

FOUR MARKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Open Space Committee Held on Wednesday 6th August 2014, commencing at 8.30pm At the Benian's Pavilion, Four Marks

Members Present: Cllrs A Tomlinson (Chair), Cllr Foster
Attending: S Goudie (Clerk), Cllr Sensier
Apologies: Cllrs Brake and Howsego

OPEN SESSION:

As there were no members of the public present, no open session was held.

14.24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Brake and Howsego

14.25 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Tomlinson agreed to continue as Chairman.

14.26 MINUTES

a) Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 2nd April 2104, were proposed as accurate by Cllr Tomlinson and seconded by Cllr Foster, and signed.

As Cllr Howsego was not in attendance it was not possible to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4th June, being the only other attendee, and it was agreed to defer the approval until the next meeting.

b) Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising that were not itemised on the Agenda.

14.27 ONGOING ISSUES/PROJECT UPDATES:

- Cemetery. The Clerk advised that the Cemetery had now been opened up, new fencing installed, and that the hedges were being attended to in due course. The new area would need to be consecrated but this could not be done until the land had been registered with Land Registry. The Clerk confirmed that this was in hand.
- Swelling Hill Pond. The area around the pond was looking very well cared for, a broken branch had been cleared by the anglers, the next Siltex addition would be done later Autumn/early Winter.
- Badger Close. The Clerk confirmed that both Badger runs had been checked and it was noted that a tree adjacent to the sett needed to be felled, and some bramble clearance was necessary in the Orchard. Hampshire Woodlands had agreed to continue with the maintenance of this area.
- Kingswood Copse. A letter drop had been made to residents backing on to the Woodland, which had been received positively, the next job to be done would be the bracken spraying in the Autumn, and a new sign for the area had been ordered.
- Recreation Ground. No further reported issues. Advisory signs for the new equipment and speed restriction signs had been ordered.
- New signs. All new signs were now on order from HMP Coldingly as before.

14.28 NEW ISSUES

- Oak Green flower beds. The Clerk confirmed that Eddie Hodkin had agreed to tend the beds, the Clerk advised that she was meeting him on site to discuss works required. Cllr Foster advised she had re-labelled the residents refuse bins, and confirmed that the area was still being kept very tidy. Currently awaiting EHDC to re-line the disabled parking space when they are re-lining their car park to the rear of Oak Green.
- Pat Seward Commemorative Bench. The location of a commemorative bench, with a plaque, was discussed and it was felt that the piece of open space known as Lymington Green would be an appropriate setting, to be agreed at Full Council. It was also suggested that her relatives be contacted to see if they had any objections. Clerk to speak to Cllr Timms. It was also agreed that Cllr Foster speak to Rev Howard Wright and ask if he would say a few words during the unveiling of the war memorial in November.
- Woodland to the rear of 131 Winchester Road. The Clerk, following the lack of discussion at the Full Council meeting, informed the Committee that a meeting had taken place with a developer and advisor with reference to taking on the Woodland as part of the Open Space provision for a proposed development. She confirmed that she would recommend this providing the feeding area beside the woodland was part of the agreement. However the developer had not made contact since and it was felt that due to the recent refusals, had decided not to submit an application at this time.
- Anti-social behaviour in areas of open space. The Clerk reported several reported incidences of anti-social behaviour, and excessive littering on the piece open space by Pine Road, which had resulted in a call to Environmental Health. The Clerk had asked EHDC if they would crown lift the fir trees, but had been told if we want the works done the Parish Council would need to do take on this responsibility, as they have no budget for non-emergency works. The District Councillor, following the visit of PCSO Nops to the Planning Committee meeting, had agreed to speak to EHDC to see what could be done.
- Land Registry. The Clerk confirmed that she had been investigating which land that the Parish Council owns had actually been registered with Land Registry, and was hoping, with the help of EHDC, to progress this task as soon as possible.
- Litter Bins. A new dual-purpose litter bin had been provided on the piece of Open Space beside Windmill Fields and at the end of the footpath from Badger Close to Blackberry Lane, and one replaced in the EHDC car park due to fire damage.
- Overgrown hedging & footpaths. Due to the excessive works that have had to be done to keep footpaths passable, the Clerk raised concerns that we would likely go over the open space budget for this financial year and would raise this at the next Finance & GP Committee Meeting. A reminder notice had been put in the Four Marks News to land owners asking them to keep their bordering hedges, trees and shrubs cut back.
- Graffiti issues and railings by bus stop 85 Winchester Road. The Clerk advised that she had been advised on more than one occasion that there was unsightly graffiti on the bus stop beside 85 Winchester Road. Cllr Foster agreed to check the area and report back.

14.29 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 1st October 2014, venue to be confirmed, to follow Planning Committee.

14.30 Meeting closed at 9.30pm

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Chairman