

Medstead Parish Council

Minutes of the **extraordinary Council Meeting** of Medstead Parish Council held in the Village Hall on **Wednesday 15th April 2015** at 7.00pm.

Present:

Councillors Deborah Jackson (Chairman), Roy Pullen (Vice-Chairman), Ken Kercher, Peter Buckland, Peter Fenwick, Jean Penny, Hans Taylor Mike Smith and Stan Whitcher. There were no members of the public present.

Also in attendance: Miss Katie Knowles, Clerk.

15.01 OPEN SESSION

Councillor Smith reported that only two volunteers had come forward for a Medstead Speed Watch scheme following the Council's advert in the Medstead Times. Since the discussion at the last meeting, the co-ordinator for the Four Marks Scheme had approached Councillor Smith to inform him that Four Marks intended to purchase their own speed indicator sign and would be pleased to team up with Medstead which is a positive step forward.

15.02 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies. All Councillors were present.

15.03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15.04 COUNCIL MINUTES

- The minutes of the meeting held on **17th March 2015** having been **previously circulated** were **proposed as a true record**, by Councillor Pullen and seconded by Councillor Kercher, and **were signed by the Chairman**.
- The following updates were received concerning the Minutes of the previous meeting:
 - Minute Ref: 14.75(b) – Councillor Kercher reported that the post box on Paice Lane had not been replaced to date by Royal Mail.

15.05 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that

- The Four Marks and Medstead Conservative Association wished to donate to the Parish Council a bench for the Village Green to mark the 90th Birthday of Maurice Johnson. The location on the Green and its installation was still to be confirmed.
- A small article had been prepared for the May edition of the Villager on the Annual Parish Meeting.

15.06 MEDSTEAD AND FOUR MARKS NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – PRE-SUBMISSION DOCUMENT

Councillor Pullen introduced the item setting out the process that had been undertaken by the Steering Committee to get the Neighbourhood Plan ready for the pre-submission stage. There are a number of small but important amendments regarding the detail on the maps which were explained to Members that are in the process of being actioned prior to circulation of the plan. The Parish Council are being asked to formally adopt the Neighbourhood Plan as the Pre-Submission Plan which has a six week consultation period. The Chairman proposed that the Medstead Parish Council formally adopt the Plan which was seconded by Councillor Fenwick. Councillors voted on the proposal by show of hands and there was a unanimous vote in favour of the proposal. It was

therefore **RESOLVED** that Medstead Parish Council adopt the Medstead and Four Marks Neighbourhood Plan and publish it for the purposes of undertaking statutory consultations prior to formal submission of the Plan to East Hampshire District Council.

The Chairman recorded her thanks to Councillor Kercher and Councillor Pullen for all their hard work and contribution to the Steering Group. Councillor Pullen also asked for the Council's thanks to be recorded for the huge contribution put in by the rest of the Steering Group - Nick Stenning, Frank Maloney, Steve Sensier (FMPC), Andy Hickman (FMPC) and Russell Prince-Wright.

Councillor Kercher drew attention to the District Council's proposed Pre-Submission Housing and Employment Allocations Plan which is currently out for consultation. He stated that despite the Council's previous representation, the District have continued to ignore the Medstead and Four Marks Neighbourhood Plan and have allocated sites in both Parishes. The documentation produced by the District Council in relation to the plan is contradictory and states that allocations will not be made in areas developing a Neighbourhood Plan only highlighting Alton and Bentley. Councillor Pullen read out the Council's previous submission and proposed that it is re-submitted, with some minor amendments. It was **RESOLVED** to re-submit the Council's previous submission on the District Council's proposed Pre-Submission Housing and Employment Allocation Plan.

15.07 VILLAGE POND RESTORATION

Councillor Taylor reported that further to the discussion at the last meeting work had been done on a risk assessment and discussions had taken place with RoSPA. Despite best efforts no more quotes had been obtained for the construction costs. Since then a local landowner, Mr Peter Charles, had approached Mrs Stevenson in the first instance and latterly Councillor Pullen, to offer to supply all the labour and machinery at no cost to the Council to construct the Village Pond. He had suggested a more traditional construction of clay and puddling and he would supply the clay. All the Parish Council would be asked to supply is the materials.

No detailed discussions have taken place with Mr Charles as yet. The Chairman expressed some concern about how the offer would be viewed by residents and outside organisations, a concern that was shared by Councillor Kercher. Councillor Pullen confirmed that Mr Charles had indicated in the initial discussion that he intended to submit a planning application for land at Trinity Hill (Marls Row). Councillor Pullen confirmed that he had informed Mr Charles that the Parish Council would always reserve the right to determine a planning application objectively.

Councillor Taylor and Councillor Pullen were at this stage seeking approval of the Council to:

- Engage in detailed discussions with Mr Charles,
- Consult the Engineer who designed the pond on the alternative construction method and
- Seek quotations for the cost of materials.

Councillor Fenwick proposed that Councillors Pullen and Taylor are approved to continue with their research into the most cost effective way to construct the pond which was **RESOLVED** by all.

The Chairman proposed that the Council approve the expenditure of £350 for a risk assessment report by RoSPA when the pond design has been finalised. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Fenwick. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the expenditure of £350 for a risk assessment. Councillor Buckland abstained from the show of hands.

As the last meeting of the Council prior the election, the Chairman thanked the Councillors for all their work during the year.

At the conclusion of the discussions the meeting was closed at 8.20pm

ChairmanDate.....