

FOUR MARKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held on Wednesday 20th May 2015, commencing at 7.30pm At the Village Hall, Four Marks

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Cllr Paul Turner (outgoing Chairman), Cllr Janet Foster (incoming Chairman) Cllrs Mick Budd, John Hammond, Ingrid Thomas, Anne Tomlinson
ATTENDING:	S Goudie, Clerk, Cllr Deborah Jackson (DC) and 9 members of the public
APOLOGIES:	None

15.67 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence

15.68 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

All Councillors signed Declarations of Acceptance of Office, these were then signed by the Clerk.

15.68 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Chairman, Cllr Turner, asked for nominations for Chairman. Cllr Tomlinson nominated Cllr Foster, this was seconded by Cllr Hammond, Cllr Foster accepted the nomination and agreed to stand. There were no further nominations, therefore by majority vote, Cllr Foster was duly elected as Chairman and took over the meeting.

Cllr Foster thanked Cllr Turner for his past year of Chairmanship.

15.70 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman, Cllr Foster, asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Cllr Hammond proposed Cllr Tomlinson, this was seconded Cllr Foster, Cllr Thomlinson agreed to stand. There were no further nominations, therefore by majority vote, Cllr Tomlinson was duly elected as Vice Chairman.

15.71 OPEN SESSION

James Coles, on behalf of the Benian's Committee, distributed copies and presented plans for consideration for extending the Pavilion.

The proposed cost was estimated at approximately £100,000, Cllr Thomas queried where the funding was coming from. It was confirmed that the Committee currently hold £10,000 towards the project and would be applying for various grants. Concerns were expressed over the fact that the proposed committee room would not be accessible from the main building and it was agreed that there was scope to make certain adjustments.

Bryan Timms asked the Parish Council if they could look at the bigger picture and maybe maximise this opportunity and consider changing their plans for a youth building and incorporating a much larger, purpose built facility.

Kellie Knight, confirmed that there would be demand for a bigger/better facility as the playgroup is expanding and with the location of the play park this would be an ideal location to move to.

James Coles, now on behalf of the Football Club asked for the Parish Council's permission to put a small full size pitch for an U13s side to use to the left of the cricket square. It was agreed that this proposal would be discussed under the Benian's Committee report. James also asked for the decision on the hard standing, and when it was confirmed that the Parish Council had refused permission, he asked for this to be revisited. It was agreed that the reasons for refusal would be looked at again, at the next Open Space meeting.

Brian Ford, Chairman of the Benian's Committee, presented the Parish Council with a cheque for £1,000 towards the additional costs for utilities now that the Pavilion was open more frequently together with £250.00 towards the Defibrillator. The Chairman expressed her thanks on behalf of the Parish Council.

Bryan Timms confirmed that the first cut along the Parish maintained footpaths had taken place and reported a broken stile on the St Swithuns Way beside Garthowen entrance, and asked if a kissing gate could replace it. This was noted.

The Open Session concluded at 8.00pm. Standing Orders were applied.

15.72 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declaration of Interests.

15.73 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS

The Clerk had circulated details of applicants prior to the meeting, all candidates introduced themselves to the Council, and briefly highlighted their history for the benefit of the attendees.

The candidates were then asked to leave the meeting, and it was RESOLVED unanimously to Co-Opt all three applicants as it was felt that they all had something different to offer the Parish Council.

They were all advised of their co-option following their return to the meeting, and the meeting was closed for the new Councillors to sign their Declarations of Acceptance of Office.

15.74 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Clerk signed the Declarations in her role as the proper officer and Cllrs Kellie Knight, Dave Mills and Derek Seaton took their place on the Parish Council

The meeting was then called to order and re-opened.

The Chairman welcomed the new Councillors, and continued with the business of the meeting.

15.75 CONFIRMATION OF ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Planning Committee; Cllrs John Hammond, Anne Tomlinson, Kellie Knight, Dave Mills and Mick Budd.
- Open Space Committee; Cllrs Anne Tomlinson, Kellie Knight, Derek Seaton, Mick Budd, Dave Mills, and, subsequent to the meeting Ingrid Thomas.
- Finance & General Purposes; Cllrs Janet Foster, Anne Tomlinson, and the two Chairs of the other Committees, which would not be confirmed until their first meetings. If there is a dual hat, then a fourth Councillor should be invited onto the Committee.

15.76 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

- Allotments Association; Clerk to stand in until a representative is appointed.
- Benian's Committee; Cllr Derek Seaton
- Festival Committee; Cllr John Hammond,

- Footpaths Officer; Cllr Mick Budd
- Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group; Cllr Anne Tomlinson
- Oak Green; Cllr Janet Foster
- Village Hall Committee; Cllr David Mills
- Website/communications; Cllr Kellie Knight
- *EHAPTC (not stipulated on the Agenda, but a representative would be required for the next meeting, to be held on Wednesday 10th June, in Ropley; Cllr Foster agreed to attend.*

15.77 COUNCIL MINUTES

- The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on **Wednesday 15th April 2015**, were proposed as a true record by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Foster and signed by the Chairman.
- Matters arising:
 - The Clerk confirmed that a meeting had been arranged with Contractor who had resurfaced Uplands Lane to attend to potential defects.
 - The Clerk confirmed she had a meeting with the Allotments Chairman to try and rectify fencing problems and vandalism. The Clerk asked Cllr Thomas if she could investigate short term use of EHDC's mobile cameras to try and catch the culprits.
 - The Clerk confirmed that the two FOI Internal Reviews had been carried out and submitted, and both ICO complaints had been responded to.
 - The Clerk confirmed that we were still looking to fill one additional Councillor position and asked all Councillors to ask around to try and find a suitable candidate.

15.78 FINANCE & GP REPORT

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 6th May, had been circulated. Cllr Foster reported that it had been agreed that the Chairman and Vice Chairman, and Chairs of the other two Committees, must be on this Committee and that the Terms of Reference should be adjusted to reflect this accordingly, and submitted for approval at Full Council. There were no further comments.

15.79 PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT:

- The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 6th May 2015 had been circulated.
Cllr Thomas advised the Members that the result of the Cala Homes appeal would not be received for another 4 weeks or so, and confirmed that an addendum to the statement of common ground submitted by the appellant on the last day of the Appeal did not agree with what had been said, and EHDC would be writing to the Inspector to advise of their concerns prior to his decision.

15.80 BENIAN'S COMMITTEE AGM REPORT

Cllr Turner attended the Benian's Committee AGM and reported matters arising as follows:

- The year end accounts were presented with a copy given to the Clerk.
- The Football Club wishes to add a second pitch, to the left of the Cricket Square, and had expressed reservations over the fun fair and had requested close liaison with the football club.
- The new Licensee of the bar is James Coles.
- A netball club had requested use of the tennis courts, but would need to mark up a court.
- The Benian's Committee would like to apply to the Benian's Trust for funding for the expansion programme.
- Concerns were raised, and discussed, over the table top surfaces and the inability to get them clean.

- The code to the padlock on the outside toilet had been provided, but it was agreed that only the Clerk should have this.
- Concern was expressed that the large bin was not being used appropriately.
- The purchase of a dishwasher was discussed, this would be dealt with internally.
- A reminder from the Licensee that there would be strictly no under-age drinking, and no alcohol would be served to under 18's.
- The Benian's committee were supplying and fitting a projector and screen in the main room.
- The Archers had requested the planting of a Leylandi hedge or similar on the Barn Lane boundary.
- There was proposal to gravel the area beside the main entrance.
- The condition of the blinds in the main hall were discussed and it was agreed they were damaged beyond repair, although they are now believed to have been removed completely.
- The next AGM was scheduled for 28th April 2016.

Cllr Seaton, raised his concern over the proposed lease arrangement between the Sports & Social Club and the Village Hall Committee for the running of the tennis courts to enable them to apply for a grant. A brief history of the tennis courts was given to the members and it was proposed and agreed that this should be an Agenda item, firstly at Open Space, then at the next Full Council meeting to discuss the implications and agree whether Parish Council should take over the administration of the Tennis Courts. The Clerk was asked to contact Chris Lake and ask him to defer any agreement negotiations until such time as this has been agreed at Full Council.

The meeting was closed briefly to allow a member of the public to confirm some detail requested on past actions. The meeting was then re-opened.

There was also a lengthy discussion over the Football Club's request for a second pitch and the refusal of the request for hard standing, and concern was expressed that the football club needed a decision by the end of next week and that the Council would not be sitting again until June. Cllr Foster confirmed that as this was not an Agenda item, no decision could be made at this meeting, and that this would be discussed in detail at the Open Space meeting to be held on Wednesday 3rd June, and no provisional agreement or agreement would be made. The football club would be advised of the recommendation, and this would then be added to the Agenda for decision at the next Full Council meeting.

15.81 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Foster closed the meeting to invite District Councillor Deborah Jackson to speak.

Cllr Jackson introduced herself and thanked those who voted, she advised that she and Cllr Thomas would be going forward with a different approach, working together rather than represent each Parish as was historical, and looked forward to working with the Parish Council.

Cllr Foster then re-opened the meeting.

Cllr Thomas had forwarded her report prior to the meeting, as detailed below, there were no further questions.

A huge thank you to everybody who voted for me and everybody who helped during the election campaign. I would also like to say thank you to Maurice Johnson who has retired from the District Council after many years' service, his valuable advice and encouragement has helped me greatly. A

combined 90th birthday party and retirement party was held at Medstead Village Hall, lots of friends, neighbours and colleagues spent a very pleasant afternoon with plenty of cake. I have found the election period a very exciting, interesting and invigorating experience, I have spoken to many people in our community and learnt a great deal. I am honoured and humbled to have been chosen by so many people to be District Councillor for the next four years. Thank you to all of those who voted for me, I will try my best to live up to the challenges and to represent our communities at District level, please do call me if I may be able to help with a council related problem.

I am absolutely delighted to be sharing the duties of ward councillor with Deborah Jackson who many of you will know as the Chairman of Medstead Parish Council. We have decided that we will share the work across both villages and not divide into one councillor for Medstead and the other for Four Marks, so if you cannot get hold of one of us when you have a problem please try the other!

Four Marks Parish Council did not have enough candidates standing for there to be a contested election, so all those who stood have now been elected. There are two vacancies so please consider if you could volunteer for this important role, it is so important to have a representative council so all are welcome whatever your age or interests. Medstead Parish Council had one more candidate than there are spaces on the council so they had a ballot at the election but are now at full strength.

This month has been a busy one. It was lovely to be invited to the St Georges day celebration to present the prizes to the children who had taken part in various St George related competitions at school. We are certainly blessed with some very talented youngsters. For once the sun shone and singing around the Oak Tree was a real community affair, many thanks to the Festival committee for organising this again.

We spent almost a week in Medstead village hall at the Cala homes appeal, EHDC refused permission for them to build 75 homes at a site in Lymington Bottom Road so Cala appealed to the planning inspectorate. The inspector listened attentively to the evidence that was presented by EHDC and Cala, both Parish Council members attended throughout the week with many members of the public. The big difference between this enquiry and the hearing when Bargate homes appealed is that we in East Hampshire now have a five year land supply so our JCS should be given much greater weight so we are hopeful that this time we will succeed in having the appeal dismissed.

The neighbourhood plan has also made fast progress and is almost ready for submission, we will then need to hold a referendum with a positive vote to ensure the future of our communities.

Thank you once again for your faith in me and I look forward to serving our villages for the next term.

Deborah and I would like to change the dates for Councillor surgeries to the first and third Thursday of each month. We invite you to meet us at the Parish Office in Lymington Barns if you have anything that you would like to discuss with us. The date of the first surgery of the new term is Thursday 4th of July then Thursday 18th July from 10am to 11am

Opened Meeting:

15.82 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- Income and Expenditure Accounts for the month ended 30th April 2015, were circulated in the old format. Current financial details were also circulated. There were no questions. The Clerk confirmed, with no objection, that the accounts for the next couple of months would be presented in this format, and that the results for the 1st Quarter ending 30th June 2015, would be the first accounts from the new software for formal adoption.

15.83 CORRESPONDENCE/PARISH NOTICES:

The following items of correspondence, needing clarification, were discussed as follows:

- No issues against use of the Recreation Ground for personal training providing the correct insurances were in place. (Addendum, Medstead Parish Council charge £10 per session)
- No further response required to the email received over the concerns over the location of the new crossing and bus stops, other than refer any concerns to Hampshire County Council.
- Only two places available per Parish Council on the Planning Training courses at EHDC. It was agreed that new Councillors should take priority, others to go on the waiting list.
- Hampshire Police Meet and Greet on 28th May, details were circulated, Clerk will attend.
- Invitation to Four Marks Care, 40 year celebration, Cllr Seaton to attend.
- No interest in anyone standing as Parish Member for SDNPA.

15.84 NEXT MEETING:

Planning Committee	Wednesday 3 rd June 2015, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Open Space Committee	Wednesday 3 rd June 2015, 8.30pm, Village Hall
Full Council Meeting	Wednesday 17 th June 2015, 7.30pm, Village Hall

15.85 The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm

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Chairman