

Medstead Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Council meeting held in the Village Hall on **Wednesday 12th October 2016** at 7.30pm.

Present:

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

Also in attendance: Ms L Quarrell (Carbon Smart), Four members of the public, (Mr Coles, Mrs J Foster (Four Marks Parish Council), Mr Louisson and Mr Perkins (both Ropley) and Mr Peter Baston (Clerk).

Action

16.120 OPEN SESSION

- a) Cllr Jackson introduced Louise Quarrell who then gave a presentation on the Rural Community Energy Fund (RCEF) where Carbon Smart are working with Parish councils, charities and other community groups to develop local energy projects by arranging and delivery of a feasibility study and then to facilitate applying for funding and assisting with arranging for an approved contractor to install. This would be further considered by Medstead Parish Council at a subsequent meeting.
- b) Mr Coles highlighted a possible issue with the new G Mail e mail addresses not working correctly. The Clerk would review the position.
- c) Cllr Buckland asked if a Parish notice could be placed in the Greenstile shelter to inform that the shelter notice board should be prioritised for use by Medstead Parish notices
- d) Cllr Buckland highlighted the comments which had been made in the Four Marks news about the future location of Medstead Post office and questioned whether this was the view of Four Marks PC or an individual viewpoint and it was clarified that this was considered to be an individual's viewpoint and not attributable to Four Marks PC.
- e) Cllr Buckland mentioned that the Bowls Club would be opening up the car park for use by those attending the forthcoming fireworks event at the school.
- f) Cllr Buckland highlighted the forthcoming Local History day to be held in Alton.
- g) Cllr Whitcher mentioned the poor road surface in Abbey Road.
- h) Cllr Fenwick asked if the Council were considering a "Carols on the Green" event this year as he had been asked by the Church. After discussion it was agreed that the Church should coordinate the event with the Christmas Tree festival.
- i) Cllr Pullen asked if the festive lights currently in place would be used this year and the Clerk was asked to contact the Fete committee whether this was planned. Cllr Kercher mentioned that in previous years the cost of the electricity would be borne by the Sports Club for the event.

Clerk

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Clerk

16.121 APOLOGIES

Cllr Mike Smith.

16.122 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

16.123 COUNCIL MINUTES

a) The minutes of the meeting held on **14th September 2016** having been previously circulated, apart from one minor typo, were proposed as a **true record** by Councillor Pullen, seconded by Councillor Penny, **and signed by the Chairman.**

b) Matters Arising

- i. Item 16.106 (a). It was reported that the parish Lengthsman had undertaken clearance of FP14.
- ii. On Item 16.93(g), Cllr Smith was advised by Cllr Taylor to try logging the problem of overgrown signs on to Fixmystreet.com. Due to the absence of Cllr Smith, this will be carried forward
- iii. On item 16.99(a) and 16.109 (c), the reported the latest position, having spoken with both Stagecoach management and also HCC regarding the contract bus route to allow the Council to consider erecting a bus shelter.
- iv. Item 16.117. The Clerk had written to the secretary of the Medstead & Four Marks Neighbourhood Plan seeking a continuity plan and a response was received just prior to the meeting and would be considered by MPC
- v. Item 16.118. The Clerk had responded to the NALC survey

Cllr Smith

Clerk

Clerk

16.124 COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS

a) Planning Committee

- i. The minutes of the meeting held on 14th September 2016 having been previously circulated, **were ratified.**
- ii. Cllr Pullen reported *"Yet another quiet month on the Planning front in terms of new applications and yet another month when we have not had to attend a Planning meeting at Penns Place. It cannot last!
Interesting application received recently at Lymington Barns with a proposal to demolish a couple of the existing buildings and replace them with new retail and office space with some one and two bedroom apartments over.*

We have heard nothing on the appeals that have been lodged, so await our chance to make comments on those.

Miller Homes are well on with the houses behind the butchers shop and CALA Homes have got the road in for the development on the other side of the road.

A start has been made on the footway across the bridge in Boyneswood Road and William Lacey Group have started on the site entrance road there. I call it a start on the footway as it is still far from the finished article."

- iii. Cllr Pullen updated the meeting on the outcome of the earlier Planning meeting.

b) Finance & General Purposes Committee

- i. No meeting had been held since the last Full Council meeting
- ii. Cllr Jackson reported that at the next meeting budget setting and calculation of the 2017/18 precept would be discussed.
- iii. Cllr Jackson further reported that a learning agreement would be established for the Clerk and also consideration of additional hours for the Clerk whilst he was studying for his CILCA qualification.

d) Maintenance Committee

- i. No meeting had been held since the last Full Council meeting
- ii. Cllr Kercher reported:-
 - a. that the quotes for the work required following the fire risk assessment were being sought and that they would be taken to the next Maintenance Committee meeting.
 - b. The trees between Castle St and the Church were being taken down but this was a matter between the Church and the land owner.
 - c. Following the meeting by the Clerk with two stonemasons, quotes were awaited on the possible renovation of memorials in the Cemetery.

16.125 CHAIRMANS REPORT

A short report for this month:

Last week the Clerk and I met with our counterparts in Four Marks to discuss options for joint working. Whilst this was originally triggered by the possibility of devolution and devolvement of services from EHDC, such as grass cutting, we talked about other possible projects that we could work together on, such as maintenance of the network of footpaths that cross the two parishes.

The council has been asked (by a hall hirer) for permission to have fireworks on the green. On behalf of the council, I requested details of the location of the fireworks and insurance cover. The applicant has decided not to go ahead with this.

Next month a poppy wreath will be laid on behalf of the Parish Council at the Remembrance Day service. This has been financed from the Chairman's Allowance.

16.126 PARISH CLERK REPORT

The Clerk provided an update of the current activity

16.127 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

District Councillor Report: Deborah Jackson

After the relative quiet of the last couple of months, things have become much busier north of the A31. Starting with a round-up of the development sites:

In Lymington Bottom Road, Miller homes still fail to provide the required weekly site movement projections, the last being received in July. This, together with the lack of residents liaison meetings have now been followed up by the Enforcement team, and earlier this week an invitation to a meeting was received by the clerks of the two parish councils. The structure of the proposed meetings are not quite as anticipated and far from ideal, being during the daytime, held on the site and with numbers restricted to 10 named persons. The next step is to follow up the exact

wording of the conditions, to see how we can have better local representation. Ingrid is looking into this as these liaison meetings are something she has pushed strongly to be included for all of the sites. I have suggested that Miller include representatives from the CALA site to the liaison meetings, thereby killing two birds with one stone.

The driveway into the CALA site has been completed and parking issues on Lymington Bottom Road have been predominantly resolved. The lack of signage directing vehicles to/from the site or lorry movement information suggests no work is currently taking place on site.

In Boyneswood Road, William Lacy Group have started on the new entrance driveway. This has caused some chaos with both Enforcement and the case officer being asked to follow up. It should be noted that Road/ pavement obstruction should be reported to the police (101), rather than EHDC. It goes without saying that one needs to be certain which of the many sites building lorries are waiting to go to!

There has been much public outrage concerning the developer's request to change the conditions and timings of payment of the HCC part of the developer contributions. EHDC has to listen to these requests, however unpopular it may be, however I personally find it difficult to see how it will be possible to put the necessary infrastructure in place if the required payments are rescheduled still follow up. Again, whilst appreciating that WLG has not got started and are unlikely to complete work within the anticipated time frame, this is not a valid reason for revoking planning permission.

The Boyneswood bridge has made the newspaper and there have been a number of comments and complaints from users about road safety. I can only stress that this is temporary measure and we are still looking to have a separate footbridge. This will hopefully improve when the road and footway markings are complete. The initial chaos seems to have improved as people have begun to get used to the new priorities.

Yesterday I met with residents of Boyneswood Lane and Beechlands Road, all of who are impacted by the development to take place on land to the north of Boyneswood Lane. It was interesting understanding their perspective on the proposed site layout, concerns that I am happy to say are shared by the case officer, who I have been told will be asking the applicant to resubmit and alternative layout plan.

In other areas, the first new-style EHDC Full Council meeting included an interesting debate on the TAG Farnborough proposals. These appear to have the most significant impact on the Liphook and Grayshott areas of the district. The recent Development Policy Panel meeting reviewed EHDC's long-term plans for the

provision of traveller sites, and I am pleased to report that there are no additional sites lined up for this area.

16.128 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk explained the latest position regarding the Nat West and Nationwide accounts.

- a. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the expenditure against budget report to 30th September 2016.
- b. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Bank Reconciliation (as approved by Cllr Buckland) as at 30th September 2016.

16.129 MEDSTEAD PONDS

- a. **Five Ash Pond** - No further update
- b. **Village Pond Restoration.** Cllr Pullen outlined the current position:
 - i. CPRE Highly Commended award had been awarded to Medstead Village Pond;
 - ii. The work is in line with budget due to increased grants and other income. Specifically the S106 funding from Cala has provided around £35k for the Pond restoration and linked projects. This funding must be spent by August 2021 otherwise it has to be returned to the developer;
 - iii. Future work at the Pond was highlighted to include turfing, further planting and extending the path;
 - iv. Cllr Pullen requested a “wish list” of future but related projects and Councillors were asked to bring this to the next Full council meeting and an article was considered for the Medstead Times seeking suggestions.
- c. Council were advised that the Clerk and Cllr Fenwick had met with BT to discuss the positioning of a new broadband cabinet which BT wish to have located by the telegraph pole by the Village Pond being a suitable power supply for the box which will allow improved broadband speeds in the area. After discussion it was agreed by majority to allow the box to be located at the BT preferred site. A wayleave would be paid to the Council for this. The Clerk would respond back to BT on this basis.

Clerk

16.130 DEVOLUTION

Cllr Fenwick highlighted the recent meeting he had attended on future plan for devolution which outlined the merits of a combined authority.

16.131 COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

No reports were received.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40pm.

ChairmanDate.....