

## **Four Marks Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Full Council Meeting Held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2016, commencing at 7.30pm At the Village Hall, Four Marks**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr Anne Tomlinson (Chairman) Cllrs John Davis, John Hammond, Kellie Knight and Simon Thomas  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs S Goudie (Clerk) and Catherine Kirkham (HARAH)  
**APOLOGIES:** Cllrs Janet Foster, Tim Brake and Dave Mills  
**ABSENTEES:** Cllr D Edgar

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#### **16.138 OPEN SESSION**

The Chairman welcomed Catherine Kirkham, from Harah, who gave a well informed and detailed presentation on their organisation.

HARAH has the support of the six local authorities and have housed 1400 local residents since 2005.

They have successfully worked with other Parish Councils and involve them in the project from the first stage to identify need, getting their support through the site allocation and planning application process and with the design.

Cllr Thomas confirmed local statistics and agreed that there is a need, however with three new sites under construction the immediate need would be fulfilled. However, Catherine advised members that affordable rented property is the greatest need and some of the affordable housing provision is the shared ownership which is still out of some people's reach.

Cllr Davis asked where the land comes from. Catherine responded in that they are usually exception sites outside the SPB, and are granted planning permission because of local need, and with Parish support.

Catherine was thanked for taking the time to come to Four Marks and explain her role and the role of HARAH, and Cllr Hammond added particular thanks to the detail and research carried out in preparation for her presentation and added it had been much appreciated.

**The Open Session concluded at 7.55pm. Standing Orders were applied.**

#### **16.139 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received, and accepted, from Cllrs Foster, Brake and Mills.

Cllr Edgar was absent, but the circumstances were deemed to be of a nature to be an acceptable absence without formal apology.

Apologies were also received from both District Councillors Ingrid Thomas and Deborah Jackson.

Cllr Seaton's resignation had been received over the weekend. Cllr Tomlinson wished to record her thanks to Mr Seaton, on behalf of the Parish Council, for his enthusiasm in his role as Councillor and wanted to send him best wishes through this difficult period.

#### **16.140 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **16.141 COUNCIL MINUTES**

- The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016**, were proposed as a true record by Cllr Tomlinson, seconded by Cllr Knight and approved.
- Matters arising.
  - Cemetery Regulations. The Clerk had received another application for a memorial that could be considered as inappropriate, and due to previous issues, had passed it to the Parish Council for decision. The funeral director concerned had queried the Parish Council's reference to the very strict Winchester Diocese guidelines and if these were to be abided by then the majority of the headstones were non-compliant. It was agreed to look again at the regulations at a later date, but the parish council acknowledge that there is a modern change in that headstones appear to be more ornate in design, particularly if the bereaved are young, but they also need to take into consideration that the majority of bereaved are elderly and may not appreciate the more decorative colourful approach. As this was a more a deviation on a standard headstone than a distinguishable shape, its size not too obtrusive, and the fact that the memorial needs to be in place by Saturday, it was agreed to approve the design, with an appropriate reprimand to the Funeral Director to avoid this happening in the future.
  - Cllr Thomas updated the members on the situation with the Benjamin UK housing facility, confirming that a meeting was taking place with officers from two authorities, and with the involvement of Damian Hinds MP, assurances had been received that comprehensive measures should be in place. However as this is not the case the HCC head of child services is having a separate meeting to ensure that there is adequate safeguarding.

## **16.142 PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT AND PLANNING ITEMS:**

- The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September had been circulated. Cllr Thomas summarised the salient points from the meetings, as below.
  - The proposed new dwelling at Cardinals, Station Approach, had been refused.
  - Two new dwellings at Lyeway Farm had also been refused with a strong rebuttal from the Planning Officer.
  - A potential breach in planning conditions had been reported at the old dairy, Lymington Bottom, for the removal of a hedge that should have remained and damage to the RPA of a tree with a TPO, also concerns over construction traffic parking on the pavements and causing obstructions. EHDC Compliance had visited the site.
  - The Golf club had applied for an appropriate licence which had not been objected to.
  - An application had been received for new units and accommodation at Lymington Farm, this had been supported but with some notes for clarity.
  - Friars Oak, the developer was not in a position to build and was attempting to sell the site, it appears that work had been started to comply with conditions, however there was an outstanding application to allow re-scheduling of contributions to Hampshire County Council, which was being vehemently objected to by Medstead Parish Council.
  - The Appeal for 68-70 Lymington Bottom Road. The Inspector had turned up to visit with no notification to either District or Parish Councillors, an astute Medstead Parish Councillor had noticed the document on line, and had managed to get to the site visit.
  - The Appeal for the Mansfield Site was now in, with no date as yet for the hearing.
  - The Haven, Boyneswood Road was also now confirmed. Although the Statement of Case was submitted some time ago by the agent, it was the applicant who should of applied not the agent, this had now been addressed, further details to be confirmed.
  - Virginia, Lymington Bottom, the agent had been written to by the Planning Officer advising withdrawal. The Parish Council had put in a strong and robust objection and this was referenced in the letter. No response to date.

#### **16.143 OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

- The minutes of the Open Space Committee meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September had been circulated.

The Chairman summarised the salient points from the aforementioned meetings, as below:

- The Cricket square had been put to bed, and the Committee had been encouraged by the attendance of John Cook and hopeful of future use.
- Quotes for the finger post restoration had proved very high, the Chairman asked if they knew of anyone locally who could do this refurbishment work.
- The WI were now carrying out their bulb planting initiative in celebration of the queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations and all are looking forward to seeing them in the Spring.

#### **16.144 FINANCE**

- The Clerk had circulated the receipts and payments for the month ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 prior to the meeting. There were no questions and were proposed for approval by Cllr Tomlinson, seconded by Cllr Thomas and agreed. Receipts and payments to date are attached to the Minutes under Appendix 1.
- Items for consideration in the budget. The Clerk asked for items for the budget for consideration to be sent to her prior to the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

#### **16.145 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Neither District Councillor was in attendance, however Cllr Thomas had sent her report prior to the meeting, which had been circulated and is attached as Appendix 2.

#### **16.146 COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

- **Allotments;** Cllr Davis. Nothing to report.
- **Benian's Pavilion;** Cllr Knight asked for the issues that she needed to raise at the meeting the following evening, following concerns raised at the Open Space meeting. Following some concerns already raised, she would be confirming that although increase in fees was one option, others were being considered, and that the Parish Council were supportive of the expansion plans despite some members of the Committee being advised to the contrary. She was also asked to raise the catering van, and update on the relocation of the garage.
- **Community Buildings Project;** Cllr Seaton had resigned from committee and Cllr Tim Brake had resigned as Parish Council representative. Other members had confirmed they would be staying on. It was agreed to defer further discussion until the next Full Council meeting so new representation could be appointed.
- **Festival Committee meeting;** Cllr Hammond reported relevant issues raised at the meeting the previous week. Confirming the Remembrance Day parade on 13<sup>th</sup> November, 10.45 with a procession from the Church. Cllr Mills was thanked for cleaning the memorial of grass cuttings. A collection would be held at the service and would be split between two charities (Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes). Christmas Carols would be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, with Normal Read supplying the hog roast. Progress was being made on the Village sign, with positive links with an organisation on design and assembly.
- **Footpaths;** Cllr Mills absent from the meeting, however had confirmed nothing to report.
- **Oak Green;** Cllr Foster was absent from the meeting however, via the Clerk, confirmed that the Christmas Tree would be erected on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December, and the Clerk also reported that there had been a hiccup with uploading the tender on Contracts Finder and had since learned it was not a necessity, unless the Financial Regulations stipulate it.
- **Village Hall;** Cllr Mills absent but had sent the following report.

*A new oven replacement has been found, however it transpires it is too large to get into the kitchen either through the door or over the hatch, so were looking at other options. There has been some discussion recently concerning the playgroups equipment around the edge of the small hall. Even though the old table store has been made available totally for their use, they have difficulty apparently in storing all the gear at the end of each day and would rather leave it out. They are quite prepared to move it for a specific event as happened for the Beer Festival.*

*Do the PC consider the hall needs be totally empty for meetings and do they have a view on equipment being left out generally when the hall is available for hire?*

*Also "Plumbing in the Gentlemans toilets" are in need of maintenance and has been the case apparently for a while and some hall hirers had not been informed!*

In response, it was agreed that the equipment being left out was unprofessional for Council meetings, however there was complete understanding, and sympathy, with the difficulty in putting it away each evening. It was suggested that maybe a housing be built to hide it, or provision of a couple of screens that could be put round the items left out, so not on view, with the equipment being put away at weekends.

It was agreed that hirers should have been informed of drainage problems and agreed this needs to be sorted.

A further comment was made, particularly in the light of potential flooding issues, do the Village Hall have a contingency fund for 'Acts of God' not covered under insurance?

#### **16.147 CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Clerk notifications
  - Grant request from CPRE Hampshire. It was RESOLVED to approved a grant of £50 following a proposal from Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Knight, and unanimously agreed
  - The clerk reported on her attendance at the Citizens Advice AGM and confirmed that the Annual Grant of £1,000 approved at the March Full Council meeting had now been paid.
  - Late correspondence. The Clerk advised of two emails received subsequent to the distribution of the correspondence list. One detailing the boomtown fair traffic report, and the other asking for nominations of this year's Field in Trust Award, which was already very close to deadline.

#### **16.148 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP**

It was RESOLVED to approve the amended Terms of Reference, already approved at previous meeting, which had been amended following comments from Medstead Parish Council, and circulated prior to the meeting.

#### **16.149 2017/18 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT CONSULTATION**

The consultation had been circulated to all members and the Clerk re-iterated the importance of all replying. Following discussion, it was agreed that although not affected at this stage, this is very likely to be the case in the future, the Clerk should compile a response on behalf of the Parish Council raising concern over the proposals and that Parish Council's should have the flexibility to raise funds to carry out their ever increasing role and a 2% cap should not be implemented, or should be a requirement for referendum to determine the increase level.

*Following recommendations received subsequent to the Parish Council meeting it has been suggested that all Parish Councils copy their response to their local MP to ensure that they are aware of the strength of feeling against this consultation and its proposals.*

## **16.150 DEVOLUTION**

Cllr Thomas gave a brief update on devolution.

Portsmouth City Council and, and now Southampton City Council, have voted to submit a bid to form a combined Solent mayoral authority, with the Isle of Wight's decision on whether to join imminent.

HCC are still saying they have no unitary plan, they are expecting the results of the consultation shortly.

Other comments arising out the devolution discussions noted were that since the introduction of waste charges, there have been more reported incidences of fly tipping and HCC are now also charging for adult care, which used to be free.

### **16.151 NEXT MEETING:**

<b>Planning Committee</b>	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2016, 7.30pm, Village Hall
<b>Open Space Committee</b>	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2016, 8.30pm, Village Hall
<b>Full Council Meeting</b>	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2016, 7.30pm, Village Hall

**16.152 The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25 pm.**

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**Chairman**

## APPENDIX 1

Date: 20/10/2016

### Four Marks Parish Council 2016/17

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Time: 12:21

#### Current Bank A/c

#### List of Payments made between 01/10/2016 and 31/10/2016

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
01/10/2016	South East Water	DD	192.28		Allotments Water charges
03/10/2016	Semrah Landscape Management	1907	2,496.00		September grass cutting
03/10/2016	Semrah Landscape Management	1907	1,404.00		August grass cutting
03/10/2016	East Hants District Council	1908	194.00		Rates for Cemetery - 6 mths
03/10/2016	South East Water	1909	84.72		Water rates - Pavilion
06/10/2016	Talk Talk Business	DD	28.86		Office phone & b/band Aug/Sept
10/10/2016	Cato Computers	1910	39.95		Internet Security multi-use
10/10/2016	Dataprint Ltd	1911	108.00		Burial Ground Receipt books
10/10/2016	Land Registry	1912	40.00		First Registration Application
16/10/2016	Citizens Advice	1913	1,000.00	Minute 16.49 16-3-16	Annual Grant
16/10/2016	SLCC	1914	23.00		The Councillor ref. guide
18/10/2016	Eddie Hodkin	1915	264.00		September Oak Green works
18/10/2016	Four Marks Village Hall	1916	25.00		September Hall Hire
<b>Total Payments</b>			<b>5,899.81</b>		

Date: 20/10/2016

### Four Marks Parish Council 2016/17

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Time : 12:21

#### Current Bank A/c

#### Cash Received between 01/10/2016 and 31/10/2016

<u>Date</u>	<u>Cash Received from</u>	<u>Receipt No</u>	<u>Receipt Description</u>	<u>Receipt Total</u>
04/10/2016	Blackwell & Moody	500400	Memorial-G17-Cornick	45.00
11/10/2016	De Botte	500401	Allotments, Plot B17	20.00
11/10/2016	Hampshire Memorials	500401	Marston G18-Memorial	45.00
11/10/2016	Maguire	500401	Allotments, plot D8A	20.00
04/10/2016	Memorials of Distinction	500400	Memorial-J42-Bogue	45.00
04/10/2016	Mrs Golden	500400	Benians Hire Inv.17/16	30.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>				<b>205.00</b>

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

For the past three years planning has occupied a great deal of my time, when I first became one of your district councillors the Charles Church site in Four Marks was just beginning to be built, now its almost complete. The roads have yet to be finished but the site has mainly now been occupied.

I have spoken to several new residents over the past few months who have almost all told me how delighted they are to have moved to such a friendly village, the pharmacy has been praised as have the bread shop and off licence, they love the way that we stop to talk to each other, smile and say good morning, i feel very proud to be part of such a welcoming community.

Having said all that most of the new residents seem to have lists of problems with their new homes, let us hope that Charles Church will quickly respond to the problems and make the new houses a good place to live. Ive also heard similar complaints from other owners of new houses which is such a shame but i have been told that the NHBC are able to help if the problems cannot be resolved.

The other new developments seem to be progressing, we are still waiting for the liaison meeting to begin for these other sites it is part of their conditions so Officers and both DCs are chasing for dates.

An increasing problem around the villages seems to be people parking on pavements. This is not acceptable to most because it means that pedestrians including children and disabled people have to walk in the centre of the road to get round the parked car. Please show more care for others and do not park on pavements, it is better for cars to have to get past you than pedestrians. Think before you park.

The road safety improvements over Boyneswood Road Bridge are partially completed - I need say nothing about them, slightly better than a line in the road but we NEED a separate pedestrian bridge before there is a serious injury or accident.

Bargate Homes have submitted their proposals for the reserve matters on their site at the end of Beechlands Road, the first try was rejected by Officers as was the second so lets hope the third attempt is better. The foul drainage for this site is proposed to go along Boyneswood Lane, left into Stoney Lane all the way to the bottom then along Station Approach to join the new main at Lymington Bottom Road, a very

long way round indeed. I have serious worries about the damage to the trees along the route and the reinstatement of the surfaces of the bridleways. How residents will get out along a single track lane remains to be seen, I look forward to hearing from the developer how this will be achieved.

As part of the next section of our local plan, Part 3, which will be the final part of our local planning policy documents, officers and councillors have been looking at possible sites for affordable house across the whole district. We have so many housing developments that we will not be needing any more sites but neighbouring villages might. I spent a morning with EHDC housing team listening to the serious problems that people are facing when they are in need of affordable housing, caused in all sorts of ways, a very worthwhile morning with a team of specialist housing officers who solve problems for many.

The new crossing at Lapwing Way should start to be built on the 31st October, its taken a long time but with darker mornings approaching I hope it will help people to cross our increasingly busy A31 road safely.

i have heard several reports of noisy neighbours this month which often causes a great deal of concern. If you are suffering from such a problem it can be tackled, in the first instance you need to make a record of what happened, what time of day and who was involved. If you report the problem to Environmental Health department at EHDC they should be able to help, if you continue to have a problem I can follow up with them and find out how their investigations are getting along.

On a lighter note I organised a coffee morning and cake baking competition in aid of MacMillan at EHDC offices. There are some very good bakers over there and some hungry cake eaters so we raised £222 for the cause.

As ever if I can be of any assistance to you with any matters involving EHDC please contact me.

**Ingrid Thomas**

**East Hampshire District Councillor for Four Marks and Medstead**