE PUBLIC MEETING TO BE HELD ON 24<sup>TH</sup> MAY:**

The Clerk reported that a significant number of councillors were unavailable for the public meeting scheduled for the 24<sup>th</sup> May. Also, the Clerk was away on this date. Members agreed to a temporary change of standing orders to allow the meeting to proceed on a date within the last week of June. A discussion on the format of the public meeting will be added to the June Parish Council Agenda.

**15. AN UPDATE REPORT ON THE OPEN SPACE LAND BEHIND THE SCHOOL:**

The Clerk reported that correspondence had been exchanged between Milford-on-Sea Parish Council and New Forest District Council. This had confirmed that the Parish Council would not enter into any agreement until the land had been confirmed to be in a safe and usable condition by an independent assessor. It was hoped that work would start in the late summer/early autumn.

Cllr Whitlock suggested a working group be formed to discuss further the aspirations for the site.

**16. COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:**

County Councillor Carpenter reported that discussions with Nick Adams-King, HCC Lead Cabinet Member for Universal Services (Highways, Transport, Environment, Countryside and Communities) had taken place regarding the parking at Salt Grass Lane and New Lane and that there would be some action during the summer.

She also reported that HCC were adopting an additional Greening Campaign and that she would update the Chair on this project. Also, a Bee Fayre is due to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> August and representatives of the Parish Council are invited to attend.

District Cllr Ward reported that she was no longer a Councillor for New Milton and that she should hear shortly if she was to become Chair of Planning at NFDC

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

**A. Business, Education & Community**

Cllr Whitlock complimented all that were involved with events on the Village Green over the Coronation weekend.

**B. Communication & Citizen Engagement**

Nothing to report.

**C. Building & Development**

Cllr Bishop reported that it was unclear as to who the open space land might be given at MOS2.

It was agreed that the outline planning application was to be heard at the Parish Councils normal Planning Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> June.

**D. Parish Council Open Spaces**

Cllr Whitlock reported that a meeting had been held with a representative of Friends of Christchurch Priory, who had been taken by surprise that there was a right of easement over the land owned by them at Milford Meadow.

The Friends of Christchurch Priory were looking at the options available to them with the land, having spent much needed funds on litigation and reports. Cllr Whitlock suggested subscribing to the “Open Spaces Society” who could give further advice on protection of land.

It was agreed unanimously to subscribe at a cost of £45 per annum.

The Clerk reported that discussions were being held in conjunction with NFDC about obtaining a replacement grazier for land owned by both parties. He would update Councillors as soon as further information became available.

### **E. Climate Emergency**

Nothing to report.

### **F. Groups & Societies**

Nothing to report.

### **G. Finance**

Cllr Royle reported that the forward planning meeting would be deferred to a later date and that Councillors would be given plenty of notice of this meeting when a date had been agreed.

### **H. Health & Wellbeing**

Nothing to report.

### **I. Sea Front & Coastal Protection**

Cllr Bennett reported that he was becoming the Parish Councils representative to the Keyhaven to Lymington Coastal Stakeholder Group.

### **J. Transportation & Infrastructure**

Cllr Bishop reported that there were major potholes within the village as well as the zebra crossing falling into a state of disrepair. County Cllr Carpenter reported that resources were very stretched and that all holes would be repaired as soon as possible.

### **K. Parish Employment**

The Clerk reported that Co-option of the vacant Parish Councillor position could be undertaken at the earliest opportunity without having to advertise through NFDC.

#### **13. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Nothing to report.

#### **14. OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT:**

Cllr Royle reported that all Councillors needed to send a nil return expense form back to NFDC in relation to the recent elections.

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

..... Chair

.....Date