

# 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 17<sup>th</sup> OF MARCH 2025.**

Minutes of the 434<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Parish Council held **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025**.  
In the Village Hall, Park Road

**MEMBERS (p = present)**

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

**ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE**

Graham Wells (Parish Clerk), District Cllr Reid and one member of the public.

Vice-Chair, Cllr Anne Cullen welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Royle declared an interest in item 9 and requested a dispensation. Members agreed unanimously to this.
- APOLOGIES:** Cllr's Hopkins & Bennett. District Cllrs Ward & Hawkins. County Cllr Carpenter.
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Mr. Jonathan Ruddle for item 7.

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

**7. A REQUEST FOR A PETANQUE RINK AT MILFORD SEA FRONT:**

Prior to the meeting a report had been circulated detailing this request.

Mr. Jonathan Ruddle, member of the pétanque club at New Milton, suggested that the land next to the Needles Eye café could be utilised to provide a terrain that would be of benefit to residents and visitors of Milford-on-Sea.

He was not suggesting forming a specific club, but just having the facility open to all. Mr. Ruddle suggested that there might be grants available to construct a terrain, or that the Parish Council could consider providing funds from its budget.

Cllr Jennions suggested this was a good use of the land. Cllr Whitlock suggested the land could be used for the wider public and that other ideas had been considered in the past.

The Clerk reported that permission would need to be granted by NFDC as the Parish Council only lease the land and that there was a possibility of using the land to the west of the Bowls Club.

It was agreed to discuss this further at February's Finance and Forward Planning Meeting.

**4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2024:**

Cllr Royle proposed the minutes be adopted; Cllr Banks seconded this proposal.  
Members voted unanimously in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December was a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair of the meeting.

## 5. **FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

### a) **EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR DECEMBER 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 Bliss seconded this proposal.  
Members voted unanimously in favour that the Expenditure Report is accepted.

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

### b) **INCOME REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2024:**

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

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

### c) **GRANT APPLICATION FROM HOME-START HAMPSHIRE:**

Cllr Darbshire suggested this type of support was not the responsibility of the Parish Council. Cllr Whitlock suggested the Parish Council's support fund should go to village organisations.

Cllr Royle suggested inviting Home-Start Hampshire to the next Council meeting to enable councillors to gain a clearer picture of what is provided from this service.

Members agreed unanimously in favour of this suggestion.

### d) **BECOMING MEMBERS OF NALC AND HALC:**

Cllr Cullen reported that the request to re-join these organisations had been proposed by the staffing committee as it felt that there was a requirement for legal advice and the opportunity to utilise their templates to update policies. Cllr Pepper suggested that the Parish Council needed some assurance behind it.

Cllr Darbshire proposed joining. Cllr Banks seconded this proposal.  
Members voted unanimously in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council join the National Association of Local Councils (NALC and Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) for the remainder of 2024/5 and 2025/26.

### e) **UPDATE ON FUNDS RECEIVED TO PURCHASE THE COMMUNITY MEADOW:**

Cllr Royle, chair of finance, reported there had been 110 pledges and that all bar two (£150) had been received. The total pledged was £114,535 and the Parish Council had bid this amount which had been accepted.  
It was hoped that the exchange of contracts and completion could be achieved by the end of February.

## 6. **CHAIRS REPORT:**

The Parish Council Chair had given his apologies. Cllr Cullen reported that a meeting had been arranged with Pennyfarthing Homes to assess where in the process the proposed development north of Manor Road was.

## 7. Item previously discussed.

## 8. **FORMING A WORKING PARTY TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE USE OF THE COMMUNITY MEADOW:**

Cllr Pepper suggested that as the land was due to come into Parish Council ownership imminently, a clear plan how it is going to be maintained needs to be developed. Cllr Whitlock suggested forming a working group very soon and to invite other volunteer groups that have assisted in the development of the southern section of the meadow.

Cllr Cullen suggested that this meeting should be one afternoon, which would allow other Councillors to attend. The Clerk agree to suggest a 3pm date prior to the end of January.

**9. AN UPDATE ON THE PROGRESS OF THE BOWLS CLUB LEASE:**

Cllr Royle reported that a simple lease had been drafted and modified to suit both parties.

This was now ready to be presented to the bowls club for their comments.

The Clerk suggested sending a copy of the draft leases to members at the same time as the Bowls Club.

**10. THE POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE PARISH COUNCIL REGARDING POSSIBLE AUTHORITY DEVOLUTION:**

Cllr Banks reported that there had been a good number of detailed reports produced recently which were worth reading and that the Parish Council should be involved as much as possible during forthcoming discussions.

District Cllr Reid suggested it was likely both HCC and NFDC would discontinue as early as mid-2026.

The Clerk suggested that various projects in Milford headed up by NFDC might need further consideration.

**11. REVISED MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT:**

**12. INDUCTION FOR NEW COUNCILLORS AND EMPLOYEES:**

Cllr Royle suggested that further scrutiny of these two policies needed to take place and suggested that this should go onto the next Parish Council Agenda.

Cllr Cullen suggested these items could be discussed at the upcoming free format/training meeting.

Members agreed with this suggestion.

**13. AN UPDATE REPORT FROM COUNCILLORS THAT HAVE ATTENDED EXTERNAL MEETINGS:**

There have been no external meetings to report on.

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

District Councillor Reid reported that he had been involved in the committee discussing licensing charges. Also, he was on the committee discussing the recent Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) bids and suggested there was a possibility that the CIL fund allocation could be increased as NFDC might consider using some of its reserves prior to possible devolution. District Cllr Reid reported there was a small amount of funds still available from his councillor allocation.

**15. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**A. PLANNING COMMITTEE**

To receive the planning minutes from **9th December 2024** for adoption.

Members voted unanimously in favour of adopting these minutes.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 10.30am**.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 10.30am**.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for **23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**16. CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Clerk reported that the publication of the Village Voice was being taken over from the current publisher and that he had a meeting planned this week with the new proprietor.

The Clerk reported that Tracy and Di, who had been organising the Christmas festivities on the village green were passing this project on to staff at The Bridge.

Councillors thanked Tracy and Di for everything that had been done over recent years.

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

Clr Darbshire reported that £865 had been raised from events in Keyhaven during December and that this was going to be distributed to two local charities.

The Vice-Chair thanked everyone for attending and **CLOSED** the meeting at 7.50pm.

..... Chair ..... Date