



Medstead Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting Wednesday 13th July 2022.

Present: Cllrs. Deborah Jackson (Chair), Graham Bennell, Charles Clark, Georgy Fuzzard, Ken Kercher, Phil Quinlan & Mike (Jo) Smith.

Also in attendance: One member of the public & Peter Baston (Parish Clerk).

ACTION

22.087 OPEN SESSION

- i. Cllr Fuzzard asked if a new bolt could be fitted to the water cupboard in the Cemetery.
- ii. Cllr Mike (Jo) Smith asked if the undergrowth could be cleared from around the signs on the approach to Medstead, He agreed to identify the signs in question and would notify the Clerk who would then assign to the Parish Lengthsman to address on his next visit.
- iii. The member of the public enquired as to whether kissing gates could be considered for disabled access for mobility scooters. This was discussed by Council but it was agreed that whilst such gates could be a good idea in certain circumstances, due to the local terrain of the footpath network, it would be impractical.

Clerk

Cllr Mike (Jo)
Smith / Clerk

22.088 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs. Andrew Jackson, Mike (Ja) Smith & EHDC Councillors Diana Tennyson and Ingrid Thomas. Approved.

22.089 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

22.090 COUNCIL MINUTES

- i. The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on **1st June 2022** were proposed as a true record by Councillor Ken Kercher seconded by Councillor Mike (Ja) Smith and was signed by the Chairman.

ii. Matters Arising:

Minute #	Full Council Meeting Date	Action	Assigned to	Status	Comments
20.098(iii)	Sep-20	Signage at wildflower meadow.	Maintenance Committee	On Hold	To be considered at next Mtce Meeting
21.142 (iii)	Nov-21	All councillors to consider being a Trustee for the Mulcock Charity	All councillors	On Hold	Cllr Deborah Jackson reminded Councillors to give further thought about becoming a Trustee.
21.168(iii)	Dec-21	Cllr Mike (Ja) Smith to contact HCC about flashing sign at school.	Cllr Mike (Ja) Smith	Outstanding	Waiting for feedback from School
22.027 (v)	Mar-22	Cllr Mike (Ja) Smith to seek views on speed reduction	Cllr Mike (Ja) Smith	Outstanding	Email sent awaiting a reply
22.060 (iii)	May-22	F&GP Committee to consider new reserve for legal costs	F&GP Committee	Outstanding	Will be considered at October budget meeting
22.077 c (iii)	Jun-22	Further consideration of Medstead Green agreement	Full Council	Outstanding	On agenda for Full Council.
22.078		Cllr Clark to source bulb suppliers	Cllr Clark	Outstanding	

22.091 COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS

a. Planning Committee

i. Chairman's Report

At the last meeting on 1st June 2022, I advised that Cllr Quinlan and I were to attend a "Design Code Workshop" at Penns Place on 6th June 2022, in respect of the possible development of between 600 and 800 dwellings in the area known

as South Four Marks. This we did and following a presentation by a landowner who was the spokesperson for other landowners, in addition to himself and a consortium of developers, there was a lively discussion with various suggestions and ideas over a period of 90 minutes or so. These suggestions etc were then sent to the Four Marks Parish Clerk who kindly assembled them into a coherent format, to forward to EHDC.

On 14th June I had an informal meeting with Janet King and Steve Adams from Stand with Medstead Against Speculative Housing (SMASH). A free ranging discussion covered a wide range of planning related subjects. SMASH seems a well organised and motivated group and I have encouraged them to make their views on planning applications known to EHDC and to insure that as many Medstead residents also do the same.

On the 12th July I will be attending the Planning Appeal in respect of 58352, land north of Lower Park Farm, Abbey Road, Medstead and will be speaking to reiterate our views expressed over the last 3 years and to support our neighbouring Parishes of Bentworth and Beech and also the Wivelrod Rural Group.

Finally, I am advised that application 58788/001 for 112 houses behind Austen Fields is to go before EHDC Planning Comm on 27th July and I will be in touch with Ingrid Thomas and others to plan our 3 minutes!

Cllr Clark also outlined the new application which had been reviewed by Planning Committee at their earlier meeting for 9 house at Watercress Way.

ii. Planning Committee membership.

It was agreed that the membership of the Planning Committee be amended to become four councillors and the Standing Orders would be amended to reflect the proposed change.

iii. Medstead Parish Office / Pavilion Conversion

See 22.098 (ii) below.

b. Maintenance Committee

i. Chairman's Report.

No meeting has taken place.

ii. Medstead Green Enclosed Play Area Matting.

A pre meeting visit to the enclosed play area by all Council members was undertaken. Due to the uneven surface of the play area it was agreed that two signs be placed on the gates to read "Caution, Uneven Surface". It was further agreed that the complete surface would possibly need to be replaced and the Clerk was asked to source quotes, once EHDC had released availability to S106 funds which are in the process of still being audited.

Clerk

iii. Village Green Damage by Vehicle.

The Clerk had sought an estimate for installing dragons' teeth along the gap alongside Hussell Lane which had been indicatively quoted as being between

£500 and £600. Due to the value, two further quotations would need to be sourced and the Clerk was asked to take this forward.

Clerk

iv. **Tree Survey.**

A survey report had been received from the trees on parish council land which had identified a number of trees (mainly ash) which will need to be felled. It was agreed that Maintenance Committee would consider this further at their next meeting

Maintenance
Committee

c. **Finance and General Purposes (F&GP) Committee**

i. **Chairman's report**

Although there has been no meeting since last Full Council, F&GP members have been in contact regarding a number of issues that have arisen.

A recent encroachment onto the green by a vehicle over the low bank on Hussell Lane caused the Committee to request a quote for additional dragon's teeth. As the quote was over £500, action was deferred to the Maintenance Committee.

Despite receipt of notice of planning permission for the pavilion improvements, F&GP have been increasingly frustrated by EHDC once again (due to a seemingly never-ending audit) being unable to enter into the process of releasing S106 funds that they hold on our behalf. This does indeed highlight the benefits of the newer CIL process; however it is the older, time-limited S106 funds we need released.

Following the Fete Committee's sudden and unexpected reluctance to agree to the Parish Council's "Hirer Terms" for the Village Green (NB, this was a free-of-charge hire, the agreement being required to confirm understanding of responsibilities), F&GP will be reviewing the Hire Terms to consider whether any changes/ provisions are required for this type of event..

ii. **Appointment of Fourth Committee member**

Cllr Kercher offered to remain on the Committee and this was unanimously agreed by Council.

iii. **Medstead Village Hall Lease**

Further amendments had been made to the earlier draft, which had been agreed with the Medstead Village Hall Committee and were agreed by Medstead Parish Council. IT was further agreed that an invitation should be sent to the Medstead Village Hall Committee to sign the Agreement at the August 2022 Full Council meeting and the Clerk was asked to send an invitation to the MVH Committee.

Clerk /
Full
Council

iv. **Medstead Village Green Agreement (Cricket Club memorandum)**

Cllr Kercher had drafted a memorandum which was agreed by Council and would be sent to the Chair of Medstead Cricket Club for their approval. It was further agreed that F&GP would further review the original Village Green Agreement to customise for other local community events .

Clerk
F&GP
Committee

v. **S106 Funding.**

Council agreed that given there is a possibility that the enclosed play area may have to be closed on health & Safety grounds due to the uneven surface, there was an urgent requirement to secure S106 funding from EHDC for the project (see 22.091 b (ii) above). Given S106 funds are still subject to audit at EHDC, it was agreed that an urgent letter be sent to EHDC asking for a swift resolution to securing funding for the project in principle, prior to securing tenders for the work and a formal application for funding and the Clerk was asked to take this forward, copying in the EHDC Council leader and also the local MP.

Clerk

20.092 MEDSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN REPORT

It has been a busy month or so for celebrations...

Firstly, many congratulations to the volunteer team for the hard work that went into organising the Medstead celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – not even the cooler weather could deter the picnics and the younger members of the parish enjoying the wide range of activities laid on, or from collecting their commemorative mugs. It truly was a fitting way to end the extended holiday weekend at the start of June.

The Parish Council stand at last weekend's well-attended village fete generated interest with people dropping in to chat with Councillors. This year's display boards promoted the MPC website, the Pavilion Improvement Project, proposed footway improvements along Roe Down/s Road and the Wildflower Meadow. The display board showing the Medstead Footpaths/ Rights of Way had been updated to include information about reporting problems. This year we also included information about becoming a Parish Councillor and how to obtain a nomination pack for the 2023 local elections. Members of the public were also encouraged to consider joining the local Speed Watch team.

I am particularly grateful to Councillors for their help with setting up and taking the stand down, and for their stamina on a hot afternoon, engaging with the public on a wide range of issues from the pavilion and wildflower meadow, to planning issues (including the traveller site appeal) and overgrown hedges (to name just a few topics).

Finally, I would just remind Councillors of the Planning Appeal Hearing (proposed traveller site in Bentworth parish, but adjoining Medstead) being held next week (12-13th July) at Penns Place, where Cllr Clark will be making representation on behalf of the parish..

22.093 MEDSTEAD PARISH CLERK REPORT

General

- Sawscesapes have repaired play area gate.
- Grass area repaired on football pitch following the traveller fire.
- Tree survey undertaken. Report to be considered by Council.
- Liaised with Fete Committee over signing Green hire agreement.
- Contacted EHDC regarding (non)availability of S106 funding
- Receipt of planning approval from EHDC for Pavilion

Cemetery Activity

None.

Village Green Booking(s)

- Medstead Cricket Club. Between 23rd April and 11th September inclusive.
- Under 13 Football - Wednesday evenings 6pm to 8pm every week starting on the 31st August through to the 28th September. (5 weeks in total)
- Medstead Village Fete 9th July
- Medstead Rainbows 5th July

22.094 EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

No report had been received.

22.095 MEDSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL – GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE (GPC)

The Clerk had contacted Hampshire Assoc of Local Councils (HALC) regarding the status of Medstead PC's General Power of Competence, following the departure of two elected councillors in recent months.

HALC have confirmed that Medstead Parish Council can still claim to have GPC as the Council correctly fulfilled the eligibility criteria at the last election. Medstead PC can continue with any projects which have been started using GPC, although would not be able to start something new. This was noted by Council.

22.096 CORRESPONDENCE The following items were noted by Council.

- i. Animal Aid
- ii. EHDC Review of Polling Districts & Stations
- iii. EHDC Local Plan Consultation Notice
- iv. Farnborough Airport Noise Group
- v. Hampshire ALC – Annual General Meeting 2022
- vi. HCC Passenger Transport Consultation
- vii. Anne Robson Trust Helpline

22.097 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- i. The **income and expenditure account** for June 2022 was reviewed by Council and were approved.
- ii. The **bank reconciliation(s)** as at 31st May 2022 and 30th June 2022, having been checked by a non-signatory councillor were reviewed by Council and were approved.

22.098 S106/CIL FUNDED PROJECTS

- i. **Medstead Village Green.** No further update at present.
- ii. **Medstead Parish Office / Pavilion Expansion.** MPC have finally obtained planning approval in respect of the proposed modernisation of the Sports Pavilion and associated Parish Office. It was agreed that a detailed specification / building regulations be drafted and Cllr Clark would contact Hampshire Drawing Services to see if they were able to undertake this task.
- iii. **Footpath Link to Medstead School.** No further update at present. The Clerk was asked to seek an update from HCC.

Cllr Clark

Clerk

22.099 MEDSTEAD VILLAGE PONDS

- i. **Five Ash Pond.** The remaining chestnut fencing has now been installed by the contractor.
- ii. **Medstead Village Pond.**
The comments from the working group would be considered by Maintenance Committee at their next meeting

**Maintenance
Committee**

22.100 COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Medstead Village Hall.

Cllr Quinlan reported that following the Medstead Village Hall committee meeting on 31 May 22 at which the officers tendered their resignations a further Trustee meeting was held on 8 June 22 to elect new officers and to confirm the ongoing hall operations.

A final review of the draft Lease by MVH will be undertaken by the MVH Committee.

Defibrillator – spare batteries and additional CCTV was considered unnecessary and will not be progressed.

Apart from other operational matters email voting was proposed to sanction voting by email, in which a majority of all trustees would be required in order to pass a motion; this was unanimously voted in favour.

There were no further matters to discuss and the meeting was closed at 9.20pm.

Signed Chairman **Date.....**