

Four Marks Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee Held on Wednesday 5th July 2017, commencing at 7.30pm At the Village Hall, Lymington Bottom, Four Marks

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Cllr Simon Thomas (Chairman), Cllrs Tim Brake and John Hammond
IN ATTENDANCE:	Mrs Sarah Goudie (Clerk), 4 members of the public
APOLOGIES:	Cllr Anne Tomlinson
ABSENCE:	Cllr Karin Black

17.53 PC OPEN SESSION

Mr and Mrs Kydd were in attendance to speak about the Village Sign project, and how disappointed they were to read the objection comments on the planning portal and felt that the comments should be addressed.

However prior to that he wished to comment favourably on the refurbishment at Oak Green and wondered whether the Parish Council would consider replacing the notice board as it was starting to look a bit sad in comparison. This would be forwarded to the Finance & GP Committee for discussion.

Mr Kydd introduced himself as the Chairman of the Festival Committee, a group of volunteers of local residents who as a committee organise annual events and village projects, often supported by the Parish Council.

The main project that he had been involved in was the war memorial on the green space at Lymington Bottom, which has complemented the now excellent upkeep of the green. The next project was the village sign, with a proposed follow up phase two project of entry signs to the village, which would be at a later date once funds could be raised.

Over the last two years the design of the 'Village Sign' has been well documented in the Four Marks News. Initially, Oak Green appeared to be the obvious location for the Village Sign being the central point of the village. However with highway planning issues, lamp posts, telegraph poles, and the Village Flag Pole, it became evident that an alternative location would need to be found. A second focus of the village was the area of new open space at Lymington Bottom for which a formal Village Green status application was already underway. The Festival Committee decided that a traditional village style sign would enhance the area further, and they strongly believe this is the correct location after much debate and consultation. Mr Kydd reiterated that the project is entirely funded by grants and donations from fund raising, and no Parish.

Cllr Hammond responded by thanking Mr Kydd for attending and also wished to use this opportunity to address some of the inaccurate comments on the planning portal and social media.

- The Festival Committee is a group of local residents, all volunteers with the village at heart, who have two objectives; organise village events and promote a sense of community within the village, particularly important now with the new developments and new residents. They are not a breakaway or sub-committee from the Parish Council, but do have the same objectives to provide a better place for everyone to reside in.
- Their first big project was the Queens Jubilee event, and last year the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations. They organise annual events such as the St Georges Day Parade, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas carol singing, and of course the provision of the new War Memorial.
- They organise children's competitions at the local school and provide the prizes, through donations, which has included the design of the Four Marks flag, twice.
- They engage in fundraising to enhance the look and feel of the village.

Cllr Hammond advised members that the definition of a Village Sign is “part of cultural rural heritage, introduced by Edward VII, positioned on village greens, they are a pictorial account of the history and identity of the village and are mounted on top of a post for the enjoyment and appreciation of the village”.

The proposed sign is typical in design, height and scale to hundreds of others across the country. The initial design was refined by a local artist, is sympathetic, suitably discreet and will not be a distraction to traffic. The proposed location is on the centre of the Village Green designated open space at Lymington Bottom. This used to be a muddy lorry park, but has been transformed into a tranquil landscaped feature where people can sit and reflect, so is well suited and the sign will be an attractive addition.

Cllr Thomas thanked both Mr Kydd and Cllr Hammond for their comments and was also disappointed with the negative factually incorrect comments on the planning portal and social media. He confirmed that the committee could only comment on the planning application under policy guidelines. However, he was concerned about the issues raised and felt that they should be considered and discussed further at Full Council.

A neighbouring resident in attendance was unhappy about the proposed location of the sign. He also raised concerns over the continual flooding issues he encounters at his residence in Lymington Bottom, adjacent to the green space. He was advised to contact the County Council.

Mr Whitchard, also in attendance, wished to compliment the Parish Council on the refurbishment project at Oak Green, which was gratefully acknowledged.

Cllr Thomas thanked all members of the public for attending, and then as there were no further issues raised under the Open Session, the meeting commenced at 7.50 pm. **Standing Orders were applied.**

17.54 PC APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence had been received by Cllr Anne Tomlinson, which was approved by the Committee.

17.55 PC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Hammond declared an interest in planning item 5.5, application number 56931, but asked if he could remain in the meeting, but not take part in the discussion. The Chairman noted and agreed the request.

17.56 PC COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 7th June 2017, previously circulated, were not approved due to the omission of relevant information below. They will be amended and re-submitted for approval at the next meeting.

The amendments to the Minutes were as follows:

Application SDNP/17/02202/FUL Ashdell Farm. Cllr Brake had commented that ‘each application should be treated on its own merit’ and that this comment had not been noted. The Chairman agreed that he confirmed at the meeting that this should be minuted, and therefore it was agreed that the Minutes would be amended to reflect this omission.

There were two typographical errors in the final paragraph of the Open Session notes, which would also be amended.

Referring to the Magpie Lodge application, there was concern that the standard paragraph on the Parish Council’s stance on the unnecessary removal of trees and hedges, had not been included in the consultee comment, however as this application had now been decided there was little point in making any change. However it was agreed that in future it would be included in all future comments as appropriate.

Matters arising.

At the previous meeting, an applicant’s agent had sent documents on the day of the meeting to the Clerk for circulation prior to the Councillors. Due to her absence on the day, they were not circulated, but it was noted councillors would not have had to time to read and consider what was a complex Inspector’s Decision notice. It was agreed by the Committee that a policy needed to be adopted to prevent this happening in the future, and ensure both applicants and councillors have sufficient time to receive, read, research, and reflect on detailed

- Proposal: Increase in roof height to provide accommodation at first floor level, two storey extension to side and detached garage (Amended plans received 15.05.17 and 02.02.17)
- Decision: PERMISSION Decision Date: 2 June, 2017
4. Reference No: 24292/005 PARISH: Four Marks
 Location: Thistledown Farm, Alton Lane, Four Marks, Alton, GU34 5AJ
 Proposal: Lawful development certificate proposed - extend to each side by 50% of the length of the existing building by the full width
 Decision: WITHDRAWN Decision Date: 14 June, 2017
5. Reference No: 49452 PARISH: Four Marks
 Location: 110 Hazel Road, Four Marks, Alton, GU34 5EX
 Proposal: Outline with all matters reserved - two storey dwelling
 Decision: WITHDRAWN Decision Date: 19 June, 2017
6. Reference No: 32126/003 PARISH: Four Marks
 Location: Magpie Lodge, Station Approach, Four Marks, Alton, GU34 5HN
 Proposal: Two storey side extension to form garage with bedroom over and new driveway
 Decision: PERMISSION Decision Date: 26 June, 2017
7. Reference No: 53153/001 PARISH: Four Marks
 Location: 31 Chaffinch Road, Four Marks, Alton, GU34 5FG
 Proposal: Oak - reduce crown by 20% to leave finished height of 14.5m and finished spread (radius) of 5.5m, crown lift to no more than 6m above adjacent ground level, deadwood (measurements amended by email 12/6/17)
 Decision: CONSENT Decision Date: 27 June, 2017

17.59 PC APPEAL NOTIFICATIONS AND UPDATES

1. Reference: APP/M1710/D/17/317133
 Location: 122 Winchester Road, GU34 5HZ
 Proposal: Two bay oak garage and log store
 Decision: Allowed
2. Reference: APP/M1710/W/17/3168191:
 Location: Land to the rear of 131 Winchester Road, GU34 5HY
 Proposal: 6 detached dwellings and access
 Decision: Dismissed
3. Reference: APP/M1710/W/16/3164918:
 Location: Cardinals, Station Approach, GU34 5HN
 Proposal: New dwelling
 Decision: Dismissed

There were no further updates to report.

17.60 PC NEXT MEETING

The next Planning Committee meeting is to be held on Wednesday 2nd August 2017

17.61 PC The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30 pm

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 Chairman