

MILFORD-ON-SEA PARISH COUNCIL

The Old Clock House ~ 22 High Street ~ Milford-on-Sea ~ Hampshire ~ SO41 0QD



THESE MINUTES WILL BE ADOPTED AT THE NEXT FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON THE 17th of MARCH 2025.

Minutes of the 4th meeting of the Amenities, Woodland, Coastal & Environment Committee held on **Tuesday 11th March 2025** in the Parish Office

MEMBERS

Mr. Donald Darbshire p
Mrs. Christine Hopkins p

Mr. Bob Bishop
Mrs. Sue Pepper p
(p = present at meeting)

Mr. Peter Jennions

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Graham Wells (Parish Clerk), Niam Morrison (Assistant Clerk), David Horne (Chair MCV)

Apologies received from:
Cllr Bob Bishop and Sue Crabb (Meadow Gardeners)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR:

Cllr Pepper proposed Cllr Darbshire; Cllr Hopkins seconded this proposal.
Cllr Darbshire was elected as Chair to this committee.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Cllr Darbshire proposed Cllr. Hopkins. Cllr Pepper seconded this proposal.
Cllr Hopkins was elected as vice-chair to this committee.

3. UPDATE ON THE NORTHERN SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY MEADOW:

Cllr Darbshire reported that a meeting to discuss the future of the meadow had been arranged for Wednesday 26th March and that representatives from the MCV, Meadow Gardeners, Church and School would be invited to this meeting along with any Councillors who wished to attend.
The Clerk reported that contracts had been exchanged and the meadow was now in Parish Council ownership.

4. REPORT FROM DAVID HORNE (MILFORD CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS):

David reported that work to clear an additional area at the Tony Locke Orchard had been completed and several fruit trees planted. He suggested that the boundary adjacent to the neighbouring property needed to be defined. The Clerk agreed to arrange this.

David also reported that path shuttering had been laid in the Upper Pleasure Grounds, close to Studland Meadow and that a delivery of scalping would take place when the ground was firm enough.
The next task day has been set in April and it is likely to include work in the Community Meadow.

Cllr Darbshire suggested that some hedge laying could take place in Keyhaven. David reported that he had some connections with groups that might consider undertaking this.

Cllr Pepper reported that the Danestream had been very “cloudy” recently and asked how often the stream was tested.

The Clerk reported that the cloudiness of the stream was due to building work in Hordle. This was subsequently confirmed by David Horne.

David reported that he had recently seen someone from the Environment Agency examining the river, but was unsure on how often this was done.

5. REPORT FROM SUE CRABB (MEADOW GARDENERS):

Prior to the meeting, a report from Sue Crabb had been circulated that gave details of work undertaken in the southern section of the Community Meadow. The report also included some suggestions for the newly acquired northern section.

The committee thanked Sue and her team for all the work undertaken and for a comprehensive report.

6. REPORT ON GROUNDSTAFF WORKLOAD:

The Clerk reported that it had been a challenging time over the last few months as both grounds personal had been away for some prolonged periods due to illness. It was expected that both Groundsmen would be back to normal in a few weeks' time.

The Clerk reported that some work on paths in the Pleasure Grounds would be taking place in April and May. Also, there had been some work to play parks over the winter, which included repairing gates, repairs to the surface at Hurst Road and major hedge reductions at Carrington Lane. Barnes Lane Recreation Ground was holding up well this winter.

Cllr Darbshire suggested a dog waste bin be sited at the car park behind the school. The Clerk agreed to request this.

7. CATTLE GRAZING:

The clerk reported that the grazier had become very elusive and despite various requests to meet and discuss future cattle grazing no replies had been forthcoming.

Cllr Pepper agreed to ask a contact if they might be interested in discussing grazing options.

Cllr Darbshire suggested placing sheep on Parish land. David Horne reported that sheep are not ideal for the type of land management required in Milford

8. COASTAL PROJECTS:

Cllr Darbshire reported that there had been a number of exhibitions over recent months and that the Parish Council were regularly updated by the District Council on various issues.

The Clerk reported that the next NFDC briefing was due in April.

Cllr Pepper reported that NFDC had decided not to renew over 40 licences for existing beach hut owners and suggested the Parish Council might wish to make a comment about this. sociable hours of the day and night. Cllr Pepper also reported that NFDC were reconsidering their options for maintaining Hurst Spit and suggested some work was taking place at present.

9. PARISH COUNCIL FORWARD PLANNING PROJECTS (that connect to this committee):

The Clerk reported that the Finance and Forward Planning Committee were proposing a sum of money be allocated to the required work on the northern section of the Community Meadow.

9. A.O.B.:

Cllr Darbshire reported that the lease for the Bowls Club was nearing its conclusion.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting date is the 14th of October, it was suggested to make this at 3pm.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and **CLOSED** the meeting at 11.25am.

..... Chair

.....Date