

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 9th DECEMBER 2024.

Minutes of the 432nd meeting of the Parish Council held **Monday 18th November 2024.**
In the Village Hall, Park Road

MEMBERS

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Graham Wells (Parish Clerk), District Cllr Reid, County Cllr Carpenter
Roz Waters (Lymington Times), Mike Walker (Milford Youth Group) Danny Thomas (TPH Solar Renewals).

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Royle & Cllr Bennett declared an interest in item 10. and requested a dispensation on this subject. The Parish Council agreed with this dispensation in accordance with its standing orders and confirmed that Cllr's Royle and Bennett were unable to vote on any proposal under item 10.
2. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr's Darbshire & Whitlock. District Cllrs Ward & Hawkins.
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Mr. Mike Walker for Item 7. Mr. Danny Thomas for item 8.
4. **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21ST OCTOBER 2024:**
Cllr Royle proposed the minutes be adopted; Cllr Hopkins seconded this proposal.
Members voted unanimously in favour.

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21st October was a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair of the meeting.
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With the agreement of members, the Chair brought forward item 7.

7. **A REPORT FROM MILFORD-ON-SEA YOUTH GROUP:**

Prior to the meeting, Mr. Mike Walker had circulated a comprehensive report on the activities and finances of the Youth Group. Mike reported that, like many organisations, the Youth Group has experienced a significant increase in its running costs, mainly from staff costs and inflationary increases in equipment and consumables. This increase in costs are likely to continue, especially with the new rate of Employer National Insurance from April 2025. Mike reported that the cost for young people to purchase "tuck" would inevitably have to go up to cover some of these additional costs.

The Youth Group has 5 paid staff and 2 volunteers and they look after over 40 young people that attend the group.

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had budgeted for a 10% increase in its allocation, making the annual contribution from the Council £5,500 in 2024.

Cllr Pepper suggested reviewing the council's future contribution to the Youth Group at the next finance meeting.

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

8. A PROPOSAL TO PLACE SOLAR PANELS ON THE CHRIS WALFORD PAVILION ROOF AND AN UPDATE ON THE PROPOSAL OF PLACING SOLAR PANELS IN SCHOLARS RETREAT FIELD:

Mr. Danny Thomas introduced himself as the director of TPH Solar Renewals. He reported that his company was prepared to place solar panels on the roof of the Chris Walford Pavilion at Barnes Lane Recreation Ground completely free of charge. He had already contacted SSE who had agreed and confirmed the potential output. Danny reported that there were no hidden costs and that the energy saved would benefit the Youth Football Club as they pay the electricity charges, there was even potential for energy to be sold back to the National Grid.

Cllr Banks suggested there was a potential for glare reflection towards neighbouring properties. Danny suggested that due to the low pitch of the roof there would not be any glaring towards other properties. Cllr Pepper suggested this project would enhance the councils' "green" credentials

Cllr Royle proposed allowing 8 solar panels to be placed on the roof of the pavilion; Cllr Bliss seconded this proposal.
Members voted unanimously in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that solar panels be placed on the roof of the Chris Walford Pavilion to reduce energy charges and at no cost to the Parish Council.

Danny Thomas reported that there were new tenants in Hordle Manor Farm but he had not met them yet. He had contacted the landowners Longdown regarding a potential joint project with panels on Scholars Retreat Field and the land at Hordle Manor Farm.

He also reported that contact had been made with SSE and these conversations on the potential load that could be obtained were ongoing. Danny suggested it would need to be a reasonably sized project to warrant the initial outlay versus the potential income.
Danny agreed to forward future information to the Parish Clerk.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a) EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2024:

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 Cullen seconded this proposal.
Members voted unanimously in favour that the Expenditure Report is accepted.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Expenditure Report for **October 2024** was a true record of expenditure and was signed by the Chair.

b) INCOME REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2024:

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 Cullen seconded this proposal.
Members voted unanimously in favour that the Income Report is accepted.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Income Report for **October 2024** was a true record of income and was signed by the Chair.

6. CHAIRS REPORT:

The Chair reported that due to being away for some time, his report would be brief.
The Chair reported that he had included a new regular item on Parish Council Agenda to give Councillors the opportunity to report on any external meeting they had attended.
He had been active in promoting the pledges to acquire the meadow and had attended the remembrance service at All Saints Church.
The Chair thanked all those involved in the progress made during the Bowls Club and Meadow working groups.

7. Item was previously discussed.

8. Item was previously discussed.

9. **AN UPDATE ON THE SALE OF THE COMMUNITY MEADOW (NORTHERN SECTION):**

Cllr Royle reported that several working group meetings had been held with Councillors, immediate neighbours and local community group “Friends of the Meadow”. Following these meetings publicity information had been produced and a public campaign calling for pledges had started.

Cllr Royle reported that whatever the total amount pledged would be the bid the Parish Council would make. It had been confirmed that the tender documentation would be hand delivered to Goadsby’s and that a further working group meeting would be held early the following week.

10. **AN UPDATE REPORT ON THE MEETING WITH MILFORD BOWLS CLUB:**

Prior to the meeting a summary of the meeting had been forwarded to Councillors. Cllr Pepper reported that the meeting had been very productive and the Bowls Club representatives were very appreciative of the proposals tabled.

It had been suggested that the Bowls Club respond to the proposals given by the end of November with a target date set for the end of January to finalise the wording of a lease and the implementation of a legal agreement starting on 1st April 2025.

11. **UPDATE COUNCILLOR REPORTS ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS:**

Cllr Cullen reported she had attended an all-day workshop discussing the Hurst Spit to Lymington project. She reported that public exhibitions are being held locally with one being at All Saints Church Hall. It had been suggested that eight areas along the stretch from Lymington to Keyhaven would be considered for work. Also, Keyhaven and along The Pans waterways could get built up. However, it was likely that the Spit would be allowed to “over-top” and it was possible the Danestream might need to be redirected. This, however, is based on a 40 to 60-year prediction.

Cllr Pepper reported that she and Cllr Banks had attended a meeting with the Sea Scouts at Keyhaven which had been very positive about the future of the group. A new long-term plan had been implemented and both Cllr Pepper and Banks had joined the newly formed committee.

12. **COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:**

County Cllr Carpenter reported that a second consultation on parking along Salt Grass Lane and New Lane in Keyhaven was going to start from the coming Friday and would last 3 weeks. Further information would be forwarded to the Clerk for distribution. Proposals for consultation would include double yellow lines in some places, pay and display parking bays and some limited free time parking. It had also been suggested that no overnight motor caravans would be allowed.

Cllr Reid reported that NFDC had slightly altered its licensing and gambling policy. He had also been involved in several task & finishing groups which are now going to the full cabinet for approval.

16. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

A. **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

To receive the planning minutes from **7th October 2024** for adoption.
Members voted unanimously in favour of adopting these minutes.

B. **FINANCE & FORWARD PLANNING COMMITTEE:**

The next meeting is scheduled for **25th November** to set the 2025/26 precept level.
The agenda for this meeting had been sent to Councillors

C. **AMENITIES, WOODLAND, COASTAL & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE:**

The draft minutes from the meeting on **Tuesday 15th October** had been forwarded to members and should be adopted following the next Amenities meeting.

D. **TOURISM, TRADERS & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE:**

The next meeting is scheduled for **24th September 2025**. It was noted that an earlier meeting could be arranged if required.

E. **MOS1 COMMITTEE:**

A meeting to discuss MOS1 will be held when further information becomes available.

17. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Clerk reported that a meeting had been scheduled to inspect the Bridges and Boardwalk in the Upper and Lower Pleasure Grounds which were constructed last year. Documentation has been received for signing which confirms that the Parish Council are now responsible for the ongoing maintenance of these structures.

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

None.

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

..... Chair Date