

Four Marks Parish Council

Minutes of the Open Space Committee Wednesday 4th May 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), Mrs Teresa Hammond
APOLOGIES: None

16.33 OPEN SESSION

The Clerk notified members of the CPRE AGM on Saturday 14th May at Littleton and asked members to contact her if interested in attending.

Mrs Hammond attended the open session to explain her concerns over signing the indemnity with reference to the road closure the day of the Scout run Street Party in celebration of the Queens 90th birthday. The Clerk had advised members of the issues that had arisen in applying for the road closure and after detailed discussion it was agreed that the 'street party' should move location to the Village Hall car park thus avoiding the road closure and all the additional costs and insurance concerns. Unfortunately Lymington Bottom is classed as a 'main road' which entails far more considerations in closing it off.

The meeting commenced at 8.55pm. Standing Orders were applied.

16.34 OS APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

16.35 OS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

16.36 OS COMMITTEE MINUTES

- The Minutes of the Open Space Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 6th April 2016 were proposed as an accurate record by Cllr Knight seconded by Cllr Tomlinson, and were signed by the Chairman.
- **Matters Arising:**
 - Agreement has now been reached with The Landscape Group and hopefully all issues have now been resolved.
 - Cemetery. The Clerk advised that there is a burial taking place on Friday and it was agreed to remove the balloons and replace them following the service.
 - Cllr Knight asked if the keys to the container had been supplied, the Clerk confirmed not, therefore it was agreed to change the lock on the container, as the container and machinery were now paid for and in the ownership of the Parish Council.

16.37 OS ONGOING PROJECTS AND AREA UPDATES

- **Oak Green.** Rutted area by flag pole has now been filled and re-turfed and bollards re-installed. Clerk has attended a procurement course in preparation of submission of tender for works. Improvement orders have been served to all flats.

Cllr Mills raised his concern over a loose sleeper and it was agreed it should be removed to prevent potential incident. Cllr Mills agreed to do this. Cllr Knight raised concern over an exposed gas pipe beneath the Defibrillator, Cllr Foster agreed to investigate.

- **Recreation Ground.**

- **Cricket.** The clash with the Archers and Sunday junior cricket had been discussed at Full Council and it had been agreed to set up a meeting with the Archers and Chair and Vice Chair. However following the Benian's Committee Meeting it became evident that there was little, if any, room for negotiation but subsequent to this the Archers had requested the Parish Council mark out a disabled bay, display a new sign and put some hard standing down from the path to the container, and it was agreed that this would be a good opportunity to request the meeting and discuss this and the cricket with the Archers.

- **Benian's AGM and committee meeting.** Cllr Tomlinson expressed concern over the issues raised following the meeting. Cllr Knight confirmed that once again it appeared to be the Committee against anything the Parish Council wished to do. It was agreed that an email should be sent to the Chairman to express the Parish Council's disappointment that despite the meeting that had taken place to improve relationships, there were clearly still issues to resolve. Also, request a copy of the signed accounts, as these were not presented at the meeting due to the fact that a bank statement was missing. Lastly, it was noted that no improvement plans were displayed or presented as expected at the AGM.

Additionally, it was discussed and agreed that the fee structure needs to be reviewed and usage considered for the next year. Proposals would be discussed at the F&GP budget meeting and that ad hoc hiring would not continue at this time as it was agreed that it was not cost effective. Existing bookings would be honoured.

- **Play equipment.** Both goal posts with nets now installed. The Parish Council would like to Minute their thanks to James Coles and Cllr Dave Mills, and the aerial runway is now fully operational. The wooden goal mouth has been re-located and new backboard and hoop attached. Tesco's Bags of Help Grant has now been accepted, but will take up to 60 days to receive funds, however the equipment has been ordered, so just awaiting delivery and installation. Following the initial report that no news on the Developers Contributions to date, the Developer's Contributions request has now been approved and the equipment has been ordered. However it is extremely unlikely the equipment will be installed by 12th June. It was agreed that the Parish Council's stall at the Village Picnic will show pictures of what is planned with details of an opening event to be planned in the Summer

- **Tennis Courts.** No news from the Charity Commission to date. Cllr Seaton has been partially successful in obtaining grants from EHDC and the LTA. The portfolio holder has requested a meeting next week, which unfortunately Cllr Seaton is unable to attend. If it cannot be rescheduled for his return, then Cllrs Tomlinson and Knight agreed to meet with her at 6.00pm on Monday. Cllr Seaton to advise. The tennis courts have now been cleaned.

- **Queens 90th Birthday Fun Run and Village Picnic.**

Village Picnic and open air events, Sunday 12th June. Exhibitors car parking is proposed for the cricket pitch with the top end of the play park (equipment roped off) as emergency parking if ground is not hard enough to take cars. Surplus car parking has not been arranged to date. Fun Run now launched with May's edition of the Four Marks News. Parish Council are paying for additional toilets at the picnic. The Clerk confirmed that the Fun Run had two entries to date. Flyers were being distributed and the Clerk handed more out to members. Cllr Foster asked for an email copy of the flyer for the church magazine.

- **Badger Close.** Cllrs Foster and Tomlinson visited the resident at No. 12 to discuss both the rat problem and concerns over the safety of the Ash Tree. The advice that had been received by EHDC was relayed, and they confirmed that the Parish Council was acting appropriately and the tree would remain, however compromised by agreeing to carry out a survey by an independent advisor and act on any advice given on a possible canopy reduction. Subsequent to this meeting, the resident has now contacted EHDC herself and appears to have been advised to contact her MP. Any further action to be agreed by Cllrs Foster and Tomlinson. Damian Hinds MP has subsequently been in contact with the Clerk, who has responded as requested detailing our maintenance program.
The Councillors' also visited the occupant of No. 24 Badger Close, who had also raised concerns over a tree overhanging the badger run and her garden, she was advised to contact the owner of the tree with her concerns.
- **Storey's Sanctuary right of way.** A meeting took place with the residents of 4 Gloucester Close and 9 Vectis Close last week. Following that meeting, it has been agreed to fence the open area of 9 Vectis Close, to their boundary end. One Cherry and one Hawthorn will need to be removed, and Scott Stewart has already visited and is preparing a quote. 4 Gloucester Close are obviously concerned over lack of privacy and will boost their boundary hedgerow. It was agreed to shut off a portion of the proposed right of way while the work is carried out and connection can be made with Gloucester Close development for safety reasons. 8 Vectis Close will need to be advised that their fence panel will need to be temporarily removed, as they are using the cherry tree as a prop for their fence.
Following this meeting, the application form can now be submitted to Rights of Way and other paperwork will be completed accordingly.
- **Lymington Bottom Green.** HCC have carried out a site visit and will submit their report to their solicitor for the land transfer, nothing further has been heard to date.
- **Kingswood Copse.** Nothing to report.
- **Land at Telegraph Lane/A31 junction.** HCC have agreed to move the bench and notice board back to their original position when the other crossing works are being carried out.
- **Swelling Hill Pond.** Nothing to report.
- **Allotments.** Nothing to report.

16.38 OS NEW ISSUES

- Proposals for wildflower planting (email Diana Tennyson). It was agreed due to the lateness of the meeting that this item would be deferred to a later date.
- It was agreed to pursue the replacement of public footpath signs and apply for a Countryside grant once the new footpaths officer was appointed.

16.39 OS DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting Wednesday 1st June 8.30pm, at the Benian's Pavilion, unless advised otherwise, to follow Planning.

16.40 OS The Chairman closed the Meeting at 10.00pm

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Chairman