

Four Marks Parish Council

Minutes of the Open Space Committee Wednesday 4th October 2017 commencing at 8.40pm At Four Marks Village Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr Anne Tomlinson (Chair), Cllrs John Davis, Davie Edgar, Janet Foster and Dave Mills
IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Sarah Goudie (Clerk)
APOLOGIES: None

17.81 OS OPEN SESSION

Cllr Edgar raised the issue of persistent dog fouling, and it was agreed that the situation was deteriorating again, following a lengthy discussion the Clerk agreed to look into the option of making a byelaw enabling the Parish Council to prosecute offenders. The installation of CCTV at the Recreation Ground was also discussed as a possibility and to carry out the fluorescent spray initiative. Notices in the Four Marks News and on social media, would also be made on a regular basis.

Mr James Little, former resident of Four Marks, wished to install a bench to commemorate the life of Joan Jones at Lymington Green. However it was agreed that there are three benches already and maybe a plaque or a tree would be more appropriate or a different location for the bench. Cllr Davis agreed to talk to Mr Little at the memorial service this week.

The Clerk was asked to chase the Five Lanes End finger post, as the fingers are still not back on the post.

It was agreed that as the notice board at the Village Hall was rotting, and that it was one of the less used boards, that it should be removed. Cllr Mills to action.

There were no further items to be raised under the Open Session, and the formal meeting then commenced at 9.00pm. Standing Orders were applied.

17.82 OS APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence

17.83 OS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

17.84 OS COMMITTEE MINUTES

- The Minutes of the Open Space Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 6th September 2017, previously circulated, and following typographical amendments, were proposed as an accurate record, by Cllr Foster, seconded by Cllr Edgar, approved by members, and duly signed by the Chairman.
- Matters arising:
 - Oak Green notice board. Agreement to go ahead with Medstead Parish Council's proposal and the Clerk is applying for a District Councillor grant.
 - Bus shelters are now cleaned.
 - New pre-school slide in, Rospa repairs now mostly carried out and rhino mulch installed in both gateways.
 - Still awaiting installation date for new fencing at the Allotments
 - Wooden bollards (dragons teeth) now received and awaiting installation
 - Land between skate park and pavilion, solicitor now appointed to try and trace owners.

- Cemetery, a quotation for the proposed removal of trees and suggested replacements now received. The Clerk was keen to agree a planting plan in all areas, and take advantage of the EI developers' contributions still available, following confirmation of the exact amount.

17.85 OS AREA UPDATE

1. **Allotments.** Fencing. Repaired fencing to be reinforced. Cllr Mills to liaise with Paul Bridges to discuss options.
2. **Badger Close.** Nothing to report.
3. **Benian's Committee/Pavilion.** Water leak reported and hopefully will be attended to in due course.
4. **Cemetery.** Nothing to report. Awaiting quotations for new gates for consideration. Unauthorised grave decoration had been discovered, photo shown, and agreed for letter to be sent.
5. **Footpaths.** No current reported issues.
6. **Kingswood Copse.** No current reported issues.
7. **Lymington Bottom Green.** Bindweed removed. Replacement fencing to be discussed.
8. **Oak Green.** Refurbishment of notice board agreed. Christmas lights – Agenda item.
9. **Recreation Ground.**
 - **Play park/teenager activity area.** Agenda item – shade and shelters.
 - **Cricket pitch.** Nothing to report.
 - **Goal posts.** Replacements now received and have now been erected, still awaiting nets.
 - **Tennis Courts/MUGA.** Nothing to report.
 - **Uplands Lane.** Agenda item.
10. **Station Approach/Windmill Fields open space.** Nothing to report.
11. **Storeys Sanctuary.** Nothing to report.
12. **Swelling Hill Pond.** Picnic benches have arrived, and one has now been installed, the location for the second one to be agreed. Wood to be taken away for school bonfire (Cllr Mills)

17.86 OS NEW ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

• RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Foster had passed the document to Cllr Mills to peruse and make comment, this had not yet been done, so the item was deferred to the next meeting.

• RECREATION GROUND

Following three separate concerns that had been raised with reference to tree issues in Uplands Lane, the Clerk had organised an inspection and a subsequent quotation had been received, and circulated at the meeting. The costs were high as a platform is required to carry out the works, however all members were of the opinion that the quotation was reasonable and that as the service from the preferred supplier was always good and reliable, it was agreed to go ahead with the works, without seeking further quotations in this instance.

It was also agreed that the owner of the property at the head of Uplands Lane, who had raised one of the issues, should be asked for an end plate to be installed on the guttering of their outbuilding as the water running out of their gutter appears to be one of the causes of the flooding issues at that end of Upland Lane.

• CHILDRENS PLAY AREA

The Clerk circulated various options for a shelter in the children's play area, however none of which were unanimously agreed on. It was agreed however that the preferred shape was hexagonal, although this was the more expensive option and the Clerk was tasked with getting a quotation for the preferred shape, minimum size 3m with a budget of around £4,000, although it was agreed that developers' contributions for this project should be applied for.

• LYMINGTON GREEN

It has been widely noted that the fencing along the edge of Lymington Bottom Green was in need of replacing, and the Clerk presented a few options for its replacement. However it was agreed that the current fencing was the most appropriate and a quote should be sought to replace like for like. It was

agreed that the Clerk should contact the fencing contractor who did the stock fencing at the Recreation Ground for a quote for consideration.

- **DECORATIVE WOODEN SIGNS**

The Clerk circulated the proposals and quotation for the three new signs. All members were of the opinion that the wording on the bottom rung was unnecessary, although it would be good to have the option of a spare rung, for adding future wording. The Clerk agreed to check whether this would be possible, and whether it is actually a requirement to have emergency numbers on the signs.

Cemetery Gates, the same company quoting for the signs also supply gates and as it was being proposed to replace the cemetery gates, the clerk presented some of the options they had. The members could not agree on a style, so it was agreed to get quotations for the two most suitable options, with Four Marks Cemetery engraved on all gates, with the suggestion of a plaque on one of them with the Parish Council's contact information.

- **SALE OF LAND TO THE REAR OF 31/33 CHAFFINCH ROAD**

After a detailed discussion over the issues surrounding the sale of the small portion of land to the rear of the above properties, it was agreed that, as there were too many issues and concerns arising, that it would not be cost effective to pursue this course of action.

- **TRAVELLER POLICY**

The Clerk had circulated a draft policy for discussion, a few amendments were agreed, however the Clerk confirmed that the document had been circulated to all members of the Parish Council for comment, with a deadline of 11th October. The agreed draft would be submitted for approval at the next Full Council meeting.

- **OAK GREEN**

Agreement was reached at the Full Council meeting to start erecting the lights and tree the first weekend in December, but there was a need to hire or borrow a tall ladder or platform. The tree also needs to be ordered, and it was suggested to try an Alresford supplier as they were much cheaper than the current supplier. It was agreed that the tree needs to be at least 15ft and the supplier must be able to deliver.

It was agreed to ask to borrow the Church's portable tower, rather than hire one. The preparation work would take place on Friday 1st December and over that weekend, for the switch on Monday 4th December.

Volunteers will be required to assist with putting up both the tree and the lights, and notification of timings will be circulated nearer the time.

17.87 OS DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 1st November 2017, 8.30pm, to follow planning at the Village Hall.

17.88 OS The Chairman closed the Meeting at 10.05pm.

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Chairman