

FOUR MARKS PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Open Space Committee
Held on Wednesday 2nd November 2022 commencing at 7.00pm at The Benians Pavilion**

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Cllr Anne Tomlinson (Chair), Cllrs John Davis, Janet Foster and Reg Pullen
IN ATTENDANCE:	Jo Tsigarides (AEO) Sarah Goudie (EO) One member of the public
APOLOGIES:	None

22.105 OS APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

22.106 OS OPEN SESSION/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no items to raise under the Open Session, therefore the meeting commenced at 7.01pm and Standing Orders were applied.

22.107 OS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest declared.

22.108 OS COMMITTEE MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the Open Space Committee Meeting, previously circulated, held on Wednesday 5th October 2022 following proposal by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Foster and agreed by all Councillors as a true reflection of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

22.109 OS ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL

22.109.1 Nature boxes – to receive update

A District Councillor Community Grant application had been submitted to fund the cost of Tit boxes at the Recreation Ground, but the AEO had been informed that there may be insufficient funds to support the project. The Committee concluded that, if necessary, they would fund fifty percent of the total project which is being organised with the Cubs. It was suggested that the Environmental Group may contribute to the remaining costs and the AEO will approach them.

22.109.2 Environmental Group meeting

The Four Marks Village Environment Group met on the 26th October 2022. At this meeting, there was a discussion of the aims and objectives of the group, how effective communication with the wider community in the village can be achieved and ideas for future projects.

The AEO had advised the group that although County Councillor Kemp-Gee has confirmed that the grant initially obtained for the Greening Campaign can be used for general environmental projects, that the Greening Campaign organisers insist that if the pack is not followed specifically, that the 'Greening' logo cannot be used.

The next meeting is scheduled for the 24th November 2022, venue to be decided.

22.110 OS MAINTENANCE ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL

22.110.1 To approve the expenditure for the fly tipping removal.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to approve the cost of £1950 for the removal of the fly tipping at the Laurel site at the Recreation Ground, proposed by Cllr Tomlinson and seconded by Cllr Foster following on from the approval in principle at the Full Council meeting on 19th October 2022.

22.111 OS NON-URGENT ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL

22.111.1 To appoint a contractor for the Cemetery remedial works.

A list had been compiled following a recent full Cemetery inspection, of memorials that require remedial work to make them safe and comply with the Health and Safety obligations that the Council has as the burial ground owner. The tabled list is of the memorial repairs which need to be funded by the Parish Council due to there either being no next of kin details or an expiration of their fifty-year perpetuity.

The best method of making the memorials safe was discussed and the Committee concluded that especially in view of recent improvements to the area, full remedial works are appropriate. The burial fees will be reviewed for the next financial year to ensure that ongoing works in the Cemetery can be funded.

The Committee agreed, following an assurance that both contractors are NAMM registered and conform to BS8415, that contractor two should be awarded the works. The AEO advised that costs may vary slightly depending on whether responses are received from owners.

22.111.2 Tree Planting

22.111.2.1 To review tenders for the priority 2 tree inspection works

Following the Full Council meeting on Wednesday 19th October 2022, the priority one works had been awarded and booked in for the 26th November 2022. The AEO requested that the consideration of priority two works is deferred so that further quotes can be obtained, and the Committee agreed providing that this delay will allow for the works to be booked in before March 2023 which is the upper limit of the timescale advised in the tree report for priority two.

22.111.2.2 To review suggestions for a memorial tree – Jubilee Green

Following a review of the circulated options for the Queen Elizabeth II memorial tree at the Jubilee Gardens, the Committee decided to plant a Holm Oak. The AEO will arrange this.

22.111.2.3 To agree replacement tree – Station Gardens

Unfortunately, the Cherry tree which was damaged in 2021 has not survived and the Committee agreed to replace it with a Pear tree. The AEO will organise.

22.111.2.4 To discuss and agree response to EHDC tree planting information request

The Committee could not identify any Parish Council owned land that would be suitable for planting, it was suggested that the area of green space on the Pine Road junction might be suitable and the AEO will communicate this.

22.111.2.5 To discuss tree planting memorial request at Swelling Hill Pond

A request had been received for a memorial tree to be planted at Swelling Hill Pond and the Committee agreed in principle, favouring a replacement Weeping Willow. The EO will liaise with the requesting party.

22.112 OS To discuss and agree bench installations at the Recreation Ground

The benches for the Recreation Ground had been delivered and the Committee confirmed that they are happy for concrete to go at the base of the pegs for security.

22.113 OS AREA UPDATE AND REPORTS

22.113.1

To receive area update

Location	Action Required	Status	Notes
A31/Winchester Rd/Telegraph Lane	Planting	In progress	Ground planting completed 30/9/22. Laurel installation planned Nov 22.
Allotments	Fencing	Pending	Awaiting contractor date.
Badger Close	Boundary Encroachment	In progress	EO awaiting update
	Pine Road Area	In progress	Being considered by Estates Surveyor EHDC. AEO to feedback this as possible planting area.
Cemetery	Full Cemetery inspection	Completed	
	Remedial works	In progress	Contractor accepted.
	Replacement gate stops	Pending	AEO to organise
	Replacement bench	In progress	AEO to investigate further options – awaiting further options.
Lymington Bottom Green	Village Green registration	In progress	Awaiting TPOs.
	Wildflower area signs	In progress	Signs delivered – to agree 2023 installation. Booked 9 th November 2022.
	Remedial works required to slab under bench on bottom right-hand corner	In progress	
Oak Green parade	Flower bed maintenance	Ongoing	Contractor contacted 01/11/22 to do side flower beds
Recreation Ground	Cricket equipment	Pending	Inventory has been completed. AEO to be supplied with list for sale.
	Football pitch/club	Ongoing	Liaison with club on future use, hiring to others and any issues.
	Floodlights for training area	In progress	AEO to investigate
	MUGA – new basketball nets requested	Pending	AEO to organise

	Skate Park – new sign and painting	Pending	New sign in progress, painting to be completed after school holidays.
	Signage	On hold	On hold until 2023 except one sign for Bowls Club entrance. AEO to organise. 2 x fluted signs purchased for Bowls fence
	Replacement playground fencing/pedestrian walkway on football pitch/drainage	On Hold	Pending new facility proposals.
	Fly tipping at Laurel site near Scout Hut	In progress	Majority of works completed 3/11/22. Awaiting date for second visit.
	New bench provision for football pitch/cricket pitch	In progress	Delivered – installation Nov 22
	Circular bench at Jubilee Green	In progress	On order.
Climate change mitigation	Solar Panels at Benians Pavilion	Pending	Awaiting information from Benians Committee Chairman following site visit
	Nature boxes	Pending	AEO to liaise with environmental group re funding.
	Parish Trees	In progress	P1 trees booked for 26/11. Awaiting quotes for P2 trees.
	Area opposite Rivers (LBR)	In progress	EO to liaise with HCC on future maintenance
	Footpaths	Ongoing	
	Bus stop maintenance	Pending	To review – AEO to meet with Chairman.
	Swelling Hill Pond fencing	Completed	

22.114 OS FUTURE ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

22.114.1 Junior football club – initial enquiry

The AEO advised that a conversation taken place with the team organiser and they would like to use the practice pitch for outdoor training for an Under 10's team from March 2023 on a Friday evening from 6-7pm, with occasional friendly matches. Then from September 2023, they would like to use the area as a 'home' pitch for matches on a Saturday morning.

The Committee agreed to this in principle, with the following points to be agreed; an alternative training night due to an established sports club already using the space on a Friday evening, the exact goal requirements and confirmation of funding for these and maintenance of the pitch. The EO will contact them.

22.114.2 To note any additional items for future discussion

Cllr Pullen questioned when the grass cutting around the perimeter of the Recreation Ground areas will be completed. The AEO will liaise with the contractor and request that it is planned in.

Cllr Davis asked the EO to provide a brief summary of Open Space expenditure to date the day before each Committee meeting so that better informed decisions can be made.

There was a brief discussion about the cost of the Christmas lights and the EO confirmed that this now has a separate nominal code.

22.115 NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY 7th DECEMBER 2022

22.116 Meeting Closed at 8.18pm.