



MINUTES OF HIGH HAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT HIGH HAM VILLAGE HALL
ON TUESDAY 12th July 2016

Present: Amanda Chuter (Chair), James Godfrey, David Vigar, Chris Palmer, John Vigar, Bryan Bartlett, Derek Yeomans (County Councillor), V Young (Clerk).

Approx: 16 parishioners

Meeting opened at 7.30pm.

- 1) **Apologies:** Nancy Green and Shane Pledger had sent apologies.
- 2) **Declarations of Interest on agenda items:** - John Vigar declared an interest in the Beer Farm applications.

3) Open Discussion: Carla Pilkington attended the meeting to inform the meeting that the Parish Council should be consulted in the future regarding Low Ham Church and offered reassurance of the Church's future on completion of it becoming a 'Church in Trust'.

It was asked if some curbing could be put on part of the triangular green, to stop it getting worn away. Bryan Bartlett would look at this with other highway issues.

It was noted that the Open Gardens day had been successful and a good fund raiser and enjoyable for all. The organisers were thanked.

There was some interest from a parishioner re hiring the playing fields on a regular basis – contact details were to be exchanged so that the playing field committee could be approached directly.

4) Councillors reports -

Derek Yeomans gave the County Councillors report and focused on news regarding devolution and a Mayor for Devon and Somerset. His written report had been forwarded to Councillors.

Derek Yeomans left the meeting with his apologies.

5) Approval of Minutes -

14th June 2016 minutes approved as a true record .

6) Matters arising/Items for Discussion

a. Highways. BB reported back on ongoing highways matters that were progressing. Wagg Drove -the highways department had undertaken a repair. The collapsed ditch at Hext Hill was discussed. – Highways had supplied the pipes for the landowner to put insitu. The ditch causing problems at the bottom of Cooks Hill, County Highways had agreed they would approach the landowner with an official letter if needed, but it was agreed that the Parish Council would try a more informal approach first. John Vigar and Bryan Bartlett would sort this out

Reported that lengthman can only dig to 10cm on highway verges and if deeper a licence for that site/occasion was required. Highways were to write to the landowner regarding the ditch at the bottom of Cooks hill. Highways were to contact landowner regarding a ditch at Hext Hill.

Wagg Drove rhine was reported as not clearing.

b. Parish Lengthsman /Cemetery work /Millennium Wood/Strimmer Project .

May/June Lengthsman report

June: 38 hours worked – 341 eft

Focus had been weedspraying, mowing, ehdge trimming, and work at the cemetery.

Footpaths

Tony had been strimming around the styles in Low Ham and had helped Craig with some strimming at the cemetery.



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- c. Millennium Wood - £9000 of the Tesco grant had been received. A bench and picnic table were to be purchased. Craig had worked hard with the vegetation management at the woods.
- d. Website - Front page and format were now being finalised and ready for content with the view to being ready for uploading content and being fully functional by September.
- e. Dennis Davis Community Award – Progressing. Chris had met with Rob. Chris was to source a base and Rob would work on the bowl. It was hoped to have this ready for the end of October for promotion around the Parish in November. Rob had kindly agreed to work on the bowl free of charge.

7) Correspondence. – WW1 Commemorative Playing field literature had been received to pass on to the playing field which was a scheme being run by National Playing Field Association and the Royal British Legion.

8) Planning Applications for Consideration

a) 16/02404/FUL Old Carey Cottage – Barn conversion into a 3 bedroom dwelling including a garage.(resubmission of 15/05455/FUL). Following consideration this application met unanimously with support from the Parish Council.

b) 16/02664/FUL and 16/02665/LBC(Listed Building Consent) – Proposed conversion of agricultural building into garaging/storage, the demolition of 2 agricultural buildings to form 1 dwelling and reparation works to a listed agricultural building at Beer Farm.

After discussion it was felt that the application could be supported only if there was reassurance that the domestic workshop was linked to the dwelling and that the workshop be for domestic purposes of that one dwelling.

9) Planning Applications Decided –

Bridgehorn Farm – agricultural building – had now been approved

Picts Hill Cottage 16/02132/FUL- Erection of 2 storey side extension and single storey porch – Approved.

10) Summary of Meetings attended.

11) Financial

a. **Bank Reconciliation Report-** The level of funds was reported a full bank reconciliation to be undertaken shortly.

b. **Payments for approval and cheques to authorise -** The following cheques and payments were unanimously authorised.

Somerset Landscapes (June Mowing) - £115.20
V Young – Clerk Wages and expenses - £221.56
D Plant - £700.00
Lengthman – june work - £483.74
Lengthman – june expenses - £20.00
Craig/Lengthman – set up standing order

12) Matters of Report and items for next meeting –

NEXT WALKS ORGANISED : Somerton 18th July - start 10 am Half Moon Car park, Somerton

13) Date of Next Meeting – 9th August 2016 at 7.30pm was the date for the next meeting.

No further business –meeting closed at 20.20hrs