

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 16th OCTOBER 2023.

Minutes of the 418th meeting of the Parish Council held **Monday 18th September 2023.**
In the Village Hall, Park Road

MEMBERS

Mr. Bob Bishop	Mrs. Susan Pepper.	p	Mrs. Susan Whitlock
Mrs. Christine Hopkins	Mr. Peter Jennions	p	Ms. Anne Cullen
Mrs. Patricia Banks	Mr. Donald Darbshire	p	Mr. Bernard Bennett
Mr. Kenneth Cameron	Mr. David Royle		Mr. Ian Bliss

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Graham Wells (Parish Clerk), District Cllr Hawkins and Roz Waters (Lymington Times).

Chair of the Parish Council, Anne Cullen, welcomed everyone and made a statement offering the Parish Council's condolences to Sue and Hugh Whitlock and their family following the sad news regarding the sudden and unexpected loss of their daughter Louise.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None received.
2. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.
3. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Bishop, Cllr Royle, Cllr Whitlock, Cllr Bliss. County Cllr Carpenter. District Cllr's Ward and Reid.
4. **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21st AUGUST 2023:**
Cllr Hopkins proposed the minutes be adopted; Cllr Bennett seconded this proposal.
Members voted unanimously in favour.

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21st August 2023 was a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair of the meeting.
--

5. **FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

a) **EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR AUGUST 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 Cullen proposed the expenditure report be approved; Cllr Hopkins seconded this proposal.

Members voted unanimously in favour that the Expenditure Report is accepted.

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

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

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

Cllr Cullen proposed the income report be approved; Cllr Hopkins seconded this proposal.

Members voted unanimously in favour that the Income Report is accepted.

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

c) **RECONCILED BANK STATEMENTS:**

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

d) **GRANT APPLICATION FOR OAKHAVEN HOSPICE TRUST:**

Cllr Jennions suggested that due to the limited funds available to the Parish Council and the amount currently being held in reserve by Oakhaven Trust, to award a grant of £500 at this time did not seem justified. Cllr Pepper reported that many residents contribute and volunteer at the hospice and agreed with Cllr Jennions' statement.

Cllr Cameron suggested a sensitively worded reply needed to be sent to Oakhaven.

Councillors voted unanimously against awarding community support funds to Oakhaven Hospice Trust.

6. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

The Chair reported that she along with Cllr Bank and Cllr Pepper had attended the southwest quadrant meeting held in Keyhaven. A number of subjects were discussed, including anti-social behaviour, trust in the police, Forestry England's publicity of ground nesting birds and some success in prosecuting fly-tipping incidents. There was also a cycling and walking plan being identified and a report from the National Park Authority on the proposed changes to planning.

Cllr Cullen reported that she gave a presentation on the coastal project from Keyhaven to Lymington, the effect on wildlife due to public leisure activities and the dramatic change to the Lymore Valley in a relatively short period.

The Chair reported that she had been invited to a meeting with the New Forest District Council to discuss the Lymington to Keyhaven Project with Parish Council Members only, several members agreed to attend this meeting with the Chair.

The Chair reported that work was starting at Milford Sea front to recharge the beach and repair some groyne and that this work would take place over several weeks.

7. **THE IMPLICATIONS OF NEW BIN EMPTYING CHARGES:**

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated details of proposed charges by NFDC for waste collection on land owned by the Parish Council. Currently the annual cost is £435, but this is due to increase to £5,700 from April 2024 which would dramatically affect the 2024/25 precept level.

Cllr Darbshire suggested finding the cost to outsource this collection and would provide some contact details.

Cllr Hopkins suggested this might prove expensive as NFDC are still absorbing some of the cost.

The Clerk agreed to report back when this information is received.

8. **A SHORT BRIEFING ON:**

a) **Scholars Retreat Field**

The Clerk reported that neighbouring farmer, Mr. Cobb was going to run a water supply and prepare the field for sheep grazing. A further review will then take place once this has been undertaken.

b) **Saltgrass Lane**

Cllr Darbshire reported that posts with laminated signs had been erected by HCC Highways, but the laminated signs had been removed. Also, a resident was researching an act of parliament pertaining to permanent camping. Cllr Cullen suggested that it would be 2024 before any long-term solution would be implemented.

c) **Beehives**

It was agreed by members to review this subject again in the new financial year.

d) **Office windows & door**

The Clerk reported that NFDC had confirmed UPVC frames would not be permitted within the conservation area. The Assistant Clerk was obtaining alternative quotes for wooden frames and more efficient heating.

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

District Cllr Hawkins reported that he was surprised at the dramatic increases being proposed for waste bin collection.

Cllr Hawkins was trying to identify the reason for yet another delay in making good the open space area behind the school. Cllr Banks suggested that NFDC had not enforced the planning conditions which were agreed by the developer. Cllr Cullen agreed to take this matter further with the relevant councillors/officers at NFDC.

13. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

A. PLANNING COMMITTEE

To receive for adoption the planning minutes from 7TH August 2023.

Members voted unanimously in adopting these minutes.

B. FINANCE & FORWARD PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Cllr Cullen suggested the next finance meeting would be in November to prepare the 2024/5 precept level request.

C. AMENITIES, WOODLAND, COASTAL & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Members agreed to set a meeting date in the near future and during the day if possible.

The Clerk agreed to forward details.

D. TOURISM, TRADERS & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE:

Members agreed to set a meeting date in the near future and during the day if possible.

The Clerk agreed to forward details.

E. MOS1 COMMITTEE:

Members agreed to set a meeting date in the near future and during the day if possible.

The Clerk agreed to forward details.

14. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Clerk reported that work to repair the village clock was now going ahead on 9th – 11th October.

Cllr Pepper suggested that the Parish Council purchase its own scaffold tower as the clock was going to need servicing regularly.

The Clerk agreed to obtain costs and details of such a purchase.

Cllr Hopkins agreed to represent the Parish Council at the service of remembrance in All Saints Church. Cllr Banks agreed to represent the Parish Council at the service in Keyhaven.

17. **OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT:**

There were no further items to discuss.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and **CLOSED** the meeting at 7.45pm.

..... Chair

.....Date