

FOUR MARKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Open Space Committee Wednesday 3rd January 2018 commencing at 8.35pm At Four Marks Village Hall

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

18.01 OS OPEN SESSION

Cllr Tomlinson opened the meeting and asked for items for the Open Session.

The Clerk raised the area at Lymington Green which houses the Sub-station and suggested that this should be discussed as a future agenda item to discuss proposals for its maintenance.

Cllr Mills expressed his concern over the state of the football pitch and training area, currently waterlogged, however the Clerk confirmed that the Football Club take responsibility and cancel matches and training and inform other users that the area is not to be used until such time as the ground improves.

The Clerk thanked Cllr Mills for submitting his play area inspection reports, to be held on file at the office.

There were no further items to be raised under the Open Session, and the formal meeting then commenced at 8.40pm. Standing Orders were applied.

18.02 OS APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no formal apologies for absence received.

18.03 OS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

18.04 OS COMMITTEE MINUTES

- The Minutes of the Open Space Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 6th December 2017, previously circulated, were proposed as an accurate record, by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Foster, approved by members, and duly signed by the Chairman.
- Matters arising.
 - **Recreation Ground;** the Clerk confirmed that the Cricket square had now been now marked off.
 - **Oak Green;** the Clerk confirmed that residents of the flats were meeting representatives from EHDC, on 15th January, to discuss how they can move forward with the health and safety and ongoing lack of maintenance concerns. The Christmas tree removal was confirmed for Sunday 7th January 2018, at 10.00am for Councillors, and Simon Gray from Hampshire Woodlands had agreed to assist with the removal of the tree and would be asked to arrive at 10.30am. The Electrician will be in contact when available to provide a quotation for the new electrical works.
 - **Developers' contributions.** The clerk confirmed that approval had been received for all projects, applied for, except tree planting plan, and now approved would request the funds as applicable.

Shelter. The Clerk circulated the quotation and detail for the shelter, and it was agreed to now process the order, although location of the shelter was still to be agreed.

Ladder rung notice boards. Members were happy with the proposals as circulated, although concern was expressed that the dog sign was not very clear, it was agreed to go ahead as proposed, as it was assumed that the picture would be clearer on the signs themselves.

Cemetery gates. The Clerk confirmed that the gate area had been measured although was still awaiting the installation quotation. The Clerk circulated the two proposed designs and it was agreed to opt for the Puttenham style as opposed to the originally favoured Compton, as it was more suitable for the location. Four Marks Cemetery would be engraved on each gate.

- Cllr Davis asked if there was any news on the future of the Angling Club, for future maintenance concerns. Cllr Mills agreed to speak to Craig Matthews to see if there was any further update.

18.05 OS AREA UPDATE

Allotments

- No reported issues.

Badger Close

- **Agenda item.** Formal approval of hedge and tree works quotation.

Benians Committee/Pavilion

- Boiler service now completed, but more works required, as boiler still tripping out.

Cemetery

- Approval now received for new gates, site visit for installation now taken place, gates to be ordered upon approval of design.
- **Agenda Item.** Proposed planting plan for replacement trees, for agreement prior to submission for approval of expenditure.

Footpaths

- Priority cutting list path request for 2018 now submitted.

Kingswood Copse

- **Agenda item.** Formal approval of laurel hedge quotation.

Lymington Bottom Green

- Replacement fencing to be done early 2018, when ground is not so wet, no further news from contractor approached to do the slab works, however fencing contractor is happy to do the work as part of the fencing project.
- Still awaiting contact from Highways re new lease agreement.

Oak Green

- **Agenda item.** Approval of proposed works to the Oak Green Clock, details to follow.

Recreation Ground

- Uplands Lane, tree works delayed to the New Year.
- Expenditure of developers contributions for shelter, approved, Clerk to order. (See matters arising)
- Solicitors (Tozers LLP) to be approached for assistance on searching for land registration of the area between Pavilion and Skate Park.

Station Approach/Windmill Fields

- Shrub planting to take place in the New Year.

Swelling Hill Pond

- No further reported issues, bench and railings still to be attended to.
- Finger post at crossroads, now cleaned, but not repaired
- Tree beside pre-school car park, Kitwood Lane, checked by Highways and deemed safe.

18.06 OS NEW ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

- Proposal for carrying out a Parish wide tree survey. It was agreed that this should be considered at least for 'high risk' trees, but that the Clerk should contact the Parish Council's Insurance company to ascertain how frequently, for compliance with insurance, detailed surveys should take place. Various options were discussed but would be dependent upon the response from Came & Company.
- Planting proposal for Cemetery and Recreation Ground. The Clerk prepared and distributed a proposal for provision for new trees, following guidance, for both the Cemetery and Recreation Ground, it was RESOLVED to approve both plans, three trees for each area at £180.00 supplied and planted each, and the Clerk agreed to apply for EI Developers Contributions to cover the purchase costs.
- Dog Control
 - The Clerk agreed to circulate a Government document containing guidelines on how to introduce dog control orders, and a draft proposal for approval would be drawn up for Parish Council areas for consultation. The Clerk also advised that there was a grant fund available for environmental improvements and suggested a poo bag dispenser could be applied for, in addition to other measures currently taking place, to try and improve the dog fouling problem. This was agreed, and the Clerk agreed to investigate further.
 - Lymington Green, following several reports of dog fouling on Lymington Green, should dogs on leads on the Green be enforced. It was agreed to incorporate measures within the newly formed Orders for this area to be implemented.
- Kingswood Copse. It was RESOLVED to approve the estimate of £2,800 for the reduction of the laurel hedge to the west side of Kingswood Copse. It was agreed that, as the hedge is of mammoth proportions and Hampshire Woodlands, who had provided the quotation, would already have suitable equipment for another job in the parish, not to seek further quotations. All other work at Kingswood Copse had been carried out by Hampshire Woodlands, and additional quotations were unlikely to be much cheaper. This work would use up the majority of the ring fenced fund, and it had been previously agreed that an amount would be budgeted each year for future maintenance work.
- Recreation ground:
 - Flooding issue, Uplands Land. It was agreed that there may not be a solution to the problem, but that it may be appropriate to seek professional advice to see if there is any additional works that could be carried out. However it may also be appropriate to look at options to ease the passage of pedestrians, when flooded, and seek proposals to look at options of providing a footway between the cemetery hedge and tarmac edge.
 - Oak G1, TPO EH855. Following receipt of a communication from the concerned adjacent resident, an inspection had been carried out on the Oak tree on the Recreation Ground, part of EH855 Group 1, protection order, and recommended works proposed and quoted for. It was agreed that the works needed to be carried out due to the high risk location of the tree, and the Clerk should apply for the appropriate Local Planning Authority permission.
 - Floodlights for the MUGA. It was agreed that the installation of floodlights could be expensive and problematical, but should be investigated and the Clerk agreed to get some quotes for deliberation.
- Oak Green Clock. This item would be deferred to the next meeting as the report had not been received. However the Clerk confirmed an invoice for £250 plus VAT had been received for a site inspection, which, as the engineer had not actually done any work should be queried and not paid until such time as a full report had been received.
- Badger Close; it was agreed to accept the quotation for the works to both the laurel hedge adjacent to the footpath and removal of overhang of the Ash Tree. It was also agreed that the owner of 10 Badger Close, who had previously agreed to pay a portion of the costs, would be asked to pay 50% of the hedge works, with the Parish Council applying for a grant from the County Councillor, as agreed, for the other 50%. The works to the Ash Tree would be funded by the ring fenced maintenance fund.

18.07 OS DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 7th February 2018, 8.30pm, to follow planning at the Village Hall.

18.08 OS The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.50pm.

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Chairman