

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 17th OF APRIL 2023.

Minutes of the 413th meeting of the Parish Council held **Monday 20th March 2023.**
In the Village Hall, Park Road

MEMBERS

Mr. Bob Bishop	Mr. Matthew Goode	p	Mrs. Susan Whitlock
Mr. Tim Cowell	Mr. Peter Jennions	p	Ms. Anne Cullen
Mrs. Patricia Banks	Mr. Donald Darbishire	p	Mrs. Jayne Vaughan
Mr. Kenneth Cameron	Mr. David Royle	p	Mr. Bernard Bennett

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Graham Wells (Parish Clerk), District Cllr David Hawkins, District Cllr Hopkins, County Cllr Fran Carpenter, and 9 members of the Public

Chair of the Parish Council, Matthew Goode, welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None Received
2. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Mr. Dillane for item 6d, Mrs. Spencer for item 6e, Mrs. Whitworth for item 6f. Mr. Jon Crouch for item 7.
3. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Cullen, Cllr Bishop, Cllr Cowell, Cllr Whitlock.
4. **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20th FEBRUARY 2023:**
Cllr Royle proposed the minutes be adopted; Cllr Vaughan seconded this proposal.
Members voted seven in favour and one (1) abstention.

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th February 2023 was a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair of the meeting.
--

5. **PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES HELD ON 6th FEBRUARY 2023:**
Members voted seven (7) in favour and one (1) abstention that the Planning Minutes are fully adopted.
6. **FINANCIAL MATTERS:**
 - a) **EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 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 Darbishire proposed the expenditure report be approved; Cllr Bennett seconded this proposal.
Members voted unanimously in favour that the Expenditure Report is accepted.

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

b) INCOME REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2023:

The Clerk had, prior to the meeting, circulated copies of the Income Report for the above period. Cllr Darbshire proposed the income report be approved; Cllr Bennett seconded this proposal. Members voted unanimously in favour that the Income Report is accepted.

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

c) RECONCILED BANK STATEMENTS:

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

d) GRANT APPLICATION FOR MILFORD VOLUNTEER DRIVERS:

Mr. William Dillane thanked the Parish Council for their previous donation and reported that they now are incorporated into Milford-on-Sea Charitable Trust. The money requested would go towards improving their IT capabilities to improve the service.

Cllr Vaughan proposed awarding £500. Cllr Darbshire seconded this proposal.

Councillors voted unanimously in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that £500 be awarded to Milford Volunteer Drivers, paid from the Community Support Fund.

e) GRANT APPLICATION FROM NEW FOREST DISABILITY:

Geraldine Spencer from New Forest Disability reported that the organisation provided a range of services and advice to individuals and careers. Their main expense was staff costs, with two full-time staff and seven part time staff.

Cllr Banks proposed awarding £500. Cllr Bennett seconded this proposal.

Councillors voted unanimously in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that £500 be awarded to New Forest Disability, paid from the Community Support Fund.

f) GRANT APPLICATION FORM MILFORD-ON-SEA LIP READERS:

Mrs. Christine Whitworth reported the Milford Lip Readers have been operating for several years, teaching those that are hard of hearing techniques and coping strategies to enable a better quality of life. The money required would be used to set up a new class for beginners.

Cllr Jennions proposed awarding £800, Cllr Vaughan seconded this proposal.

Councillors voted unanimously in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that £800 be awarded to Milford-on-Sea Lip Readers, paid from the Community Support Fund.

g) EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/24:

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated the final expenditure proposal for 2023/24. The Clerk explained that expenditure had increased due to inflation increases on all the allocation headings, a whole year for the new groundsman and higher salary increases than historically experienced.

Cllr Royle proposed the 2023/24 Expenditure be approved. Cllr Darbshire seconded this proposal.

Members voted unanimously in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that the 2023/24 Expenditure level be set at £204,692.

7. SEATING ON THE VILLAGE GREEN:

Mr. Jon Crouch, owner of The Cave, suggested that having seating on the village green had produced a good village atmosphere during recent difficult times. He reported that there had been no complaints and that the area was kept clean and clear of litter on a regular basis. Mr. Crouch was made aware that other events on the village green have priority which could require the temporary removal of benches. Councillors suggested that other outlets could use the green for seating if they wished and that although there would be no charge for this summer, the Parish Council reserved the right to apply a charge in future years.

Councillors agreed to allow seating on the Village Green from 1st April 2023 until 30th September 2023.

8. BUS STOPS AT LYTTON LAWN AND THE COAST ROAD:

Cllr Goode reported that previous discussions had taken place regarding the purchase of two additional bus stops for the village. The previous suggestion of an additional bus stop at Keyhaven had not proved popular and it was suggested that a new stop be placed at Lytton Lawn and along the coast road.

Cllr Goode proposed that the Clerk investigate the cost involved and liaise with Hampshire Highways on the required ground works. Depending on the cost involved and the Parish Council obtaining the required funds during April's CIL allocation, that in principle this project should be completed.

9. THE VILLAGE RESPONSE TO MAINTAINING THE VILLAGE CLOCK:

The Clerk reported that only four responses had been received from residents following an article in the latest Village Voice. Cllr Jennions agreed to write a piece for the next edition of the Village Voice and also start a fund-raising campaign towards the cost of refurbishing the clock. Councillors suggested that the Parish Council should revisit this issue once it was known how much money had been raised and then make up the shortfall required.

10. VILLAGE RESPONSE TO THE USE OF LAND AT SCHOLARS RETREAT:

The Clerk reported there had only been one response to the recent article in the village voice. County Cllr Carpenter reported that she had visited the site with the local farmer, along with the chair of Milford Conservation Volunteers and was aware of the initiative from Hampshire County Council (HCC) to plant a vast number of trees in the coming years to combat climate change.

The Clerk agreed to convene a working group that would look at the possibilities under the HCC scheme and report back to the full Parish Council.

11. AN UPDATE ON LAND BEHIND THE SCHOOL AND ARCHITECTS MEETING:

The Clerk suggested it would be good to know the intentions of Pennyfarthing Homes (PFH) following recent correspondence received from New Forest District Council. Cllr Goode reported that Milford Parish Council had responded to the recent NFDC/PFH proposal suggesting that the land be made safe, in line with the Unilateral Undertaking specified in the planning application.

Cllr Goode reminded members that a meeting with the agreed architect was taking place on Saturday in the Parish office and that all members were welcome to attend.

12. AN UPDATE ON THE COASTAL DEFENCE PROJECTS (CHRISTCHURCH BAY) & LYMINGTON TO KEYHAVEN:

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated an update on the two projects received from NFDC's Coastal Defense Officer. Further consultation events were due to take place during the summer of 2023, with completion of the proposal options for Christchurch Bay expected during May 2024 and Lyminster to Keyhaven May 2025.

Cllr Goode suggested that the response to recent public consultations was low, especially as these projects would have an impact on most residents. He suggested that future events are more widely publicised.

13. AN UPDATE ON PARKING AT SALT GRASS LANE AND NEW LANE IN KEYHAVEN:

The Clerk reported that there had been no update received from Nick Adams-King since his attendance at the August 2022 Parish Meeting. County Cllr Carpenter reported that she had also been corresponding with HCC Highways who have suggested that although parking at Keyhaven was a priority, there were certain legal obligations to be met, as well as a public consultation required. Therefore, it was unlikely that any actual implication would be ready for the early summer.

14. COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

County Cllr Carpenter reported that Salt Grass Lane was due to be resurfaced shortly. Also, HCC's 2023/24 budget had been approved. She suggested the Parish Council might consider crowd funding for repairs to the village clock.

District Cllr Hawkins reported that he had tried to engage in conversations regarding the land at MOS1 which had proved very frustrating. He also reported that the local district elections were taking up much of his time.

District Cllr Hopkins reported that she would not be standing at the May District elections, but would continue to be an advocate for a conclusion to the land issue at MOS1.

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

A. Business, Education & Community

Cllr Vaughan reported that she had attended a meeting of the school council which had discussed a number of initiatives for Milford.

B. Communication & Citizen Engagement

The Clerk reported that he had attended the Volunteer Fair at the weekend and had discussed the role of the Parish Council with a number of people. It also appeared as though both the MCV and Gardening Club had successfully recruited extra volunteers.

C. Building & Development

Cllr Vaughan reported that the path behind 7 – 10 The Boltons had been completed by Hampshire County Council.

D. Parish Council Open Spaces

The Clerk reported that work on the MEG Bridge and Boardwalk to Blackbush Road, along with the two bridges close to Mill Meadow was due to start on 17th April and would last two months.

E. Climate Emergency

Nothing to report.

F. Groups & Societies

Nothing to report.

G. Finance

Nothing to report.

H. Health & Wellbeing

The Clerk reported that work to enhance the Chris Walford Pavilion was near to completion.

I. Sea Front & Coastal Protection

Nothing to report.

J. Transportation & Infrastructure

Nothing to report.

K. Parish Employment

Nothing to report.

16. CORRESPONDENCE:

Nothing to report.

17. OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT:

Nothing to report.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and **CLOSED** the meeting at 8.15pm.

..... Chair

.....Date