

Medstead Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Council meeting held in the Village Hall on **Wednesday 13th July 2016** at 7.30pm.

Present:

Councillors, Deborah Jackson, Roy Pullen, Peter Buckland, Hans Taylor, Stan Whitcher, Ken Kercher, Mike Smith, Peter Fenwick and Jean Penny.

Also in attendance: Mr Peter Baston (Clerk).

Action

16.80 OPEN SESSION

- a) Cllr Buckland suggested that an additional defibrillator be provided near to the village centre if funds were available from a district councillor grant.
- b) Cllr Buckland mentioned that he had been made aware that the signage for Greenstiles has several variations.
- c) Cllr Buckland circulated details of the Medstead Bowls Club open day on 16th July.
- d) Cllr Penny commented that she had received several favourable comments on the restored Pond.
- e) Cllr Whitcher asked whether it was intended to put a wire strand in the new fence to restrict access at the Pond. Cllr Pullen commented that this was not planned but would be kept under review.
- f) Cllr Pullen asked the Clerk whether the new benches at the Pond had now been included on the Council insurance policy. The Clerk will contact the insurance company.
- g) Cllr Pullen detailed the planned closure of Lymington Bottom Road for 6 weeks from 25th July 2016. Concern was expressed over the impact on the current and planned development in the area and in particular on traffic flow during the closure. It was further reported that HCC had appointed a "crisis manager" to oversee this closure. Cllr Pullen further reported that signage had been erected informing of a further three day road closure at Five Ash Road from 15th July. Reason unknown. He further reported that a finger sign is missing from the post at South Town Road.
- h) Cllr Smith outlined the on-going issues which are preventing the Speedwatch Team from carrying out more activity. He reported that Mr Reg Pullen had met with police regarding additional four locations where the Team would like to operate which the police are reviewing and for which codes need to be assigned to allow accurate recording of data on to the data base.

Clerk

Commented [MPC1]: Deborah / Roy Not sure how this was left. Any view?

16.81 APOLOGIES

District Councillor Ingrid Thomas.

16.82 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

16.83 COUNCIL MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 8th June 2016 having been previously circulated, were proposed as a **true record** by Councillor Pullen, seconded by Councillor Smith, **and signed by the Chairman**.
- b) It was reported that for item 16.79 (Community Resilience Workshop) would be carried over to the next meeting

Cllr Jackson

16.84 COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS

1) Planning Committee

- a) The minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2016 having been previously circulated, **were ratified**
- b) Cllr Pullen reported “another relatively quiet month on the Planning front and another month when we have not had to attend a Planning meeting at Penns Place.

Not unexpectedly the prospective developers of the site for six dwellings in Lymington Bottom Road have lodged an appeal against EHDC's refusal. Work has started in earnest on the two sites behind the butchers shop and CALA Homes had started on their site opposite only to be stopped as they did not have all the necessary Conditions sorted out. However they are due to start very shortly and the Friars Oak site is also due to commence shortly so construction traffic will get considerably worse in the area south of Medstead. This will be made even worse when the sewer is installed under the bridge in Lymington Bottom Road as it is scheduled to be shut for 6 weeks from 25th July with all traffic being diverted along Boyneswood Road, Red Hill and Five Ash Road.

I was flattered to be re-elected as chair of the Planning Committee and would like to thank fellow members of this committee for all their hard work that they have put in to this over the past 12 months.”

2) Finance & General Purposes Committee

- a) The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd June 2016 having been previously circulated, **were ratified**.
- b) After discussion it was agreed that the fourth member of the Finance & General Purposes Committee would remain as Cllr Fenwick.
- c) Revised Medstead Parish Council Financial Regulations were agreed and proposed by Cllr Fenwick and seconded by Cllr Kercher.
- d) The revised Medstead Parish Council Complaints Policy was agreed and proposed by Cllr Fenwick and seconded by Cllr Whitcher.

3) Maintenance Committee

- a) Cllr Kercher highlighted the possible re-location of the Royal Mail box by the Village Hall car park entrance to a more favourable location nearby. The Clerk was in consultation with Royal Mail to see if this would be possible.
- b) Cllr Kercher detailed the possible purchase and erection of two bus shelters and stated that the Clerk had been in contact with both HCC & EHDC regarding positioning and funding respectively. EHDC have stated that S106 funds will be available. The route of the school bus is key however to the placement of the shelters and the Clerk will be in contact with HCC bus operators to see if the route can be amended to allow the shelters to be erected in the preferred sites.
- c) The Clerk was asked when the resurfacing of the footpaths would commence which had been previously approved. The Clerk will chase the contractor for a start date.
- d) The Clerk had written to both local funeral directors regarding the Grave Digging regulations which had previously been agreed by Council. One had been returned with the other still being outstanding. It was agreed that the Clerk would write again shortly to the outstanding funeral director to remind them that should they not sign then in future they will not be allowed to undertake any burials in the Cemetery.
- e) Cllr Kercher was unanimously re appointed as the chair of the maintenance committee

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

16.85 CHAIRMANS REPORT

To be received

16.86 PARISH CLERK REPORT

The Clerk provided an update of the current activity, specifically:

- a) Thanking Cllr Buckland for overseeing the cemetery during the absence of the Clerk and highlighted that since his return, there are several burials and memorials applications ongoing.
- b) Lengthsman – Medstead Parish Council had been overlooked by the Lengthsman scheme organiser but the Clerk had rescheduled a visit by the Lengthsman to 20th July who will carry out bramble clearance work on footpath 14.
- c) Met with the clerks for Four Marks and Ropley with a view to gaining likely economies of scale in possible future joint procurement and also ensuring that by comparing working practices are adopted.
- d) Trees - Written to URC regarding branch clearance, awaiting to meet with tree surgeon regarding trees in Foul Lane and reported that the tree surgeon had carried out emergency tree work following a large tree coming down into the school playground.
- e) 2015/16 External audit – Details are now with the external auditor who had asked a couple of minor questions which the Clerk had addressed.
- f) Stoney Lane flooding. This has been reported to HCC Rights of Way.

16.87 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Jackson To be received

16.88 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk explained the latest Nat West bank accounts for the three accounts regarding the latest financial position.

- a. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the expenditure against budget report to 30th June 2016.
- b. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Bank Reconciliation (as approved by Cllr Smith) as a 30th June 2016.
- c. The Clerk highlighted that the total of all three bank accounts exceeded the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSSC) guarantee of £75k. It was agreed that following a meeting of the Wake trustees, the Clerk would take steps to transfer the funds to Nationwide Building Society which would also earn a higher rate of interest.

Clerk

16.89 COUNCIL POLICY

Revised Medstead Parish Council Cemetery Regulations were agreed and proposed by Cllr Pullen and seconded by Cllr Smith.

16.90 FIVE ASH POND – FLOODING

Cllr Kercher outlined the findings of the recent site meeting by Councillors and the Clerk who specifically viewed the area which HCC had requested be dredged to remove silt. It was felt that this action would not achieve anything as the source of the problem lay further down-stream where certain areas had been filled in or dammed to prevent water flow. Ina addition following the construction of the kerb opposite the pond this acted as a dam preventing water flow away from the Pond area. It was agreed that Cllr Kemp-Gee be contacted to see if he can get HCC to comment at a higher level than has previously been the case.

Clerk

16.91 VILLAGE GREEN ENHANCEMENT

- a) Cllr Taylor stated that he had not sought further consultation about the project as it had already been agreed by Council that this should go ahead. Finding was requested through a District Councillor grant which has been submitted and is waiting for a second district councillor sign off.
- b) Cllr Pullen mentioned that a bid for funding through the Tesco “Bags of Help” programme had been submitted and that a further potential funding stream had been identified through lottery funding and Mrs Stevenson would be submitting a further bid for Village Green enhancement.

Cllr Jackson

16.92 COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Village Hall –

- a. Cllr Buckland commented that the Village Hall accounts are with the auditors.
- b. The AGM would take place on 27th September 2016.

Sports Club –

- a. It was reported that a fan had been replaced in the Pavilion.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

ChairmanDate.....