

Four Marks Parish Council

Minutes of the Open Space Committee Wednesday 2nd November 2016 commencing at 8.30pm At Four Marks Village Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr Anne Tomlinson (Chairman), Cllrs John Davis, Dave Mills and Janet Foster
IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Sarah Goudie (Clerk), Cllr Kellie Knight
APOLOGIES: Cllr Tim Brake

16.85 OPEN SESSION

The Clerk advised the members that a Personal trainer had sent a request asking to use the Recreation Ground for a weekly 'bootcamp' style fitness session. The Clerk had suggested £5 per hour, to be invoiced monthly in advance.

Cllr Kellie Knight was in attendance to report on the recent Benians Committee meeting and ask for clarification on several issues raised.

The Benians Committee would like to install CCTV cameras on the building and asked what regulations needed to be complied with. The Council members would like further information, such as what is the rationale behind their installation, has there been damage? Where would they be pointing, and who would be monitoring them? Is the Committee covered by the data protection act? It was agreed that more information should be submitted before agreement is given.

Insurance documents, the Committee were unclear as to why the Parish Council needed confirmation of the insurance liability when it was displayed behind the bar in the pavilion, and had been requested previously. It was agreed that this information should be displayed more publicly, rather than behind the bar as general users would not be able to see it and it was the amount of public liability that was requested, as this is relevant for hirers and workmen appointed by the Committee.

Parish Council Donation. The members were rather surprised to hear that the Committee did not vote to give the Parish Council a donation at this stage as some members were not disposed to the proposal, as did not appear to understand the reasons behind it. Cllr Knight confirmed to the Committee that it was to go some way towards making up the shortfall of the running costs of the building but unfortunately the accounts were not available at that meeting to enable Cllr Knight to give a better understanding of how much it costs to run the building. The accounts had since been re-circulated and to avoid information going astray again, it was agreed that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary, together with the Parish Council representative, should be copied on all correspondence.

Pavilion Improvements. Questions were raised about the proposed extensions and the financial liability, whilst the Parish Council may donate funds towards the extensions if requested, they would be carried out primarily at the Committee's expense as tenants improvements.

The raising of the fees was also discussed and there were various concerns raised over the proposed increases, although as agreed at the Finance Committee, several options would be discussed on how to take this forward and the Parish Council were now seeking professional advice to ensure that this was done fairly to all and cost effective. There were also concerns raised over the continuation of the Sports & Social club, and the Clerk agreed to attend their AGM to see what the issues are. The next Benians Committee meeting is to be held on 17th January 2017.

Cllr Tomlinson reported that there were two issues with the adult gym equipment, the walker and bike were offering no resistance, the Clerk agreed to get it looked at.

There being no further items to be raised under the Open Session, the meeting commenced at 9.10pm. Standing Orders were applied.

16.86 OS APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Tim Brake. Following proposal by the Chairman and agreement by all members, it was RESOLVED to approve the apology.

16.87 OS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

16.88 OS COMMITTEE MINUTES

- The Minutes of the Open Space Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 5th October 2016, previously circulated were proposed as an accurate record by Cllr Foster, seconded by Cllr Tomlinson and were signed by the Chairman.
- Matters arising:
 - Oak Green, the wood is still in the stairwell and would suggest if it can be used for the School bonfire it should be removed.
 - Vita Play are actively fighting the case over the rusty goal posts are attempting to get replacements.
 - The mobile catering van was not approved by the Benians Committee and they have been advised accordingly
 - Still awaiting decision on the cabinet grant for the tennis court fencing.
 - The table tennis table has still not been removed, and are now looking for other sources to remove it.
 - The Picnic table has still not been installed, Clerk to chase.
 - Reported bump in tarmac, will be dug up and re-laid as soon as possible.
 - Storey's Sanctuary right of way, fencing and tree removal has now been completed.
 - Work to be started on the Lapwing Way Toucan crossing, the bench and notice board at Telegraph Lane will be relocated then.
 - Recreation Ground hedge around the tennis courts has now been cut and they will be removing the elderberry to prevent unsightly regrowth.
 - The WI have now carried out the bulb planting at the three locations as identified. The Chairman wished to Minute her formal thanks to the WI for this initiative.
 - Nothing further to report at this stage on the drain maintenance plan or digital mapping raised last month.
 - One quotation had now been received to refurbish the junior multiplay unit, although the grant deadline was missed. The figures specified for a full refurbishment of the equipment were in excess of £5,000, and it was agreed that a new piece equipment would be more cost effective and developer's contributions should be applied for to replace the equipment.
 - Following a discussion at the Finance & General Purposes committee, where it had been agreed to add an additional bin at the entrance to the skate park, the Clerk presented a couple of design options and agreed to get costs and options on the preferred style.
 - Kingswood Copse. The Clerk presented an updated quotation for the rolling management programme which was agreed, however it was suggested that a small amount of provision should be made in a future budget for works that may need to be

carried out once the reserved funds had been depleted. There was also an additional quotation to remove two ash trees which were showing signs of disease and a threat to the nearest properties, which was approved.

16.89 OS ONGOING ISSUES

1. **Badger Close.** Land transfer is now agreed and going through the final stages. Diana Tennyson has visited 36 Badger Close and an email has been received by 28 Badger Close questioning ownership. There is a potential to take on a further piece of land, which was agreed and the Clerk agreed to pursue this further.
Laurel Hedge, adjacent to the footpath. Rights of Way have no solution to our problem other than asking the occupier to cut the hedge down in height and reduce the width. The Clerk agreed to speak to the owner of the property to see if she would be agreeable to either removing the hedge or a much greater reduction.
2. **Cemetery.** A proposal was considered, and agreed, within the budget to cut the grass weekly next year rather than fortnightly, hedges will be cut twice a year. Three separate queries occurred with reference to headstones last week and the Clerk resorted to seeking advice. The reference to the Winchester Diocese should be removed from the Rules and Regulations and slight changes made in order to prevent these issues happening in the future. Clerk to prepare amended document.
3. **Lymington Bottom Green.** Works now carried out, the next issue is the maintenance of the hedgerow to the rear of the green, proposal would be to get Hampshire Woodlands to quote to do the preparation work, then Semrah Landscape Management to maintain annually. The quotation of £800 was approved.
4. **Oak Green.** Following advice that the tenders do not have to be listed on Contracts Finder and following discussion with EHDC, it is up to the Parish Council to approach companies to tender. The tender is now out. The installation of an additional electric point by the flag pole should be added when tender awarded.
The Christmas tree will be erected on Monday 5th December at 10.00am, anyone available to assist please. Scott Steward to be contacted to assist on the day
5. **Recreation Ground Hedgerow.** Inappropriate work has been carried out on the Oak Tree with the TPO by Charles Church, this is being investigated, and a second boundary breach has now taken place with more destruction of Parish Council property. Legal advice had been sought and it was agreed to send the developer a warning letter.
6. **Cricket Pitch.** The Clerk met with a representative from disability cricket to see if the facilities are suitable for fixtures next year, the initiative looks promising and the Clerk will update once feedback has been received.
7. **Finger post restoration.** Following advice from EHDC Highways representative, two more names for project restoration have been given, and Chairman has also forwarded on another company's details. The Deputy Clerk is following this up.

16.83 OS DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the scheduled Open Space Committee meeting would be combined with the Full Council meeting to be held Wednesday 14th December 2016, 7.30pm, at the Village Hall, unless notified to the contrary, to avoid holding two Council meetings in December.

16.84 OS The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.40pm.

.....

Chairman