

## **FOUR MARKS PARISH COUNCIL**

**Meeting of the Full Council  
Held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014, commencing at 7.30pm  
At the Village Hall, Four Marks**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr Brake (Chair), Cllrs N Bland, J Foster, J Hammond W Howsego, A Tomlinson and P Turner  
**ATTENDING:** S Goudie, Clerk, District Cllr I Thomas and 21 members of the public  
Mr Stewart Goodhall, Mr Rob Collett and Mr Mark Smith, David Wilson Homes  
**APOLOGIES:** Cllrs B Timms and Z Kuhn  
**ABSENT:** Cllr J Coles

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### **14.26 OPEN SESSION**

Representatives from David Wilson Homes presented their proposed development of the Barn Lane site to the Parish Council.

The District Councillor, voiced the following concerns over the unsuitability of the site and their proposals.

- It is the highest proposed development site which would be visible from all around.
- The, very unpopular, proposed two and a half storey buildings.
- Very little had been changed following the Consultations.
- Concerns over the purpose of the pond, its upkeep, and its proximity to the children's recreation area.
- Pumping station, no planned generator, in an area with a high volume of power cuts.
- The site is not walking distance to the shops.
- As the developers were keen to ensure that Four Marks would benefit from the S106 agreement, it was proposed that they actually built a new Scout/Youth facility rather than allocate funds towards it.

In response:

- The site was comparable with other proposed SHLAA sites
- They had already withdrawn most of the proposed two and half storey properties following the two consultation events.
- The pond was for drainage, and would incur no maintenance costs to the Parish Council, and would be appropriately fenced off.
- The generator suggestion was noted.
- It is a fact of life that most people would drive to the shops, and the access to the Village Centre is no less accessible than the other proposed sites.
- Agreed that the building of a Scout/Youth facility would be considered.

Other comments from the general public were the concern over the loss of valuable farming land, and the positioning of some of the houses, and a query was raised that there was a deed of covenant on that land which should have prevented any development.

Cllr Brake thanked David Wilson Homes and advised the public that they would have another opportunity to voice their opinions once this application had been validated and was on the Agenda

as a formal planning application. As there were no further questions, the open session for the general public was closed.

Cllr Brake advised the members that as no nominations for a new Councillor had been received by the deadline, a new election period would now commence. The deadline for nominations is now 24<sup>th</sup> April 2014, with a proposed election date of 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2014. This coincides with the date of the European Elections, so in this instance there would be no cost to the Parish for a referendum. Cllr Brake asked the members to try and encourage people to come forward as the Electorate has requested an elected Councillor, this process will continue until such time as a candidate is elected onto the Parish Council.

Cllr Brake also reminded the members that if any Parish Councillor has any queries or concerns with matters relating to Parish Council business, that they should in the first instance approach the Proper Officer (the Clerk), if the matter relates to the Clerk, then the Chairman should be approached. Only if the matter relates to the Clerk and the Chairman should the Parish Councillor go to higher authority. He added to ignore procedure, whether in agreement with it or not, does not reflect well on the Parish Council, thus potentially contravening the Code of Conduct.

**The Open Session concluded at 8.15pm, Standing Orders were applied.**

#### **14.27 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs B Timms and Z Kuhn.

#### **14.28 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **14.29 COUNCIL MINUTES**

- The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2014**, previously circulated, were proposed as a true record by Cllr P Turner seconded by Cllr W Howsego, and signed by the Chairman. .
- **Matters Arising.**
  - Cllr Foster asked if there had been any further progress on the Charity status over selling the Village Hall site land, the Clerk confirmed that investigations were still ongoing.
  - The Clerk confirmed that she was still actively chasing an update on the status of the purchase of the Speed Limit Repeater signs, the licence paperwork still appeared to be held up in HCC's legal department. Ian Janes from HCC had confirmed he would be in contact by the end of the week.

#### **14.30 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT:**

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated.

- Mowing Contractor quotations. The appointment of a new mowing contractor had been deferred to this meeting to enable one of the applicants to re-tender on a like for like basis. It was RESOLVED to appoint the contractor who had their own equipment and insurance indemnity, on a 12 month renewable contract. It was agreed that as the tractor and gang mower, that the Parish Council currently own, may be surplus to requirements, and as the equipment needed maintenance and repair, it may be more beneficial to sell. The Clerk would contact the new contractor to see whether they would be interested in purchasing the equipment, and the decision to sell or repair the equipment would be a future agenda item.

- New Planning Applications:
  1. Ref: **54641/002** – Former engineering works, Winston Rise, Station Approach, Four Marks  
Variation to Conditions 13 and 14 and removal of Condition 15.  
There were no objections to the changes to Conditions 13 and 14 or removal of Condition 15.
  2. Ref: **25256/032** – Land at Friars Oak Farm, Boyneswood Road, Medstead  
Pre-decision amendment. Erection of **80** dwellings (with demolition of Boyneswood Lodge), 32 affordable homes, garages, car parking, associated access, infrastructure, open space and landscaping  
All previous Objections stand. The amendments do not address the primary concerns and there are still serious issues that have not been addressed.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Cllr Foster, acting Chair of the Finance & GP Committee, reported that:

- A new Internal Auditor had been appointed.
- A working party had been organised to update the Risk Assessment and Fixed Asset Schedule
- The Clerks appraisal had now been circulated, comments to the Chairman before week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

### **14.31 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- It was RESOLVED to approve the Income and Expenditure Accounts for the month ending 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014, previously circulated.

### **14.32 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**

The District Councillor had circulated her report prior to the meeting, a copy of which is attached to these minutes, and asked if anyone had any questions to contact her directly. Cllr Brake, on behalf of the Parish Council, thanked the District Councillor for her hard work, particularly in the last few days.

### **14.33 GRANT REQUEST**

Following Sue Dell's presentation to the members the previous month, it was RESOLVED to offer Homestart Weywater a grant of £50. All members were in agreement that, as only a small minority of Four Marks residents would potentially benefit from this organisation, this amount would be proportionate.

### **14.34 CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS:**

- It was agreed after discussion that the most appropriate name for the 148-154 Winchester Road development would be 'Prince's Place', however should this not be acceptable the preferred option from the three suggested names was 'Wyeth Place'. Clerk to inform EHDC accordingly.
- Clerk to circulate email from HCC with the Bus Service Review Consultation.
- Clerk to contact Tom Horwood at EHDC, following his email with reference to funds available for flood damage, and ask for recompense as appropriate for the serious deterioration of Headmore Lane, Brightstone Lane, and Lymington Bottom, particularly between the school and Willis Lane, due to the re-routing of traffic due to the closure of the A32 at Farringdon due to flooding.
- Schedule of meetings. It was asked if the Community Forum dates could be added to the list. Clerk to add and circulate. The next Community Forum meeting is to be held in Medstead on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2014.

#### 14.35 COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES:

- a) **Allotments.** The AGM had been held, a new Chairman had been appointed, Mr David Sheehan, and a new Secretary, Mr Matthew Healey. Mr Howard Carpenter continues as Treasurer. Nothing further to report.
- b) **Benian's Committee Report.**
  - o It was RESOLVED to agree the amendments to the Club Rules, with the addition of the Angling Club, who had been omitted from the list.
  - o It was RESOLVED to support the FM Football Club's application for planning to erect additional flood lighting, providing they are energy efficient.
  - o The Clerk confirmed that both the fire and security alarms had been upgraded and would be requesting the agreed donation from the Benians Committee.
- c) **Community Plan Committee.** There had been no meeting and Cllr Brake felt that this item could now come off the Agenda as this was being superseded by the Neighbourhood Plan. Speedwatch was now set up and should be up and running next week.
- d) **EHAPTC Meeting.** Next meeting 26<sup>th</sup> March 2014. Cllr Kuhn to represent the Council, work permitting.
- e) **Festival Committee.**
  - o St Georges Day parade. Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2014. Dennis Bignall has agreed to provide prizes, Cllr Hammond to confirm invites to Chairman and District Councillor. Committee to liaise with Cllr Howesgo who has agreed to assist with the bunting.
  - o Unveiling of the War memorial ceremony, 3.00pm, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November, with Bishop John Dennis. Letters of invitation will be sent to all local representatives, and Cllr Hammond confirmed that no extra funds will be required from the Parish Council, other than the installation costs.
  - o Next project discussions involve decorative village signs and the potential 'twinning' of Four Marks. It was agreed this would be put on a future Agenda for discussion.
  - o Cllr Hammond asked if the Brislands Lane development road names were confirmed, so they could award prizes to the children who suggestions were chosen, and asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to fund and present the prizes. It was agreed, and the Clerk would purchase the prizes of Easter Eggs. Cllr Hammond to advise the Clerk of number required. The Chairman to be asked to present the prizes at a mutually arranged time.
- f) **Footpaths.**

Cllr Turner reported receiving concerns over footpaths with stiles that are not easily accessible for walkers with dogs.

  - o FP14, the land had recently been sold and he had been unable to get details of the new landowner to request changes to rectify the situation. It was agreed to ask Scott Stewart to look at the stile to see what action can be taken.
  - o FP13, off Headmore Lane, through Headmore Farm, the footpath, with stile, goes across the farmland. Cllr Turner has spoken to the owner, Mr Oppenheimer, who has agreed to address the situation
  - o
- g) **Neighbourhood Plan.**
  - o Date of Information event, Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2014, 10.00 - 16.00 at the

Village Hall. Posters and flyers have been printed and were available for all to distribute. Cllr Tomlinson agreed to do Willis Lane and Alton Lane, Cllr Turner agreed to do Headmore Lane and Hawthorn Lane. Cllr Hammond was given leaflets for distribution at the School. The Clerk agreed to distribute to the shops and ask them to display posters. The Clerk to contact Matthew at Cogs to see if it would be possible to combine with mail drop of Easter service leaflets

- o Attendance at Event. Cllr Brake agreed to do 10.00-12.00, Cllr Turner 12.00-14.00, Cllr Tomlinson 14.00-16.00. All other Councillors are requested to attend at some point during the event. Four Marks Clerk will cover the morning session, Medstead Clerk will cover the afternoon session.
- o Cllr Turner to give Cllr Brake his number counter to ascertain how many visitors attend the event.

h) **Oak Green**

- o CCTV has now been upgraded.
- o Replacement Disabled bollard has now been installed.
- o Queries were raised over the removal of the concrete bollards outside the Chinese Take Away, enabling cars to park on the pavement. It was agreed that this was a health & safety issue. Clerk to contact HCC to request that they are reinstated.

i) **Old Pavilion / Youth wing**

- o An asbestos survey had been undertaken, and quotations had been requested for the removal. The Clerk presented three quotations that had been received, and it was agreed to go with the company that had provided the lowest quotation on the condition that they provide the details of the licenced contractor and their various accreditations.
- o Proposals for relocating the electricity supply prior to demolition were being discussed. Currently the old pavilion, bowls club and football flood lights all run off this supply.

j) **Village Hall.** No report.

k) **Website.** Cllr Bland had circulated his monthly report and supplied the statistics that had been requested. However upon checking the numbers it became apparent that the figures were not accurate and it appears that the website attracts very few hits. It was agreed to more widely publicise the website in the May edition of the Four Marks News.

**14.36 NEXT MEETING**

**Planning Committee Meeting** – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014, 7.30pm, Village Hall

**Open Space Committee Meeting** – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014, Village Hall

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2014, 7.30pm, Village Hall

**FULL COUNCIL MEETING** – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2014, 7.30pm, Village Hall

**14.37 The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.20 pm.**

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**Chairman**

District Councillors report

At a meeting with Damian Hinds and Mark Kemp-Gee, we discussed several topics including the issue close to my heart that of crossings on the A31. We decided to work together to get crossings at the end of Telegraph Lane and at Goldcrest Way too, these sites being close to the bus stops where most school children have to cross the increasingly busy A31. We will work hard to ensure action is taken by HCC highways department as soon as possible before somebody is injured or worse.

It is becoming ever more difficult to get out of side turnings onto the A31 – a problem experienced daily by many of our community. Perhaps we should have a self-help campaign and stop to allow people out as often as we can – this would also have the effect of slowing the traffic down!

The speed of the traffic is still an issue but is being tackled by Reg Pullen and his team of Speedwatch volunteers. It was an issue that featured strongly when we were putting together the Community Plan as something that worried people – so I hope many of you responded to his call for more volunteers, its not too late to contact Reg and volunteer now.

On the planning front we have had another exhibition in the villages – this one by Cala homes who want to apply to build a lot of houses behind Lymington Bottom Road. There was not much information on display so I am hoping that they will do a proper consultation in a couple of weeks' time.

At the end of Beechlands an application is in by Bargate Homes to develop 51 houses. The application by David Wilson Homes to build a huge site off the A31 at Barn Lane has just been received by EHDC but as we go to press I have not seen the plans so do look it up on EHDC website if you want to find out what is planned and comment.

I urge all residents to be aware of these applications think carefully about them and write your comments for or against to the planning department at EHDC, remembering to use planning reasons. A great deal of information is available on EHDC website. We need to work together to get the best outcomes for our villages.

Permission was given to build three houses on the site of the original house at Cedar Stables, after the decision the developer agreed to use an alternative access and not drive lorries through a courtyard – such a shame the offer was not made sooner as it could have prevented a great deal of anxiety.

We are awaiting the site visits and planning committee verdicts on land behind Friars Oak 80 houses (the details have been altered so more reading) and for Noah's Ark 30 houses. As I write the chain saws are droning in the background. Let us hope that once the 175 houses we were given as an allocated number is reached we will be able to resist further applications as we have been told.

Our community needs to be treated with much more respect by developers who are here for a short time and then leave with much profit. At Brislands Lane work has restarted and Charles Church now seem to be making an effort to keep the residents informed as to what is happening and relationships have improved. The residents of Lapwing Way are also now being contacted by Charles Church as several large lorries used that access to the site. We will wait to see what happens as the situation with the road being unsuitable for heavy traffic will be tested when heavier lorries arrive for building.

Four Marks and Medstead Parish Councils have been working together to begin the work needed for the neighbourhood plan and will be asking for volunteers. If you have an interest in the future of our villages this is your opportunity to get involved and have a real say in planning the future of the two villages, please volunteer or find out more from our two great Parish Clerks; Sarah for Four Marks and Katie for Medstead will be able to answer your questions. The Neighbourhood Plan initial consultation meeting is on the 29<sup>th</sup> March at Four Marks Village Hall from 10:30 until 4:00, more details will be coming through your letterbox.

I attended the full Council meeting at Penns Place to agree the budget for next year, council tax will stay the same, all the details are available on EHDC website. At the meeting Patrick Burridge was

elected to be the new Chairman of the Planning Committee and I became a member of the Licencing Committee. I also attended briefings on fracking in Hampshire – no applications have been made to date. An interesting briefing on plans for Bordon and Whitehill which will create about 4000 new homes, with business areas to create jobs was also given.

As ever if I can be of any assistance please call or email me and I will do my best to help.

Ingrid Thomas

Cllr for Four Marks and Medstead

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