

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

Dog Fouling - I know this is like playing an old record over and over, but the situation does not improve and with the issues concerning the children's play area, the Parish Council are having to take quite dramatic action to try and reduce the amount of dog fouling at the Recreation Ground. Since my report last month and the night time locking of the children's play area, at least the dog fouling within the children's play area seems to have stopped. However, this is inconveniencing those users who arrive earlier than 9.00am and once the evenings get lighter it seems unfair to restrict the use. It was agreed at last month's open space meeting that we have no option but to install CCTV around the Recreation Ground and this will now be happening in the next couple of months. The CCTV will cover the cricket pitch, children's play area and football pitch.

The committee did offer a reprieve on imposing a Dogs on Leads policy at the Recreation Ground, but this will happen in the future if there is not an improvement in the situation. EHDC wardens are now carrying fine ticketing machines, and if anyone is caught not picking up their dog's waste, or do not having the means to pick it up, expect to be fined.

Cemetery - One of the most difficult set of rules and regulations that the Parish Council must enforce are those at the Cemetery. In the past, only very occasionally were items found on graves that were against regulations and these were either removed or the next of kin were contacted and asked for them to be removed. Recently it seems a precedent has been set and some of the newer plots are being adorned with an assortment of memorabilia, the majority of which contravene the Winchester Diocese Burial Regulations. Last month several glass items were found smashed and had to be removed, most likely due to the inclement weather. These items are prohibited for the safety of visitors, wildlife and the contractors who maintain the Cemetery. The other concern is where grave plots are being edged with wooden and plastic edging or covered in flints and stones, these break the equipment and make it extremely hard for the cemetery to be mowed and appropriately maintained.

The Burial Regulations are on the Parish Council website for reference, and available at the Parish Office, however due to the lack of awareness of the rules and regulations it has been agreed that a formal notice will be placed in the Cemetery for future reference. I have taken the opportunity to attach a copy of the notice that will be installed at the Cemetery in this month's edition for future reference.

The Council are extremely aware of the sensitivity surrounding his issue, and to avoid unnecessary upset, hope this article will highlight the concerns and the reasons why these items are not appropriate.

This month the Parish Council will be organising a clear-up session in the Cemetery, anything that is broken, or has deteriorated will be removed. Further maintenance and pruning where necessary will be carried out, there will be some new hedge planting and the large mound of spoil will be removed then reseeded and returned to grass.

Elections - On Friday 22nd March, the election period begins, and at the time of going to press, the election for both Parish and District Councillors will be held on 2nd May 2019. All Councillors resign and must restand if they wish to continue serving the Community. If there are more than 10 nominations received, then there will be a local election, and Four Marks will have a fully elected Council. If you care about your community and think you can make a difference or bring a specific skill to the Council, and would like further details, EHDC are holding a drop-in session at Penns Place between 6pm and 8pm on Wednesday 6th March where you can find out anything you need to know about becoming a Councillor. Nomination forms will also be held at the Parish Office, but please remember nomination forms must be handed in at EHDC in person, they cannot be posted or emailed.

As always, if you need help or advice on anything Parish related then please contact me at the Parish Office.

EAST HANTS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ingrid Thomas
District Councillor

I was very pleased to be at the opening of the new Post Office counter in the Co-op in Four Marks. Derek Seaton, formerly a Parish Councillor, has campaigned for a Post Office to reopen in Four Marks of many years, probably since the last one closed, so it was very fitting that he should cut the ribbon to open the counter. Derek has encouraged and reminded me, Mark Kemp Gee and others to keep writing and trying to reach the goal of a post office reopening, it rather proves the old adage that one should not give up! We have been assured that there is enough trade for both the Four Marks and Medstead Post Offices to thrive so let's all support both businesses.

Another good news story is the refusal of the planning application in Lymington Bottom for 65 houses. It would be very surprising if this time the land agents do not appeal. I am told by officers at Easthants that the five-year housing land supply is solid and that the reasons for refusal will stand up to appeal scrutiny. As a community I feel we must all be ready to support the officers and ensure the appeal is dismissed, so more letters may need to be written, it's a very long process! There is currently a delay of several months for appeals to be heard by the Planning Inspectorate so I would not expect a date for the appeal to be before summer. To read the officer's report please go to the East Hants web site and follow

CIVIC BUSINESS

the links through to the planning search section the application is number 56082/003. There are now many examples of applications being refused by East Hants officers and then also refused at appeal.

The consultation on the Local Plan is now underway, this is important to us all as it will determine what is developed where in the district for the next years. It is worth restating that land is offered by landowners – East Hants as the planning authority does not own any of the land. Please read the local plan documents or attend one of the drop-in sessions so that you can see what is proposed and have your say on the proposals. All the drop-in sessions are the same so you can attend any one. If you would like to speak to me about any of the proposals, please contact me. I spoke at the Putting Club recently and am very happy to come to speak to other groups.

In headline terms a site for housing is suggested in Four Marks but not to be developed until after 2032 for approx.160 homes opposite the Travel Lodge. Phasing like this is now allowed within local plans (it wasn't previously but planning law has changed) and this timescale should give us breathing space to ensure all our new residents are properly absorbed into the community. There are no proposed sites in Medstead.

More controversially there are three gypsy sites offered in Four Marks, two of which are extensions of existing sites and one a new site for two pitches in Alton Lane. Applications have already been put in for two of these sites so are currently going through the planning application process as well as the local plan process. Again, if you would like to comment on any applications go to the East Hants website and follow through to the search and comment on applications part of the planning section.

Residents liaison meetings have been held for both the Bellway site at Friars Oak and the Bargate site in Beechlands road over the last couple of weeks. Both the site managers' report that they are making good progress and expect to be finished during the summer. There have been lots of complaints about noise and general lack of consideration to neighbours recently so hopefully the end is in sight for those who live close by.

I was very shocked by the Four Marks Parish Clerk's report last month on the amount of dog fouling that has been going on locally. East Hants has a zero-tolerance policy towards litter dropping and dog fouling that has until recently been mainly enforced in the towns. New ticket machines have been purchased and additional officers trained to use them, so please if you do not pick up after your dog expect to receive a ticket that will cost you £50. It should not need the threat of fines to ensure that dog fouling which can do so much harm to children and other recreation ground users is stopped. Blinding a child is a very high price to pay for not picking up after your dog, as

for allowing dogs into the fenced play area despite the notices and gate..... well.....

In these we villages care very much about trees, and residents get very upset every time the chain saws are out removing trees that are so much part of our landscape. So, I am off to a course on Ash Die Back, the horrible disease that is causing so much damage. There is also a course which is open to residents to teach people about the value of trees and how Tree Protection Orders work. If you would like to join the course, please contact me.

Finally, you will probably have seen by now that East Hants are keeping their part of the council tax the same this year as last. This is possible because the council has used other forms of income and so no services will be cut.

As ever if I can be of assistance to you on any East Hants matters please contact me. 01420 561552 or email: ingrid.thomas@easthants.gov.uk.

Four Marks Cemetery

The Cemetery is owned and maintained by Four Marks Parish Council

In respect of all who visit the Cemetery please adhere to the following statutory regulations:

- ❖ All memorial stones, and inscriptions, must be approved by the Parish Council.
- ❖ **No** stones, gravel, flint or similar coverings are permitted due to damage to maintenance equipment.
- ❖ **No** kerbstones, edging or fencing are permitted around any grave or ashes plot.
- ❖ **No** glass vases or similar items, as these can be broken or shatter in frosty conditions.
- ❖ **No** wind-chimes, lights or other mementoes that will infringe on the peaceful tranquility or rural environment of the cemetery.
- ❖ **No** other mementoes which will deteriorate over time (e.g. Soft toys, balloons, beer cans).
- ❖ A memorial in the form of a flower vase may be permitted. The vase shall not exceed 12 in height or width.
- ❖ No more than one memorial can be erected on any one burial grave or ashes plot.
- ❖ Small plants or shrubs can be planted on the interment area; however, the growth height must not exceed 2ft.
- ❖ Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times.

Tributes and mementoes will be temporarily permitted following the burial for a period of up to three months, and on anniversaries for the period of two weeks, after that time the Parish Council reserve the right to remove any items that contravene the above regulations.

For further information or for full details of the Burial Ground Regulations please contact:

The Parish Clerk, Parish Office, Uplands Lane, Four Marks, GU34 5AF

Clerk@fourmarkspc.co.uk; 01402 768284;
www.fourmarksvillage.co.uk



BEING A PARISH COUNCILLOR

WHO ME? YES YOU!

2019 Local Council Elections

Want to do something positive?

Help make a difference by influencing decisions that affect your community?

Then stand for election to become a Councillor in your Parish!



Are you concerned about your local area?

Do you want to represent the views of local people?

Do you want to contribute your business or personal skills and expertise?

Are you passionate about services provided to your local community?

FOUR MARKS PARISH COUNCIL

Uplands Lane
Four Marks
Hampshire GU34 5AF

Who is eligible?

Any person over the age of 18 who is a citizen of the United Kingdom, The European Community, or the Commonwealth can be a Councillor if they are an elector in, work in, live in or live within three miles of the area of the local Council.

What will I do if elected?

- ❖ Raise matters that the Council can consider and formally decide to take action about at meetings
- ❖ Attend Council meetings
- ❖ Make informed contributions which influence the debate on the business that needs to be decided at those meetings
- ❖ Participate in the Council's decision making process, which in itself is subject to strict rules and guidelines
- ❖ Represent the Council externally

Key Points

- ❖ A Councillor's normal term of office is 4 years
- ❖ He/She is the holder of a Public Office and not a volunteer
- ❖ They can receive expenses for their role
- ❖ The main job of a councillor is to participate in the collective decision making processes of the Council
- ❖ He/She has no authority to make decisions about Council business on their own.
- ❖ A Local Council may arrange insurance cover to indemnify its councillors against liability resulting from them being representatives of the Council
- ❖ A councillor's financial and certain other interests in Council business must be transparent
- ❖ He/she is subject to obligations set out in the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council
- ❖ Information about councillors is available in the Council's publication scheme
- ❖ The first business of the Council's annual meeting is the election of its Chairman.
- ❖ Most Councils appoint a Vice Chairman, but this is optional
- ❖ The normal term of office for the Chairman and Vice Chair is one year.

So, what are you waiting for?

For more advice and information, then contact the Parish Office;

Tel: 01420 768284 Email: clerk@fourmarkspc.co.uk

Website: www.fourmarksvillage.co.uk

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

WATERCRESS MEDICAL GROUP

Louise Webb, Deputy Practice Manager

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.

Friends & Family - We would be grateful if patients could take a few moments to answer the friends and family questions available on slips in the surgery, or online via our website.

Dispensary - Monday to Friday 8:30am - 12 midday & 3.00pm - 6:30pm

Please allow **at least three working days** when ordering your repeat medication. At busy times, such as Bank holidays, we would ask for **at least a week's** notice.

Statistics - We are increasingly being asked by patients how many people the GPs are able to see. We also receive queries regarding issuing more than one month's medication at a time. The statistics for January 2019 are shown below:

During January 2019, the staff in the Dispensary issued and dispensed over **4,447** items of medication.

In the same month, the GPs conducted **1242** patient consultations, **643** telephone consultations and **46** home visits. The practice nurses saw **536** patients and the practice nurse assistants saw **828** patients.

Evening and Weekend Appointments - Mid-Hampshire Healthcare, a GP Federation delivering multiple clinical services across the mid-Hampshire location covering 18 GP Practices and 213,000 patients now operate 2 x GP Access hubs to give patients additional access to Primary Care Services specialist on evenings and weekends. This service was commissioned by West Hampshire CCG.

Our GP Access Hubs are located in Andover and Winchester and provide Pre-Bookable and Same Day appointments:

Opening hours

- 5pm to 8pm Monday to Friday
- 8am to 4pm Saturday (to 12pm Andover)
- 8am to 12pm Sunday

Locations

- Andover War Memorial Hospital, Andover, SP10 3LB (next door to MIU)
- Badger Farm Surgery, Winchester, SO22 4QB (next door to Sainsburys)

Please visit our website or contact Reception for further information.

Charity Bookcase - In December we raised £98.38 for the Save the Children Fund, and in January £42.92 for the Dryathlon (Cancer Research). During February we have been raising funds for the NSPCC, and in March we will be raising funds for Comic Relief (Red Nose Day).

Care Cars - Just a reminder for all patients located in Four Marks and Medstead that care cars are available to take people to non-emergency medical appointments at hospitals, doctors and dentists, physio etc. When calling the number, the duty coordinator will take a message and arrange a driver for the patient's appointment and then ring them back with details.

If anyone is interested in becoming a volunteer driver then please call the same number: 01420 564435. Or visit the following websites:

www.fourmarkscare.org.uk or
info@fourmarkscare.org.uk.

BOUNDARIES SURGERY

Kevin Evans - Practice Manager

www.boundaries-surgery.com

01420 562153

Surgery Opening Times

Monday to Friday 8am - 6:30pm

For Out-of-Hours non-emergencies please call 111. This number is the first contact point for Hantsdoc, who provide our Out-of-Hours service and are based at the North Hampshire Hospital, Basingstoke. In an extreme emergency do not hesitate to call 999.

• **PocketMedic** ... has worked with NHS doctors, nurses and patients to create a series of short films to help you to manage your health. You can watch these films as many times as you like and learn from other patients and health care professionals about your condition. The following films are available for you to watch:

Pre-Diabetes - www.medic.video/snh1-pre

Type 1 Diabetes - www.medic.video/snh1-type1

Type 2 Diabetes - www.medic.video/snh1-type2

Gestational Diabetes - www.medic.video/snh1-gest

COPD - www.medic.video/snh1-copd

Exercise with Lung Disease - www.medic.video/snh1-exercise

Chronic Pain - www.medic.video/snh1-pain

Wellbeing - www.medic.video/snh1-well

Life after Cancer - www.medic.video/snh1-cancer

Heart Failure - www.medic.video/snh1-heart

We hope you will find these films helpful.

• **Additional GP and Nurse appointments...**in collaboration with three other surgeries along the A31 (Bentley Village, Chawton Park and The Wilson Practice) we can offer GP and Nurse appointments between 18:30 - 20:00 Monday to Friday and between 08:00 - 10:00 on a Saturday morning. The appointments are offered for routine problems and not for urgent issues. Also North Hampshire Urgent Care are also offering routine appointments with a GP on a Sunday morning at their centre based in Basingstoke Hospital. The appointments are offered between 08:00 - 12:00. If you wish to book an appointment for any of these additional clinics please contact reception.

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

• Weight loss/Health Management Hub Event ...

The Wilson Practice Patient Participation Group is organising this event on Saturday 6 April 2019 between 10:00 – 12:00 to be held at The Wilson Practice. There will be stands from a variety of providers including Walking for Health, Cardiac Rehab, Weight Watchers amongst others. All are welcome to attend

• **Medical Exemption Cards...** A reminder to those patients with a Medical Exemption Card please ensure you check the expiry date and arrange for a replacement in a timely fashion before its expiry. We are aware that patients are being fined for using their card after its expiry date.



ROTARY NOTES

Roy Roberts



Exciting future for local newspapers says new Editor.

The future for local newspapers is an exciting one despite the challenges of the digital age, says the newly-appointed editorial manager of the Herald newspaper group. Colin Channon, who has been in his new job since October, spoke about his plans for the papers to Four Marks and Medstead Rotary.

He said that while newspapers were criticised for concentrating on bad news, it was certainly true that reader reaction



and sales figures demonstrated that there was an appetite for detailed information and news of major crime. "But local papers like ours should also feature good news as well as bad news," said Mr Channon. "We should not be concentrating on running down the towns and communities we serve, and we should celebrate local success," he added.

He highlighted the role of local newspapers in campaigning on behalf of local communities, and cited examples that he had been involved in in the past, such as newspaper campaigns to save local hospital facilities or to ensure the provision of Christmas lights. He also believes that a vital role for local papers is to ensure that there is more transparency in the affairs of local government so that the decisions of local councils are properly scrutinised.

He said, "Local newspapers should try to make a real difference to their communities through campaigning journalism and support for local community initiatives and charities."

He said that while some national newspapers are losing circulation as a result of online news sources, he believes that local newspapers can provide an unrivalled level of detail in their pages, although the

Herald does offer major local stories on its website. He added, "I think the public is turning back to paper sources because there is so much 'fake news' in the digital world, and because they feel they can trust the professional journalism of their local paper."

Tripping the light fantastic...

It was a night to remember at the Four Marks and Medstead Rotary Barn Dance at Medstead Village Hall. The music was provided by the always-energetic Buresdon Village Band, and there was also plenty of energy on the dance floor.



The organiser of the evening, Paul Smy, said the dance seemed to be growing in popularity each year, and this year had been a sell-out. Those present enjoyed a lavish ploughman's supper.



Rotary President Phil Talbot thanked those who had helped to make a great night possible. "It was a night which seemed to be enjoyed by everyone there," he said. Proceeds of the evening will be used to support local and international charities.

EASTER HOLIDAY AT HOME

The Church of the Good Shepherd would like to invite the 'Over 60's and young at heart' to our Easter Holiday at Home.

We invite you join us on our free day on 27th March from 10.30 to 3.00 including a lunch.

We try to cater for most diets. To assist with catering we need to know that you are coming by 15th March. If needed, transport can be provided

Unfortunately we cannot provide any specialist personal assistance, but if you need your carer's support they are welcome to join you and us for the day. Invitation cards are now available at COGS or for more information call 01420 560622.

