

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 20th of OCTOBER 2025.

Minutes of the 5th meeting of the Amenities, Woodland, Coastal & Environment Sub-Committee held on
Tuesday 14th October 2025 in the Parish Office

MEMBERS

Mr. Donald Darbshire	p	Mr. Bob Bishop	p	Mr. Gary Fox	p
Mrs. Christine Hopkins	p	Mrs. Sue Pepper	p	Mrs. Lynn Wylde	p
Ms. Anne Cullen	p	Mr. David Royle	p		

(p = present at meeting)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Graham Wells (Parish Clerk), David Horne (Chair MCV)

Apologies received from: Cllrs Bliss, Rutherford and Banks.

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

Cllr Pepper reported that a working group meeting had been held to discuss the next phase of the development of the Community Meadow and that the notes on this meeting had been circulated to members outlining in more detail the proposals for the site. These included some additional removal of Bramble and Blackthorne to assess what natural species would thrive. A narrow winding path would be cut with one bench alongside it. The cutting back would take place in the coming months with a chipper being hired to shred the arisings. Cllr Pepper thanked the MCV for undertaking some work on the gated entrances at both ends of the meadow.

The Clerk reported that a request to cut back, by several feet, the hedge that backed onto the housing estate's rear path had been received. He had visited the site with residents but suggested that this task was not necessary as the area was already well maintained and that the cost and size of the task was too great, with probable detrimental effect on nesting birds.

2. REPORT FROM DAVID HORNE, CHAIR OF THE MCV:

David Horne reported that the work undertaken at the Community Meadow would allow better access for wheelchair and buggy users. He reported that the MCV had assisted in the cutting back of the hedge at Barnes Lane Recreation Ground which would allow for a new fence to be erected. Also the log store at Barnes Lane had been emptied and the tools belonging to the MCV has been decanted from the trailers into the store. He confirmed that the trailers were going to be serviced in the coming weeks then either sold or removed from Barnes Lane. David Horne reported that he, Adrian Palmer and the Clerk were going to assess the Pleasure Grounds and Studland Common to identify what work might be required over the winter months.

3. REPORT FROM SUE PEPPER (MEADOW GARDENERS):

Cllr Pepper reported that there were some extra volunteers willing to help at the Community Meadow and that they would be undertaking some tasks on Thursday afternoons for the next three weeks. Some additional planting of crocuses had been agreed on and some strimming and removal of dead plants planned. The middle-raised flower bed had been donated to the toddler group that visit the meadow weekly.

Cllr Pepper reported that a tree to acknowledge Sue Crabbs contribution to the meadow and a tree to commemorate Cllr Alan Rice would be planted soon. Also, the replacement of any dead or dying fruit trees along with some pruning would be undertaken in the coming months.

4. REPORT ON GROUNDWORK:

Cllr Darbshire reported that a review of the Parish Council's groundworks had taken place earlier in the year and as a result Land Products had been given the contract to undertake the majority of work required on land owned by the council. Additional work would be given to self-employed DIY persons on an ad-hoc basis.

The Clerk reported that working with Land Products was going well, they were very flexible and amenable to sudden requests. A review of their schedule had taken place a couple of months into the contract and the schedule adjusted, mainly due to the dry weather.

DIY contractors had completed several other tasks on behalf of the council successfully. The Clerk reported that the completion of the new fence at Barnes Lane Recreation Ground was taking place during the week commencing 27th October.

5. REPORT ON PLAY PARKS:

The Clerk reported that inspections were taking place each month by Vita Play, who also check play areas in New Milton. A copy of the work recommended is then passed to one of the self-employed DIY contractors or a replacement item is ordered. Cllr Fox Prior suggested, due to the cost, the frequency of inspections could be reviewed.

The Clerk reported that the new replacement equipment for Carrington Lane Play Park should be installed by the end of November. Also the finance committee could consider recommending the replacement of all the gates at the Hurst Road Play Park as these are constantly breaking due to the high winds.

6. UPDATE ON POLLUTION TO THE DANESTREAM:

David Horne reported that he had enquired earlier in the year on the condition of the Danestream following the pollution spillage and agreed to follow this up again. He reported that the Environment Agency undertook regular readings as to the condition of the stream

Cllr Pepper suggested that the Parish Council try to obtain a copy of these reports.

7. COASTAL PROJECTS:

Cllr Darbshire reported that work on Hurst Spit had been completed and was now wide enough to take vehicles.

Cllr Cullen reported that the next briefing with NFDC Coastal Officers was at the end of November. She also reported that there had been several meetings related to the Keyhaven to Lymington project and that there had been a number of other concerned organisations joining the stakeholder group, mainly from Lymington.

She reported that some of the Stakeholders had visited a project in West Sussex (Selsey to Whittering) to assess what has been achieved in a similar environment to Keyhaven.

The Clerk reported that there was no further news on the Christchurch Bay Project.

8. A.O.B.

Cllr Pepper reported that there had been a delay in the replacement of the large transformers at Barnes Lane and was unsure if this work would be completed by the end of the year. She suggested obtaining a report on the progress of work from SSE. Cllr Darbshire suggested that Cllr Pepper draft a letter to SSSEN regarding this work. Clerk then to forward the letter from the Parish Council.

The Clerk reported that Hampshire Highways had been issuing parking tickets at the man-made layby along Pless Road opposite Camden Hurst.

Cllr Pepper reported that the field at Scholars Retreat had recently been ploughed, possible due to the fence being removed between it and the farm. She agreed to contact Barker-Mills Estate for some information.

Cllr Pepper suggested that further discussions on the future of this field, owned by the Parish Council, should be a priority. Cllr Darbshire suggested talking to Barker-Mills prior to such a meeting.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting date will be scheduled for March 2026, and members would be informed when the actual date was set.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and **CLOSED** the meeting at 16.10pm.

..... Chair

.....Date