



Medstead Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting – 10th January 2024.

Present: Cllrs. Deborah Jackson (Chair), Graham Bennell, Mark Brayford, Charles Clark, Ken Kercher, Frank Maloney, Gordon Mitchell & Phil Quinlan.

Also in attendance: Chair of Medstead Village Hall, & Peter Baston (Parish Clerk).

ACTION

24.001 OPEN SESSION

- i. Cllr Clark asked whether there had been any response from the charity interested in locating an aluminium recycling container at Medstead Village Hall car park. The Clerk confirmed that no further communication had been received.

24.002 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Mike Smith – Approved.

24.003 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

24.004 MEDSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

- i. The minutes of the meetings held on **13th December 2023** were proposed as true records by Councillor Clark seconded by Councillor Quinlan and were signed by the Chairman.
- ii. Matters arising:

Minute #	Full Council Meeting Date	Action	Assigned to	Status	Comments
23.058	May-23	Clerk to contact Nat West to open a new current account for the Wake Trust	Clerk	Pending	This would be taken forward by the new Clerk in due course.
23.146 (v)		Full Council to consider 2024 bulb planting in August 24	Full Council	Pending	To be considered in August 2024
23.150 (iii) c	Nov-23	Clerk to contact Playdale once S106 funding is agreed	Clerk	Pending	Waiting for a decision by EHDC
23.159 (ii)		Cllr Smith to apply for licence for SLR	Cllr Smith	Outstanding	
23.160 (iv)		Maintenance Committee to consider a suitable site for a mens shed	Mtce. Committee	Outstanding	
23.160 (iv)		Cllr Bennell to log on HCC Report a problem the issues identified with two footpaths	Cllr Bennell	Outstanding	
23.164 (ii)		Cllr Smith to construct a wooden housing for the new tap in Cemetery	Cllr Smith	Outstanding	
23.169 (ii) b	Dec-23	Clerk to apply for generic S106 funds for the Pavilion solar panels etc.	Clerk	Pending	Waiting for the quotations to allow an application to proceed.
23.169 (ii) c		Cllr Kercher to provide Pavilion utility costs plus disconnect the gas supply	Cllr Kercher	Outstanding	
23.170 (ii)		Clerk to ask the day work contractor to re install the fence at Five Ash Pond	Clerk	Outstanding	
23.172 (ii)		Cllr Smith to apply for the Speedwatch licence	Clerk	Outstanding	

For minute reference 23.146 (iv), regarding the 7.5tonne weight limit, whilst confirmation had been received that this was in hand at HCC, the action is still outstanding and the Clerk would monitor this issue.

Clerk

24.005 COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS

- i. **Planning Committee.**

a. Chairmans Report.

For the first time in some months a separate Planning Committee meeting taking place, rather than an item under Full Council meeting. The main item will undoubtedly be 25256/050, what I call Friars Oak 2, which effectively is an extension of the previous application, which was granted approval by EHDC last year.

The Draft Local Plan has now been published and I hope that Councillors have had the opportunity to dip into the 800 off pages. This Draft Plan was

discussed at some length by a joint meeting of the NPSG, SMASH, Fight4FourMarks and the Planning Chairs of MPC and FMPC.

ii. Maintenance Committee.

a. **Chairmans Report:** - No meeting has been held and nothing to report.

iii. Finance & General Purposes Committee.

a. **Chairmans Report.** No meeting since last Full Council, however I can confirm that we have received a grateful acknowledgement from the school following the Council's agreement to support the project to replace their play equipment.

Work is now fully underway on the pavilion upgrade and the payment structure has been agreed.

The new day work contractor has accepted our offer and the Clerk is liaising with him regarding day to day activities and invoicing.

b. S106 Application – Solar PV (Medstead Village Hall).

The Chair of Medstead Village Hall (MVH) outlined areas which Medstead Village Hall wish to take forward to improve the facilities by using S106 non-specific funding, being solar panels, Air Sourced Heat Pump (ASHP) and in due course, a hearing loop / accessible internal access.

To allow these projects to proceed, MVH require the Parish Council, as freeholder of the property, to approve the work as well as supporting these projects as a key stakeholder. Following discussion, this was unanimously agreed by the Council on both of these points.

c. Medstead Sports Club Agreement.

It was agreed that F&GP Committee would consider this issue at their next meeting. In addition, The Clerk offered to contact Sheffield PC who have a similar pavilion / parish office in the same building to see if a similar lease is in place.

F&GP Committee

Clerk

24.006 MEDSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN REPORT.

The Chair announced that due to changed personal circumstances, she intended to resign from the Parish Council at the April 2024 AGM. In addition, the Vice Chair also said that he too would be standing down at the same time and the Council were asked to consider standing for these two positions at the AGM. The process for electing two new councillors to fill these vacancies would commence in April 2024. The new Clerk would take this forward upon their appointment.

Clerk

24.007 MEDSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL CLERK / RFO REPORT

1. Generic S106 Funding applied for from EHDC for Play Equipment. Decision still awaited.
2. With funding received from the EHDC Councillor grant for a new notice board on Green, the new Board is being installed by the new day work contractor.
3. Trees will be planted on 15th January and likely to be delivered in early January although weather conditions have delayed this.

4. Advert and job specification for the new Parish Clerk and RFO with Medstead Parish Council, wef 1st April 2024 is being advertised on Indeed Recruitment, HALC and SALC web sites as well as the MPC web site.
5. New day work contractor appointed. Tasks to be allocated including notice board and fencing at Five Ash Pond.
6. Contacted Mulcock Charity regarding possible claim on their funds.
7. Business rate charge for the Pavilion has been received from EHDC.
8. Contacted Cllr Kemp-Gee again regarding 7.5 tonne weight limit. HE has sent this on to the relevant section in HCC to attend to.
9. Leave over Christmas / New Year period.

Cemetery Activity

Grant of Burial Rights x 1

Village Green Booking(s)

None

24.008 EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

It was noted that Cllr Nelson had resigned as an EHDC councillor and a by election had been called. No report had been received from the remaining EHDC councillors.

24.009 MEDSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL MATTERS

- i. **Income and expenditure report for December 2023.** These were agreed by Council.
- ii. **Bank reconciliation as at 31st December 2023.** These were agreed by Council.
- iii. **EHDC Strategic CIL Bidding Window.** This was noted by Council and F&GP Committee were asked to consider this at their next meeting.

**F&GP
Committee**

24.010 S106 / CIL FUNDED PROJECTS

- i. **Medstead Village Green.** No further update until the Spring.
- ii. **Medstead Parish Office.** Cllr Clark outlined the current progress on the build and highlighted an issue regarding the footings which depending on a soil test, may either need additional depth foundations, "rafting" or piling. The Working Group would meet on 15th January to consider the position further. Given there is likely to be an additional cost, it was agreed that funding be approved of up to £5k for any additional work, which would be covered by CIL funds held. Should the cost be in excess of £5k, then an extraordinary Full Council meeting be called to decide whether additional CIL funds should be allocated or whether the project specification be reviewed to cut back on certain expenditure.
- iii. **Medstead Primary School Play Area.** No further update following earlier communication on potential CIL funding
- iv. **Tree Planting.** This work will be undertaken following the tree planting plan in w/c 15th January
- v. **Medstead Pond.** T
No further update on the **village pond** restoration but the Working Group would be asked to provide an update to Council at the February meeting.
- vi. **Medstead Green Play Equipment.** A decision is still awaited from EDHC on the availability of the S106 funding.

**Pavilion
Working
Group**

**Pond
Working
Group**

- vii. **Cemetery Water Supply Extension.** The Clerk reported that water supply work had been completed and S106 funds had been received from EHDC which, along with EHDC Councillor grants, fully covered the project cost. It was noted that Cllr Smith would be constructing a wooden housing for the new tap and Cllr Maloney mentioned that SE Water are advertising a tap protector on their web site and the Clerk would make enquiries as to whether one would be suitable.

24.011 MEDSTEAD PONDS

- i. **Medstead Village Pond.** No further update.
- ii. **Five Ash Pond.** The Clerk has tasked the day work contractor to carry out the fencing work at Five Ash Pond.
- iii. **Soldridge Pond. Soldridge Pond.** The Clerk was asked to see if the fence around Soldridge Pond and life belt require any work. Clerk

24.012 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was noted by Council.

- i. **Community Partnership**
- ii. **EHDC Residents Survey**
- iii. **Hampshire Community Orchard Fund**
- iv. **Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan Consultation**
- v. **Hampshire County Council Waste Prevention Community Grant Fund**

24.013 MEDSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- i. **Medstead & Four Marks Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.** On Thursday 4th January a meeting was held at the FMVH to discuss the recently published Draft Local Plan. The meeting was chaired by Nick Stenning and included representatives from SMASH, Fight4FourMarks, FMPC, MPC and District Councillor Ilena Allsopp. The good news, at least as far as Draft Document is concerned, is that the proposed "Large Sites" originally planned for Four Marks and Medstead have been dropped. Alton, namely Neatham Farm, to the east of the A31 adjacent to the Holybourne roundabout has been identified as a "large site" with a proposed 1000 dwellings. There are other sites within the town area for an additional 700 houses. The DLP was discussed at length and the majority of those present were allocated tasks in connection with various parts of the plan, and to report back by Wednesday 12th January. Thoughts coming out of those tasks would be collated and were to form part of the response to EHDC. In the main it was agreed that EHDC had done a good but difficult job well. One might expect that developers and land owners may think otherwise and some "pushback" is to be expected.

On a more concerning note, the proposed site to the west of Longbourn Way has been included within the Plan has one to the west of Southtown Road, near the village centre.

Finally, it is with regret that I have to inform you that Nick Stenning, the long serving Chair of the NPSG has stood down with immediate effect. However I'm pleased to confirm the Paul McAllister has agreed to take over the Chair of the NPSG. Although Paul is a FMPC Councillor is Chair of their Planning Comm, it was felt that no conflict of interest existed. This has been confirmed by Neighbourhood Plan Locality Governance.

In closing can I ask you to put Monday 19th February 2024 in your diary. On that date there will be a Local Plan Consultation at the FMVH from 1430-2000, organised by EHDC and open to the public. I urge you attend and take the opportunity to raise any questions you may have with the Planning officers from EHDC.

- ii. **Speedwatch.** 8th January was our first time out as only 6 volunteers and many were away before and during Christmas and New year.
- iii. **Medstead Village Hall.** No further update.
- iv. **Medstead Sports Club.** No further update.

There were no further matters to discuss and the meeting was closed at 9.15pm

Signed Chairman

Date.....