



# FOUR MARKS PARISH COUNCIL

## STATEMENT OF INTENT

### 2022-2023

Four Marks Parish Council ('the Council') works on behalf of parishioners on the issues that matter to the village, contributing to debate and making representations to HCC and EHDC, and other appropriate consultations. The Council's powers are limited but it does have a statutory right to be consulted on all local planning issues in Four Marks and bordering parishes by East Hampshire District Council. The parish council planning committee takes a robust stance in representing local views and strives to influence planning decisions in the best interests of the village based on objective and applicable national/district planning policies and regulations. The Council contributes local views to the creation and review of EHDC's Local Plan strategy and policies to deliver sustainable development and necessary infrastructure and community facilities.

The Council will, in the coming year;

- ✚ Meet once a month (except August) as a Full Council and actively encourage members of the public to attend and bring their issues of concern to the attention of the Council.
- ✚ Ensure controls are held over expenditure items so parishioners get value for the small part of Council Tax payments (the Precept), that the Council controls, and all governance legislation is strictly adhered to.
- ✚ The planning committee will consider in detail all planning applications that fall within, and impact upon, the parish and will inform EHDC/HCC Officers, District and County Councillors (as appropriate) of their views.
- ✚ Maintain and enhance where possible all areas of open spaces under the responsibility of the Council and resolve any conflicts that may arise and other issues. Encourage sporting use of suitable areas, making repairs and improvements identified as necessary or desirable.
- ✚ Provide grants and aid to the Village Hall, and local charities, support local groups for example Streetwatch and Speedwatch.
- ✚ Regularly liaise with both District and County Councils on road safety and highways issues raised by residents and councillors.
- ✚ Regularly liaise with the local policing team to minimise crime and nuisance and encourage higher levels of visible policing in the village.

- ✚ Liaise with the management committee of the Benians Pavilion and encourage good governance to maximise the benefit of the pavilion to the village overall, and the sporting clubs who use it
- ✚ Make sufficient provision in the cemetery to meeting requirements for consecrated and un-consecrated interments.
- ✚ Publish regular reports of Council activities and documentation on the Council website and through social media, provide regular news reports in the Four Marks News, and regularly update parish notice boards.
- ✚ Contribute to and support the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.
- ✚ Promptly act upon any changes in Local Government legislation and provide relevant external training for councillors, executive officer and staff (as appropriate).
- ✚ Adequately publicise the Annual Parish Meeting and provide an interesting and topical agenda to attract attendees from all over the parish.
- ✚ Adopt a reach-out strategy and communicate pro-actively with parishioners regarding important issues and matters
- ✚ Provide a catalyst for the support of parishioners or local clubs/organisations compromised by a national crisis and subsequent social and economic impacts as applicable.
- ✚ Endeavour to retain and improve the rural character, biodiversity, and natural characteristics of the village, and specifically trees and hedges, which provide amenity value, wildlife habitat, and a unique sense of place.

## PROJECTS/OBJECTIVES

- **Community Building and Recreational Hub**; to continue taking this project forward with a designated working party with community involvement at the appropriate stages.
- **Ongoing improvement of the outdoor sports and recreational facilities**; to improve and replace recreational facilities and promote multiple sports' activity for all ages
- **Climate Change**; to introduce and evolve a climate change action plan to contribute to the preservation and protection of the village from the effects of climate change
- **Community events**; consider additional community events for the benefit of the village
- **Tree planting**; plant two trees for every one removed to mitigate the loss of the Ash trees within the Parish that have succumbed to Ash die back and acknowledging the importance of the tree's role within the protection of the environment.
- **Community Resilience**; to prepare a Community Resilience Plan for the village

## 2022-2023 PARISH EVENTS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ❖ ANNUAL PARISH MEETING                    | Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2022                          |
| ❖ Queens Platinum Jubilee Event Weekend    | Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup><br>June 2022 |
| ❖ Four Marks 10K                           | Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2022                               |
| ❖ Remembrance Service, at the War Memorial | Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2022                          |
| ❖ ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, Village Hall      | Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April 2023                          |