

**FOUR MARKS PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Open Space Committee  
Held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022 commencing at 8.00pm at The Benians Pavilion**

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

**22.117 OS APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**22.118 OS OPEN SESSION/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

District Councillor Tennyson informed the Committee about the condition of the fence at the perimeter of the cricket pitch which has been exposed following hedge cutting. The AEO was asked to investigate this further, obtain quotes to repair and liaise with the landowner of the neighbouring field. It was also noted that when completing maintenance, contractors should not enter this private field.

**There were no further items to raise under the Open Session, therefore the meeting commenced at 8.02pm and Standing Orders were applied.**

**22.119 OS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest declared.

**22.120 OS COMMITTEE MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the Open Space Committee Meeting, previously circulated, held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 following proposal by Cllr Foster, seconded by Cllr Davis and agreed by all Councillors as a true reflection of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

**22.121 OS ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**22.121.1 Heritage signs**

Cllr Hammond had submitted a request to the Committee regarding the restoration of two heritage fingerposts on the A31 with a proposal that if the Committee agree to organise the remedial works, the Festival Committee would fund the project subject to cost. The Committee were supportive of this and the AEO reported that contact had been made with the Countryside Access team to ascertain relevant ownership and permission. This matter will be progressed when a response has been received.

**22.121.2 Footway along football pitch**

The Committee had previously agreed to this in principle, but it was then put on hold pending the new community building project. It was suggested that regardless of any future building plans, that this is now revisited as a standalone project to offer safe passage along Uplands Lane to the pedestrians who are forced to use the access road to avoid the muddy and unsuitable terrain of the passing places.

The Committee considered various factors, concluding that they would like to pursue quotes for a footway

to go from the gate on the football pitch down to a point adjacent to the turning into the car park made from a suitable material that is hardwearing but also rural in appearance.

**22.121.3 Swelling Hill Pond works**

The EO reported on a recent, informative meeting at the pond with an aquatic management company. An indicative cost of circa £50000 was given to desilt an appropriate area, including site preparation and temporary rehousing of fish.

The Committee discussed preserving the pond in its current form for the benefit of wildlife and decided that they would like to pursue the maintenance programme that had been outlined. Funding options were considered with an agreement that the Finance and General Purposes Committee would review the cost at its next meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

**22.122 OS ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

**22.122.1 Priority two tree quotations**

The AEO provided a summary of the quotes that had been received for the priority two tree works and updated the Committee on the status of the priority one works.

Following a full discussion of the quotes provided, the Committee **RESOLVED** to award the priority two works to company one.

**22.122.2 Replacement Cemetery bench**

Following a review of the proposed benches, the Committee **RESOLVED** to proceed with option three, the Oak bench. The AEO was asked to make enquiries about whether this could be produced with curved arms if possible.

**22.122.3 Revised bus stop refurbishment quote.**

Following a debate regarding the benefits of refurbishment versus removal of panels, the Committee agreed to put this on hold until Spring 2023.

**22.123 OS AREA UPDATE AND REPORTS**

**22.123.1 To receive area update**

The AEO advised the Committee that in addition to the circulated report, that within the last week, there had been some offensive graffiti at the skate park which had been removed, that the lengthsman had completed weeding at Oak Green parade and that there is a meeting scheduled to try and find a solution to the surface water issue outside the florist.

Location	Action Required	Status	Notes
<b>A31/Winchester Rd/Telegraph Lane</b>	Planting	<b>Completed</b>	
<b>Allotments</b>	Fencing	Pending	Awaiting contractor date.
<b>Badger Close</b>	Boundary Encroachment	In progress	EO awaiting update
	Pine Road Area	In progress	Being considered by Estates Surveyor EHDC.
<b>Cemetery</b>	Full Cemetery inspection	<b>Completed</b>	
	Remedial works	In progress	Awaiting date.
	Replacement gate stops	Pending	Awaiting date

	Replacement bench	In progress	On order
<b>Lymington Bottom Green</b>	Village green	In progress	Awaiting TPOs. Village Green registration withdrawn.
	Wildflower area signs	In progress	Signs delivered – to agree 2023 installation.
<b>Oak Green parade</b>	Flower bed maintenance	Ongoing	Contractor appointed – to visit 9/12/22
	Surface water issue outside florist unit and broken slabs.	In progress	Awaiting quote
<b>Recreation Ground</b>	Cricket equipment	Pending	Inventory has been completed. Date has been arranged with interested party.
	Football pitch/club	Ongoing	Liaison with club on future use, hiring to others and any issues.
	Floodlights for training area	In progress	Enquiries in progress.
	Footway along football pitch	In progress	
	MUGA – new basketball nets requested	Pending	Awaiting installation.
	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. Fluted signs up at Bowls club fence.
	Fly tipping at Laurel site near Scout Hut	In progress	Awaiting final visit
	Circular bench at Jubilee Green	In progress	On order. Delivery after 19 <sup>th</sup> January.
	Fencing along the side of cricket pitch	In progress	

<b>Climate change mitigation</b>	Solar Panels at Benians Pavilion	Pending	Awaiting information from Benians Committee Chairman following site visit
	Nature boxes	Pending	Funding received – awaiting Cubs to make.
	Parish Trees	In progress	P1 trees completed.  P2 trees – planning permission in progress on tree at Scout hut. Awaiting contractor date.
	Area opposite Rivers (LBR)	In progress	HCC agreed to carry out annual maintenance
	Footpaths	Ongoing	
	Bus stop maintenance	<b>On hold</b>	

**22.124\_ OS FUTURE ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**22.124.1 Nature boxes – to receive update**

Following some uncertainty surrounding funding, the AEO had submitted a successful District Community Councillor grant application to meet the cost. A meeting has been arranged with the Cubs to organise the construction of the Tit boxes.

**22.124.2 Update on environmental group meeting**

The Four Marks Environmental Group met on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and have planned to meet on a monthly basis going forward. They are appealing for additional members and are getting ready to launch a dedicated Facebook page. They are planning to write an article in the Four Marks News introducing themselves to the Community.

**22.125 OS FUTURE ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**22.125.1 To note any additional items for future discussion**

The Committee agreed to a request for permission to source a handyman for ad hoc tasks.

**22.126 NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023**

**22.127 Meeting Closed at 8.53pm**