

## **Four Marks Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Open Space Committee  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016 commencing at 8.45pm  
At the Benian's Pavilion, Uplands Lane, Four Marks**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr Anne Tomlinson (Chairman), Cllrs Janet Foster, Kellie Knight, Dave Mills and Derek Seaton  
**ATTENDING:** Mrs Sarah Goudie (Clerk), 0 members of the public  
**APOLOGIES:** None

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### **16.18 OPEN SESSION**

The Clerk raised her, and other members of the public's, worries over the dog fouling on the Recreation Ground which was now of grave concern. It was agreed to start a campaign and get as many 'fines for dog fouling notices up' as possible, and start surveying the area, and even possibly introduce mobile CCTV cameras. The Clerk also agreed to contact EHDC for assistance with this.

The other issue that the Clerk wished to raise was the boundary breaches by the new residents of the Charles Church estate, who had made at least two entrances through the hedgerow, destroying new planting in the process. The area where the hedge had been removed by Charles Church, and had now been replanted in the correct location, was extremely vulnerable and even though Charles Church had promised fencing and signs, this had not yet happened to date. The Clerk and the Chairman were attending the Liaison meeting on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March, where, if this had not been addressed by that time, action would be taken.

It was agreed that as even fencing would probably not keep everyone out that a formal public access through should be designated, which naturally seemed to be by the top end of the football pitch, a formal entrance would be made in this area, and users of the Recreation Ground would be informed of this proposed action out of courtesy.

**The Open Session was closed. The meeting commenced at 8.55pm. Standing Orders were applied.**

### **16.19 OS APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **16.20 OS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

### **16.21 OS COMMITTEE MINUTES**

- The Minutes of the Open Space Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2016 were proposed as an accurate record by Cllr Foster, seconded by Cllr Mills, and were signed by the Chairman.
- **Matters Arising:**
  - Landscape Group, price increase. The Clerk, following a 'round robin' email, has ascertained that most parishes that use the Landscape Group are in the same position and has details to follow up on alternative companies.
  - Barry Seward memorial tree has now been planted, pictures and short article to appear to next month's Four Marks News, as requested at Full Council meeting.

## 16.22 OS ONGOING PROJECTS AND AREA UPDATES

- **Oak Green.** It was agreed to continue with the CCTV maintenance contract. The Clerk advised that a draft tender was ready to start typing ready for Committee approval for submission, hopefully by the next Open Space meeting. Cllr Foster asked the Clerk to prepare a 'please remove your car notice' for a car that appears to have been abandoned in the rear car park.
- **Recreation Ground:**
  - **Cricket:** Meeting with Richard Myers from Alton Cricket Club was scheduled for the next day to discuss fixtures and a hire fee. It was agreed that a fee of £20 per match should be offered, and negotiated down if applicable. The formal 'winding up' meeting of the Four Marks Cricket Club is to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016, hopefully the machinery would be handed over after that date, so that the Clerk can authorise its service, and a cheque would be prepared for the purchase of the container.
  - **Skate Park:** Voting is currently underway in Tesco's for the assault course grant, and despite a few teething troubles, seems to be going well in the Four Marks branch. It was agreed to go with Option 2, the highest ¼ pipe, and higher bank and the grinding rails as opposed to the bench, and it was agreed to apply for Developers Contributions for all the new equipment. Following social media suggestions, it was agreed to wait before adding a litter bin to the scheme, feeling it may be more of an issue if one is provided than if one is not, and all members were in agreement not to provide any kind of lighting or CCTV.
  - **Tennis Courts.** A positive meeting with the Sports & Social and Tennis Club had taken place. They confirmed that they had been turned down for LTA loan. The Parish Council asked them if they would be prepared to run a public pay and play scheme, which is conditioned in the land transfer by the Charity Commission, and the Parish Council have agreed to assist with applications for grant funding to fence all three courts, and practice area. Following a meeting with representatives from East Hampshire District Council it was suggested that this was the better route rather than pursuing funding for a MUGA, which may cause anti-social behaviour rather than prevent it.
  - **Goal Posts.** Cllr Dave Mills had a site meeting with James Coles and they arrived at a mutually agreeable location for the new goal posts, the existing practice ones would be removed. It was agreed to ask the contractors to install them when they are there installing the aerial runway.
- **Planting of Trees awarded by the Woodland Trust.** The trees were scheduled to arrive at the parish office week commencing 7<sup>th</sup> March and it was agreed that they need to be planted as soon as possible. It was also agreed that advice needs to be sought on their care, the planting and layout, and it was agreed the Clerk should contact Simon Gray from Hampshire Woodlands to see if he would be able to assist the Parish Council with this venture. It was agreed that the planting day would be Good Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2016, starting at 10.30am, everyone to be involved and a photo of the trees being planted needs to be taken and submitted to the Woodland Trust. Teas and coffees will be available in the Pavilion.
- **Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations.** The Clerk had been at a logistics meeting for the Village Picnic and Fair the previous Monday, and the committee had agreed that there was not enough room for the fair, as additional parking had not been secured. Cllr Knight agreed to speak to the landowner of the field opposite to see if it would be possible to use the field for car parking, and if agreeable, the suggestion was that there would not be a need to cancel the fun fair. Cllrs Foster and Tomlinson were meeting to iron out a few issues with the Chairman of the Benian's Committee the following evening and it was agreed to talk about the Fun Fair being situated on the far end of the Football pitch providing that any damage was made good. It was also suggested that the padlocked gate (no key to the padlock had been found) adjacent to the bowls club and play park should be removed completely and replaced with one or two

'lockable' bollards. This would also alleviate the muddy pedestrian access to the side of the gate. The Clerk agreed to progress.

- **Other area updates:**

- **Badger Close.** Concerns over the Ash Tree have been raised again. The Clerk has spoken to the resident and assured them that the Parish Council are monitoring the tree. There has also been an email concerning tree issues in a property in Blackberry Close, which backs on to the Badger run. The Clerk had confirmed to the concerned resident that the occupants had been advised and given recommendations, but were not able to enforce any action.
- **Storey's Sanctuary right of way.** A letter had been sent to residents of Vectis Close and 4 Gloucester Close re the proposed access through 'Storey's Sanctuary' and a mixed response has been received. The application form for designation will be submitted once the Reserved Matters for the development have been approved. The developer has moved the location of the footpath access between plots 2 and 3 as requested.
- **Lymington Bottom Green.** The Clerk is chasing progress on change of ownership as this appears to have stalled.
- **Kingswood Copse.** The overgrowth has been cleared back from the Bishops View and Kingswood Rise fence lines, however the Clerk received a report that one of the Bishops View residents had dumped a considerable amount of garden waste and rubble on the area to the rear of their property. A letter had been written, and the resident confirmed that they would remove it.
- **Land at Telegraph Lane/A31 junction.** Nothing to report.
- **Swelling Hill Pond.** Nothing to report
- **Allotments.** The Clerk has finally received the Land Registry documentation, the Parish Council now officially own the Allotments and open space adjacent to the bowls club and the Allotments.

#### 16.23 OS NEW ISSUES

- **Cemetery**

- The Clerk advised that she had had a meeting with Mrs Bogue and agreed the location, style and installation method of the requested memorial bench for her daughter. All costs would be met by the family. There was a concern raised that others may follow suit, but all felt that they would be a welcome addition.
- The request for a marble grave. The Clerk had not found any reasons against a solid marble covering provided it was possible to lift it if necessary and was maintained by the owners of the grave. One Councillor did raise concern and was not in favour of this type of grave covering and felt it may well set a precedent, but as other members were in agreement, it was agreed to respond favourably to the request.

#### 16.24 OS DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016, 8.30pm, at the Benian's Pavilion, unless advised otherwise, to follow Planning.

#### 16.25 OS The Chairman closed the Meeting at 10.30pm

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**Chairman**