

FOUR MARKS PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council
Held on 19th March 2025 at the Village Hall, at 7pm**

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Cllrs Briggs, Smith, Coulson, Davies, Gebbett, Medhurst, McAllister, M Pullen, R Pullen, and Rymer,
STAFF:	Louise Steele, Locum Clerk
PUBLIC:	5 members of public
APOLOGIES:	None

25.36 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies all members being present.

25.37 OPEN SESSION – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resident one raised an issue about planning application 30800/013 -Land Rear Of, 131 Winchester Road, Four Marks, Alton, Hampshire. Cllr McAllister confirmed that new documents had been produced and that therefore the application is likely open again for public comments. Resident two asked for confirmation of the 2025/26 precept - £192,200.

25.38 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None.

25.39 FULL COUNCIL MINUTES

With all Councillors in agreement, it was **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 19th February 2025 as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

25.40 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Nothing to add.

25.41 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

District Councillor Day's report had been distributed to all Councillors prior to the meeting. District Councillor Richardson was present and reported that a number of things were in abeyance at the District Council pending more information on Local Government reorganisation.

25.42 COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE

25.42.01 To receive updates from Committee Chairman.

Cllr McAllister informed the meeting that the CIL Bid was submitted on Tuesday 18th March 2024

25.42.02 Upon the proposal of Cllr R Pullen, seconded by Cllr Davies, and with all Councillors in agreement it was **RESOLVED** to allocate any future CIL to the community building project.

25.42.03 Upon the proposal of Cllr R Pullen, seconded by Cllr Rymer, and with all Councillors in agreement it was agreed that project funding sources for ancillary parts on the process would be as follows:

- Perimeter rearrangement (fencing & protection during building project), movement of play items, upgrading and additional Open Spaces project to be funded by the parish council from budget to be allocated in 2026/27;
- Temporary accommodation for clubs (changing rooms and meeting room with bar) to be funded by the parish council from budget to be allocated in 2026/27; and
- Relocation of bar meeting room costs to be covered by the Benians association.

25.42.04 Upon the proposal of Cllr Medhurst, seconded by Cllr M Pullen, and with all Councillors in agreement it was **RESOLVED** to set up a working group under the Open Spaces Committee to prepare a costed proposal for the future layout of the playground to be delivered by September 2025; and

Upon the proposal of Cllr M Pullen, seconded by Cllr Coulson, and with all Councillors in agreement it was **RESOLVED** to set up a working group under the Community Facilities Committee to prepare

a costed proposal of temporary accommodation by September 2025.

25.42.05 Upon the proposal of Cllr R Pullen, seconded by Cllr Coulson, and with all Councillors in agreement it was **RESOLVED** to approve the action of the Assistant Clerk, under delegated authority on grounds of urgency, in consultation with the Chairman of the Community & Facilities Committee in submitting the CIL Bid to East Hampshire District Council on Tuesday 18th March 2025

25.43 OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

25.43.01 To note the Minutes of 5th March 2025 and receive updates.

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 5th March 2025 had not been circulated with the Council meeting papers. Cllr Gebbett gave a brief update on the meeting.

25.43.02 Repainting the Skate Park

Upon the proposal of Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Gebbett and with all Councillors in agreement, it was **RESOLVED** to accept the quote from Contractor 2 to carry out annual re-painting of all existing metal skate ramp units to include riding surfaces (at a cost of £5,288).

25.43.03 Open Space Contractor

Upon the proposal of Cllr M Pullen, seconded by Cllr Medhurst, and with all Councillors in agreement it was **RESOLVED** to award the Open Spaces contract to Contractor 1 at a price of £18,730 per year.

25.43.04 Multi-use of the Cricket Pitch

Upon the proposal of Cllr M Pullen, seconded by Cllr Briggs and by a majority vote it was **RESOLVED** to approve the multi-use of the cricket pitch ensuring that it is available for cricket, archery and football. Further, upon the proposal of Cllr M Pullen, seconded by Cllr Medhurst, and with all Councillors in agreement it was agreed that the Opens Space Committee should bring forward a policy document covering multi-use.

25.44 PLANNING COMMITTEE

25.44.01 To note updates of the Planning Committee

Cllr McAllister gave a brief update.

25.44.02 EHDC -25-0028-PA3Q2 Dell House Farm, Hawthorn Road, Four Marks, Alton, Hampshire GU34 3ER Application to determine if prior approval is required for a change of use of agricultural buildings to one larger dwelling house (Class C3) and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion – Upon the proposal of Cllr McAllister, seconded by Cllr R Pullen, and with all Councillors in agreement it was agreed that the parish council felt that prior approval was required.

25.44.03 EHDC -25-0028-PA3Q2 Cunningham Willis Lane, Four Marks, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 5AP Removal of agricultural occupancy condition 7.3 of planning ermission F27410/1 Upon the proposal of Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr R Pullen, and with all Councillors in agreement it was agreed that the parish council has no objection.

25.45 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

25.45.01 Move to a .GOV.UK domain.

Upon the proposal of Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Gebbett, and with all Councillors in agreement it was **RESOLVED** to accept the quote from Contractor 3 at a cost of £355 for year one and £455 a year thereafter..

25.46 OFFICER REPORT

25.46.01 Locum Clerk's report

The Locum Clerk confirmed that on this occasion she had nothing to report.

25.47 FINANCIAL ITEMS

25.47.01 To receive and approve the February 2025 payments.

Upon the proposal of Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Rymer, and with all Councillors in agreement, it was **RESOLVED** to approve the February 2025 payments.

25.47.02 To receive and authorise March 2025 payments to date.

Upon the proposal of Cllr R Pullen, seconded by Cllr Smith, and with all Councillors in agreement, it was **RESOLVED** to approve the March 2025 payments to date.

25.47.03 The bank balances were also noted by Councillors.

25.48 ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

25.48.01 Upon the proposal of Cllr Gebbett, seconded by Cllr Medhurst, and with all Councillors in agreement, it was **RESOLVED** to approve the ongoing agreement with Cold Control for a further two years

25.48.02 Upon the proposal of Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Briggs, and with all Councillors in agreement, it was **RESOLVED** to approve renewal of the alarm systems and fire alarm maintenance with Excel.

25.49. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

25.49.01 Upon the proposal of Cllr Cllr R Pullen, seconded by Cllr Smith and with all Councillors in agreement, it was **RESOLVED** to approve a donation of £100 to the South Central Ambulance Charity

25.49.02 A request to consider support for a Hampshire County Council CIL bid to improve Four Marks Byways 20 & 21 was declined..

25.50 TO NOTE EXTERNAL COMMITTEE AND AREA REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS (as applicable).

25.50.01 **Allotments** – Cllr Medhurst reported on a recent meeting of the allotment association

25.50.02 **Benians Committee** – Cllr Smith advised that a meeting had recently been held at which Cllr Mcallister gave a presentation regarding the proposed alterations to the building and the Committee were unanimous in their support of the proposal.

25.50.03 **Oak Green** - Cllr Briggs had nothing to report

25.50.04 **Village Hall** –Cllr R Pullen reported that the Chairman of the Village Hall was seriously ill in hospital and that the maintenance committee were controlling all aspects during his absence.

25.50.05 **Highways** –Cllr R Pullen reported that a meeting with highways had taken place recently and due to two resignations of staff previous items on the agenda were now delayed until the new incumbent had reviewed their projects. Both the Medstead School pavement project and all aspects of Five Ways were now delayed indefinitely. Cllr R Pullen had expressed his concerns regarding the delays and asked for an urgent review to take place and report back.

25.50.06 **EHAPTC** – Cllr R Pullen had nothing to report.

25.51 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

25.51.01 Parish Council Newsletter

There has been no action to date on a parish council newsletter and discussion indicated that to a certain extent the opportunity had been lost. The Locum Clerk agreed to collate Councillor's contributions into a report/newstetter to be share with residents at the Annual Parish Meeting on 30 April 2025. Councillors' contributions to be received by 2 April.

25.52 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting from this point in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 in respect of the confidential information to be discussed i.e. staffing matters which is prejudicial to the public interest.

25.53 STAFFING COMMITTEE

The meeting received a confidential oral report from the Chairman of the Staffing Committee. Upon the proposal of Cllr Gebbett, seconded by Cllr Biggs and by a majority vote it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk's full pay be extended to 12 August 2025. The position to be reviewed before the end of July 2025

25.54 **NEXT MEETING 16th APRIL 2025.**

25.55 **Meeting closed at 8.54pm.**