

**FOUR MARKS PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Four Marks Parish Council  
Held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at the Village Hall, at 7.00pm**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	<b>Cllrs Briggs, Smith, Davies, Gebbett, McAllister, Medhurst, M Pullen and R Pullen</b>
<b>STAFF:</b>	<b>Louise Steele, Locum Clerk</b>
<b>PUBLIC:</b>	<b>One member of the public being District Councillor Roland Richardson</b>
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	<b>Cllr Coulson</b>

- 26.17** **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  
Apologies were received from Cllr Coulson.
- 26.18** **OPEN SESSION – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**  
There was no public participation.
- 26.19** **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**  
No councillor made any declaration of interest.
- 26.20** **FULL COUNCIL MINUTES**  
Upon the proposal of Cllr Davies, seconded by Smith, and with all Councillors in agreement it was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Meeting of Council held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026.
- 26.21** **CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT**  
Cllr Briggs indicated that he had nothing to report.
- 26.22** **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT**  
District Councillor Richardson indicated that he had nothing to report.
- 26.23** **PLANNING COMMITTEE**
- 26.23.1** The draft minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 4 February 2026 were received.
- 26.23.2** [\*\*EHDC-25-1131-FUL\*\*](#) Pavilion Uplands Lane, Four Marks, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 5AF, Alterations and extensions to Benians Pavilion to provide improved **accommodation – The Council declined to comment because it is the applicant.**
- 26.23.3** Late Applications – one late application had been received but was deferred to the next meeting of the Planning Committee
- 26.23.4** Neighbourhood Plan Update – Cllr McAllister gave a brief update on the Neighbourhood Plan
- 26.24** **OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**
- 26.24.1** The draft minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 4 February 2026 were received.
- 26.24.2** An update on the Village Picnic 2026 was received and it was noted that the date of the picnic is 28 June 2026. Open Spaces Committee was asked to agree the date of the 2027 picnic as soon as possible.
- 26.25** **COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE**
- 26.25.1** The draft minutes of the Community Facilities Committee meeting held on 11 February 2026 were received.
- 26.24.2** It was noted that the Committee has initiated the G99 process to secure an increased electricity supply for the extended building. Upon the proposal of Cllr R Pullen, seconded by

Cllr Smith and with all councillors in agreement it was RESOLVED to approve the action taken by the Committee. Similarly the Committee had submitted revised plans and elevations to the planning authority; these had been circulated by email to all councillors before submission and upon the proposal of Cllr R Pullen, seconded by Cllr Medhurst and with all councillors in agreement it was RESOLVED to approve the action taken by the Committee in submitting the revised plans.

**26.26 STAFFING COMMITTEE**

**26.26.1** The draft minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 11 February 2026 were received.  
**26.26.2** Upon the proposal of Cllr R Pullen, seconded by Cllr Davies it was RESOLVED to adopt the following staffing policeis as recommended by the Staffing Committee.

- Equality and Diversity
- Absence Management
- Lone Worker
- Health and Safety in the Workplace
- Dignity at Work

**26.27 FINANCIAL ITEMS.**

**26.27.1** The financial items were deferred until the upcoming meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

**26.28 GRANT APPLICATION FOR DECISION.**

Upon the proposal of Cllr R Pullen, seconded by Cllr Briggs and with all councillors in agreement it was RESOLVED to award a grant of £215 to the Ropley History Network and Archive as a contribution to the costs of a four day excavation east of Swelling Hill Pond.

**26.29 MEMORIAL PERMIT**

Council reviewed a draft memorial permit document and agreed that it should be issued when granting consent for memorials in the Cemetery.

**26.30 RISK ASSESSMENT.**

The risk assessment previously considered in 19 November 2025 was considered and upon the proposal of Cllr R Pullen, seconded by Cllr Briggs and with all councillors in agreement it was RESOLVED to approve the risk assessment.

**26.31 INFRASTRUCTURE BUSINESS PLAN**

There was no further progress to report.

**26.32 ABCD ASSET MAPPING**

A brief oral update upon ABCD Asset Mapping was received.

**26.33 PARISH MEETINGS**

**26.33.1** The Locum Clerk gave an oral update about the requested extraordinary parish meeting explaining that the Hampshire County Council portfolio holder for Highways had been contacted and was expected to respond with dates when they would be available for a meeting.

**26.33.2** Council considered items for the agenda of the 2026 Parish Meeting to be held on 29 April 2026; items including Local Government Reorganisation, Benians Pavilion and Chairman's Awards were suggested.

**26.34 ITEMS REQUESTED BY COUNCILLORS**

**26.34.1** Yellow Fixed Speed Cameras – it was agreed that this should be added to the Infrastructure Business Plan but that at this time no other action should be taken.

**26.34.2** Highways Survey was discussed briefly

**26.35 DRAFT MEETING CALENDAR 2026/27**

A draft meeting calendar was considered; because 2027 will a parish council eledtion year the Locum Clerk was asked to change the date of the Annual Parish Meeting to 10 March 2027. Further the addition of dates for the Community Facilities Committee was requested.

**26.36 CORRESPONDENCE**

There was none.

**26.37 TO NOTE EXTERNAL COMMITTEE AND AREA REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**26.37.1 Allotments** –Cllr Davies asked that the Licence to Occupy be progressed and it was agreed, in the first instance to take that to a separate informal meeting.

**26.37.2 Benians Committee** – Cllr Smith reported that the Car Show will be on 31<sup>st</sup> May

**26.37.3 Oak Green** - Cllr Briggs reported that there were problems with the fence and plans needed to be checked to establish ownership.

**26.37.4 Village Hall** – it was reported that there will be a meeting next week

**26.37.5 Highways** – Cllrs R Pullen and Medhurst had nothing to report

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

**26.38 Next meeting: 18th March 2026**

**26.39 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, it was RESOLVED to exclude the public and press from a meeting in respect of confidential or sensitive information which is prejudicial to the public interest.

**26.40 STAFFING COMMITTEE**

**26.40.1** Upon the recommendation of the Staffing Committee and upon the proposal of Cllr R Pullen, seconded by Cllr Briggs and with all councillors in agreement it was RESOLVED to award two additional Spinal Column Points to a named member of staff.

**26.40.2** Upon the recommendation of the Staffing Committee and upon the proposal of Cllr R Pullen, seconded by Cllr Davies and with all councillors in agreement it was RESOLVED employ a named individual as a temporary clerk at 15 hours a week at SCP20 for three months.