

# CIVIC BUSINESS

## FOUR MARKS PARISH COUNCIL Parish News - Sarah Goudie, Parish Clerk

Whilst we have reached the closing date of our Community Award scheme, last minute entries will be accepted up until 7<sup>th</sup> March, so if you missed the deadline you still have a week to get your nominations in. It is great to see that we have so many people who do so much for our community.

**Recreation Ground** - The remedial tree works at the Recreation Ground have now been carried out, and the Parish Council have planted three new trees at the



top end of the play area as part of the Environmental improvement scheme. The road was closed for half a day to allow these works to safely take place, and the Parish Council would like to

thank anyone who was affected by the temporary closure of Uplands Lane for their patience. However, it was an eye opener as to how many people actually use the Recreation Ground to walk their dogs, and sadly a few of those stopped were not even aware of the lovely wooded areas and fields that we have surrounding the village as alternatives.

**Tree clearance at Weathermore Copse** - Although not Four Marks Parish, people have been expressing concern over the clearance of trees within Weathermore Copse. To put those people's mind at rest who do not use social media, this is a working commercial woodland of sweet chestnut coppice currently going through its 30 year management cycle. The purpose of the sweet chestnut coppice is to provide fencing materials for agricultural, equine and domestic use. The resulting stumps (stools) will produce new shoots starting the regeneration cycle over again.

**Annual Parish Meeting** - The Chairman has managed to entice some very interesting speakers to this year's Annual Parish Meeting on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April**, including Martin Shefford, Strategic Development Officer, Children's Services Department from Hampshire County Council. Martin is very involved in the proposals to enlarge Four Marks Primary School, and I am sure there are many local residents who will be very interested in what he has to say, and this will also be your opportunity to ask him or his team pertinent questions. We are also hoping to have a representative from CitizenAID to repeat their recent presentation from the Community Forum titled 'Run, Hide, Tell : Community Resilience in the Event of a Terror Attack or Other Emergencies which was eye opening and relevant to all. There will be the usual annual reports from the Chairman, District and County Councillors and the inaugural presentation of the Four Marks Community Award, but most importantly this is your opportunity to ask any questions on any Parish related topic. **SAVE THE DATE!**

## EAST HANTS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ingrid Thomas  
District Councillor

Very good news to begin with this month. Gladman - a company who put in a speculative planning application for 65 new homes in Lymington Bottom were refused by East Hants. Four Marks village worked together with Medstead to ensure this application was refused. Over 400 residents took the time to write planning policy based letters of objection. Both Parish Councils wrote strong objections and I spent considerable time with Planning Officers and together we all showed how well we work together. There is likely to be an appeal made by the applicant but we will work together with officers to get the appeal dismissed as the policy reasons for refusal were strong.

At the moment East Hants are beginning a review of the Local Plan which has to be reviewed every five years in order to stay up to date. It is most important that plans are up to date to ensure that the policies carry full weight. The Neighbourhood Plan group will also be looking to review the Neighbourhood Plan so that too stays up to date. Members of the group worked very hard to create our Neighbourhood Plan. If you would like to be involved as a volunteer and help towards maintaining the plan please contact the group.

I invited Simon Jenkins, Head of Planning and Victoria Potts, Planning Policy Team Manager to come and visit our villages and see for themselves what is happening here. I took them to see the current development sites and the chaos the various roadworks connected with them are causing. We went to look at the access problems of getting out of various side turnings off the A31, including the difficulty of using either of the bridges to get up to Medstead and school parking issues. I think they found it very useful to understand better the problems that we have and to look at the effects of the sites on the ground.

The Traffic Order for the roads around Four Marks school have recently been signed. This means that soon we will see the parking restrictions around the school revised so that enforcement action can be taken against people who park in the wrong places. There will be enforcement officers at the school when the changes are made and fines will be issued. Please think carefully about where you park when taking your children to either of our schools and don't endanger others by driving or parking badly. The pupils at Four Marks school will now be able to see that action has been taken after their great presentation on road safety.

I have been asked a couple of times what the job of District Councillors involves so thought I'd share what I've done this week. I'm very happy to expand on any of the meetings I've been to.

On Tuesday I went to a planning briefing which covered what the compliance team are doing

## CIVIC BUSINESS

throughout the district and discussed various issues on their case list. We also talked about how the work on the Local Plan review is progressing. That meeting was followed by the chairman's briefing for the next planning committee. The briefing allows the chairman and vice chairman to closely question officers about applications on the agenda. We also talk through who will speak on each of the applications and who will do the presentations. Finally, on Tuesday morning I met with Tracey Wood who is in charge of affordable housing, to get an update on what is happening and how the council is preparing for the Homelessness Act which will come into law in April.

On Tuesday evening it was our community forum in Alton, a very interesting meeting about how to plan for emergencies. These meetings are often interesting and open to all. On Wednesday evening I went to a training session.

On Thursday I met with the Service Head for Neighbourhoods to look at challenges and plans in her department which covers environmental health, animal welfare, cemeteries, licensing and traffic matters. That was followed by cabinet briefing where we discussed everything that had happened in the past week and what we were expecting to happen throughout the district in the near future. This was followed by an early evening cabinet meeting where the budget was agreed.

On Friday I went to the planning site visit for an application site in Ropley. Site visits are to enable members of the planning committee to look at where sites are and the landscape around the application site. Residents are also welcome to go along so that they can also ask questions, bearing in mind that no debate is possible before the actual committee meeting.

I've also answered many emails and tried to help the residents who have asked me questions or for help. I hope the above may interest you to consider standing as a Councillor next year!

As ever, if I can be of any assistance to you please contact me. 01420 561552 or email:  
[ingrid.thomas@easthants.gov.uk](mailto:ingrid.thomas@easthants.gov.uk)

### Parish Council Meetings



**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March**  
**7:30pm Planning Committee**  
**8:30pm Open Space Committee**  
**Village Hall**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March**  
**7:30pm Full Council Meeting**  
**Village Hall**

For Agendas and Minutes please go to the website  
(or contact the Clerk - 01420 768284)

[www.fourmarksvillage.co.uk](http://www.fourmarksvillage.co.uk)

### BURGLARY ALERT

**PC David Nops**

Dear residents, Please find the following update regarding burglaries in the area from the local police team. There have been at least 12 burglaries in the Alresford and Medstead area. These all occurred on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 and were daytime breaks.

We believe the suspects come from out of our area, and police have made one arrest at this time.

The suspects targeted houses which were detached properties with high hedges or fences at the front of the property so they would not be seen. They also appeared to focus on houses that were not alarmed and had no CCTV. On every occasion the master bedroom was searched for jewellery which is mainly what they took. Please find a safe place to hide jewellery but NOT in the bedroom. Luckily a business premises which had a new CCTV system installed has captured images of the possible suspects that have become a crucial part of the evidence for these offences.

Many towns and cities have good CCTV systems but it is something that is lacking in rural communities. CCTV has become a much more affordable option for many homeowners now and we would encourage people to consider installing cameras to help prevent crime and protect their property. For £29.99 small camera can be purchased for indoor use which can monitor sound and movement. You can also log in from your smart device to see what is happening within your house.

Technology is improving everyday with driveway alarms and house alarms that link to devices to allow you to monitor your property from anywhere in the world. Dashcam footage is now regularly viewed by the police and can be the difference between one person's word against another.

As shown with the latest burglaries your camera could help capture vital information which may lead to a prosecution. It may also help prevent a crime by just putting in some low level crime prevention.

If you want any further advice please visit the Hampshire Constabulary webpage or e-mail  
[david.nops@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:david.nops@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)

### FOUR MARKS LUNCH CLUB

Morven Hart & Jane Ward

The Club meets in the Village Hall at 1pm. on  
**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March**

To reserve your place, or if you are a regular and know you cannot attend, it is important that you call  
Morven 01420 562448 or Jane 01420 769435  
in advance or 01420 562343 (Village Hall) on the day.

**Absences without notice leads to waste.**

## Operation Sceptre - Risks of Carrying Knives

Carrying a knife may seem harmless, but for the Police it's a growing problem and it can have serious consequences. Even being with a group where one or more carry a knife is a big risk. If you are suspicious of your child or the group they are involved in, help us stop knife crime by intervening early. Make them aware of the risks.



Anyone with information about someone carrying a knife can contact the Police on 101. Alternatively, call Crimestoppers anonymously on

0800 555 111. You can find more details about how to chat to your children about this subject or report concerns anonymously here:

<http://noknivesbetterlives.com/>

## Flight Ticket Fraud

Fraudsters are targeting individuals who are looking for cheap flights to African nations and the Middle East, particularly in time for popular public and religious holidays. Victims have reported booking tickets via websites or a popular ticket broker, only to discover that after payment via bank transfer or electronic wire transfer, the tickets/booking references received are counterfeit. In some cases, all subsequent communications have been severed.

### Prevention Advice:

- Check any company website thoroughly. There should be a valid landline phone number and a full postal address so that the company can be contacted.
- Check whether the company is a member of a recognised trade body such as ABTA or ATOL. You can verify membership of ABTA online, at [www.abta.com](http://www.abta.com).
- Do a thorough online search to check the company's credentials. Look for any negative reviews or forum posts by previous customers online.
- Only pay by credit or debit card, rather than bank transfer.

## Phantom Debt Fraud

Individuals have reported being cold-called by someone claiming to be a debt collector, bailiff or other type of enforcement agent. The fraudster may claim to be working under instruction of a court, business or other body and suggest they are recovering funds for a debt (which probably doesn't exist). The fraudsters are requesting payment, sometimes by bank transfer and if refused, they threaten to visit homes or workplaces to recover the supposed debt that is owed. In some cases, the victim is also threatened with arrest. From reports Action Fraud has received, this type of fraud is presently occurring throughout the UK.

There are key differences between entities who seek to settle debts or outstanding fees in England and Wales. These differences range from the type of debt they will enforce to the legal powers they possess. To learn more, take a look at helpful information and links on the *Step Change Debt Charity* website; <https://www.stepchange.org/debt-info/debt-collection/bailiffs-and-debt-collectors-differences.aspx>

If you know you have a debt, keep in regular contact with your creditor and be sure to establish the debt type at the earliest opportunity if you are not aware. This will help you to understand who might be in contact with you regarding any repayments or arrears.

## Police Neighbourhood Team

Our PCSO for Four Marks & Medstead is Matthew Sheppard who, with PC Kelly, are our neighbourhood team to contact for advice or to report a problem.

### In an emergency always ring 999

Call 101 for general enquiries, non-emergency anti-social behaviour, community safety advice, information and action or to report a crime when it is not an emergency. Also call this number to contact PC Kelly or PCSO Sheppard or email them at [peter.kelly@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:peter.kelly@hampshire.pnn.police.uk) or [matthew.sheppard@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:matthew.sheppard@hampshire.pnn.police.uk) as appropriate.

Calls cost a flat rate of 15p.

Compiled by Dennis Bignell



## Letters to the Editor

Letters on topics about Four Marks, or likely to be of interest to NEWS readers are always welcome. Please write to The Editor or email [editor@fourmarksnews.co.uk](mailto:editor@fourmarksnews.co.uk) and include your name and address (although the address will be omitted from letters printed).

## Holly Bush Tea Rooms & Fairview - Kevin Flanagan

I wonder if anyone can help with my queries? I am trying to find the location of two buildings which once stood in Four Marks.

1) Holly Bush Tea Rooms - certainly operated in 1931.

2) Fairview - described as a small double-fronted house on main Winchester Road. May have operated as tea rooms in mid 1930's,

I would love to know when these buildings were demolished and what occupies the site today. If any photos of these houses exist and can be shared, that would be great!

*I have Kevin's details on file so if you can provide any information and/or photos please contact me - Editor*

### A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

This year's Village Picnic, organised by COGS, will be held on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June.

# **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**VENUE: FOUR MARKS VILLAGE HALL**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2018**  
**7.30pm - Refreshments from 7.00pm**

## **SPEAKERS:**

**Martin Shefferd**

**Children's Services Department, Hampshire County Council**

*Local education and planned future extension to Four Marks School."*

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**Erica Chisholm, Rebecca Mundy, and Mark Wood**  
**Hampshire County Council, EHDC & Hampshire Fire & Rescue**

**"RUN, HIDE, TELL: COMMUNITY RESILIENCE IN THE EVENT OF A TERROR  
ATTACK OR OTHER EMERGENCIES"**

Do you have a household emergency plan?  
What would you do in the event of a terror attack?  
You cannot afford to miss this highly useful and informative talk

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THE MEETING WILL INCLUDE ANNUAL REPORTS FROM:

THE CHAIRMAN, RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER  
DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

**THE PRESENTATION OF:**  
**"Four Marks Community Award"**

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

For more information please contact:

FOUR MARKS PARISH COUNCIL  
Unit 32, Lymington Barns, Lymington Bottom Road, Medstead, Hants GU34 5EW  
Tel: 01420 768284    clerk@fourmarkspc.co.uk    www.fourmarksvillage.co.uk

**On 5<sup>th</sup> March 1936** The Spitfire made its first test flight from Eastleigh, Southampton. Powered by a Rolls-Royce Merlin engine the aircraft entered service with the Royal Air Force during the next two years.

**On 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1969** Concorde, the Anglo-French supersonic airline, roared into the skies on its maiden flight. The aircraft travelled at twice the speed of sound.

# COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

## WATERCRESS MEDICAL GROUP

**Louise Webb, Deputy Practice Manager**

[www.watercressmedical.co.uk](http://www.watercressmedical.co.uk)

### Surgery Opening Times

Monday to Friday 8am - 6:30pm

(Tuesday to Friday 7am - 8am **pre-booked appointments only**)

### Dispensary Opening Times

Monday to Friday 8:30 am - midday & 3pm - 6:30pm

01420 562922; Fax: 01420 562923; Out of Hours 111.

**New Website and Facebook page.** - The website for the surgery has now been updated and re-launched. ([www.watercressmedical.co.uk](http://www.watercressmedical.co.uk)) There is a link to our new Facebook page which gives all the latest news and information.

**Staff Vacancy** - We are currently looking to recruit a Nurse Practitioner to assist the GPs in the morning clinics. Anyone expressing an interest in this post should contact Louise Webb at the surgery.

**Charity Book Case** - Our charity book case is very popular with our patients and is a great success in terms of fundraising. In January we raised money for the local Food bank service and during February our nominated charity was the Winchester Hospice. In March we will be supporting Sport Relief.

**Appropriate Appointment Protocol - Active Signposting** - Our Receptionists have recently completed further extensive training on booking the most appropriate appointment for our patient's needs. To ensure this is done correctly, they will need to ask a couple of questions when first speaking to patients. Please rest assured, all information given to our staff remains confidential at all times.

**Repeat Medication Orders** - Please note, under NHS guidelines, we are now only able to dispense one month's supply of medication per order.

**Zero Tolerance Policy** - There has been a general increase recently of aggressive and abusive behaviour directed towards our staff. Any behaviour, verbal or physical, which causes staff to feel uncomfortable, embarrassed or threatened, is totally unacceptable. In the event of any instances of the above behaviour the Police may be called and the patient may immediately be de-registered from this practice. Please note that this policy includes all cases of verbal abuse, both face to face and on the telephone. The surgery will shortly be upgrading the telephone system to include recording of calls to protect both patients and staff.

## FACEBOOK

Four Marks News now has a presence on Facebook. It is a closed group for people to post comments, articles and photographs about Four Marks News and the village. We can also alert members to breaking news. Posted items may appear in the magazine.

Search for FOUR MARKS NEWS to join.

The Editor is moderator.



## BOUNDARIES SURGERY

**Kevin Evans - Practice Manager**

[www.boundaries-surgery.com](http://www.boundaries-surgery.com)

01420 562153

### Surgery Opening Times

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8am-6:30pm  
Wednesday 8am-7:45pm; Friday 7:30am-6:30pm

**Online Repeat Medication and IT issues** - If you are on regular treatment, the doctor will give you a repeat prescription form. Please allow two full working days (5 full working days for an Alton pharmacy) to allow for your prescription to be written and checked and dispensed. Items that we dispense which need to be specially ordered may take a few days.

We accept written requests for repeat prescriptions, preferably using the order form issued with your prescription. We also take requests over the internet using our [appointments online service](#). Please note that we are unable to take telephone requests for repeat prescriptions as the volume of calls relating to prescriptions can make it difficult for patients trying to get through to make appointments or needing medical advice. We are currently changing our computer system, and would be grateful for your patience, if you come across a problem. If any individuals have difficulties with finding a suitable method of ordering, please contact Kevin Evans, the Practice Manager.

The doctor will need to see you at intervals to review your medical condition. This is indicated by the date on your repeat prescription order slip - please make an appointment for review before this date.

It is our usual practice to issue prescriptions for a one month supply of medication. In special circumstances where you require a different amount than usual, please let us know why so we can issue extra prescriptions (e.g. an extra month to cover a holiday). If you want your prescription to be sent to a particular pharmacy, please mark this on the repeat request form.

**PRESCRIPTIONS AND MEDICATION MAY NOT BE COLLECTED BY ANYONE UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE**

**The A31 Community Wellbeing Hub** - is an initiative by five General Practice Surgeries, all linked by the A31 (we are one of the five), to enable their patient communities access to a space to interact with a variety of organisations that can assist in providing specialist support or useful information across a wide range of topics.

The Hub will be run on a drop in basis where people can find out more or share experiences or knowledge in a relaxed and social atmosphere, with a cuppa!

For more information please go to <https://www.a31communitywellbeinghub.com/>

# COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

**Open Surgery** - The demands on our Open Surgery continue to increase which had resulted in lengthier waiting times and a higher demand for parking in our small car park. In order to alleviate these growing pressures we have expanded our telephone triage system which has resulted in all patients being able to discuss their problem with a GP prior to being seen.

If you have an urgent condition that you feel needs to be reviewed that day then please phone reception between 08:30 and 10:00, providing an overview of what the problem is to the receptionist. The GP will then phone you back, as soon as possible, to discuss further and arrange an appointment later in the morning, if deemed appropriate. Please ensure that you remain obtainable on the number you wish to be phoned back on and that when the GP calls the telephone number will be withheld.

Remember that both Chawton Park Surgery or Alton Health Centre offer a minor injuries walk in service which is offered between 8am and 6.30pm to any patient who is able to walk and who has had an accident during the last 24 hours over weekdays or 48 hours over weekends. They are able to take X-Rays and stitch and dress wounds.

**Patient Participation Group Meeting** - If you would like to join our Patient Participation Group, then please see details of our next meeting which is on the Boundaries Surgery webpage, all are welcome.

## ROTARY NOTES Roy Roberts

### Supporting those who serve...

A retired senior Army officer gave a recent meeting of Four Marks and Medstead Rotary an insight into the many ways the Services look after soldiers, veterans and their families.

Lt Col Paul Duncan, who lives in Four Marks, served in the Royal Logistic Corps (RLC) and for the last five years has been responsible for a programme of support for former servicemen and their families. As



the RLC's Controller of Benevolence, he administers a scheme which handles more than 2,000 cases of hardship and real need each year. His role

is to ensure that help is delivered appropriately and targeted at those in "need, hardship or distress."

Grants are awarded from the RLC's Benevolence Fund, which has been built up over many years through the 'One Day's Pay Scheme' – a scheme where serving soldiers voluntarily donate each year a

day's pay to be used for benevolent purposes for veterans and their families.

Paul explained how the various Service charities – such as the Royal British Legion, SSAFA, The Forces Charity, The Soldiers Charity and Help for Heroes – all play a vital role in this field by supplementing the RLC's initial grant in many cases, and who work with all the military benevolence funds to support both young and old veterans. Help can be given in the form of grants for specialist disabled equipment and fittings, furniture or domestic appliances.

Rotary President Sally Duncan also explained about the welfare role of SSAFA with currently-serving military families, providing midwives, district nurses and social workers to British military units worldwide. She said, "Their role is crucial to the caring side of military life – it is not so much a financial support role, but a very important human one."

### Strictly Come Dancing...

It's an occasion not to be missed – the annual Barn Dance 'Ceilidh 2018' organised by Four Marks and Medstead Rotary. The Bursledon Village Band will be providing a lively sound, and it all gets under way at Medstead Village Hall on Saturday March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm for 7.30pm. There are still a few



tickets available from Paul Smy on 07974 203708 or email [smallpii@hotmail.com](mailto:smallpii@hotmail.com). Tickets cost £15 and include a ploughman's supper. There will be a cash bar available, as well as a raffle and a champagne prize draw. Contact Paul now to grab the last few tickets.



In January we held our usual short AGM followed by a General Knowledge Quiz. We decided to slightly increase the annual subscription to £25 for family membership using most of this for our speakers.

In February Jack Wilson returns to us to talk about Captain Cook. The man behind the headlines and interesting facts apart from his discovery of Australia!

In March Emma Pidduck (one of our members) will talk to us about the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts especially in relation to small boat owners and users. All visitors welcome.