



MINUTES OF HIGH HAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT HIGH HAM VILLAGE HALL
ON TUESDAY 13th December 2016

Present: David Vigar (Chairman), James Godfrey, Nancy Green, , John Vigar, Bryan Bartlett , V Young (Clerk), Derek Yeomans (County Councillor). Gerard Tucker (District Councillor)

Approx: 13 parishioners

Meeting opened at 7.40pm.

- 1) **Apologies:** Chris Palmer and Amanda Chuter had both sent their apologies.
- 2) **Declarations of Interest on agenda items:** - None

3) Open Discussion: Rain had been causing flood issues at Cooks Hill. This was an ongoing Highways issue.

The clock in the village hall had been repaired but the set up was not yet complete.

Plans for the playing field were introduced to the Parish Council from Paul Brunsdon, Chairman of the playing field committee. Huck Nets were also to be paid for goal posts now that match funding had been received. An item was to go on the next agenda as to whether the Parish Council would approve of the playing field going ahead with their plans.

4) Councillors reports -

Derek's monthly report had been forwarded to the councillors. Problems with funding the care bill were highlighted. Derek Yeomans left the meeting with his apologies at the conclusion of this item.

5) Parish Council procedural review

David Vigar introduced the matter that there had been abuse of the planning consultation that the Parish Council voluntarily undertook. David Vigar proposed that the Parish Council would not consult with parishioners, but allow them to approach the council with concerns on an application and attend the relevant parish council meeting or direct their comments directly to the planning authority, which was the district council. This was seconded by John Vigar and unanimously agreed.

6) Approval of Minutes -

8th November 2016 minutes were approved as a true record.

7) Matters arising/Items for Discussion

a. **Highways.** Bryan Bartlett reported back on ongoing highways matters that were progressing. The budget had ran out between now and april for anything other than urgent highway repairs. After recent rain Cooks Hill had flooded. Some tree roots had now been cleared and drains jetted.

Grips had been cleared and the pipe to go under the gate was waiting sandbags to be supplied from Somerset County Council. It was thought that some of the Parish Council bags could be used and it was queried if it could be mixed with cement.

Honeysuckle cottage and other areas with blocked drains were reported. Dave Vigar was to ask Craig to call Gwen about clearing some grips.

The whitelines along Henley Dray were to be sorted out in this financial year.

The issue with Wagg Bridge was ongoing and Bryan Bartlett was speaking with Wessex Water.



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Gerard Tucker, the new District Councillor was welcomed to the meeting.

Finger posts on the green - the matter was progressing. It was confirmed no services where Craig would need to work would be disturbed.

b. **Parish Lengthsman /Cemetery work /Millennium Wood/Strimmer Project** . The following reports were made.

November 2016: 37 hrs worked, 152 remaining

Cemetery: further clearance of fence boundary.
Removal of regrowth since raising tree crowns 2 years ago.
Chipping mulch, new and old, spread under trees.

MW: 2 new paths cleared in preparation for tree identification trail
Temporary heeling-in of 300 tree/shrub whips for Playing Field and MW

Footpath Strimming

No strimming activity - awaiting SCC to collect strimmer for servicing
Parish walk December 15th meet 10am Pitney Playing Field car park

c. **Millennium Wood:**

Pond-side shelter/viewing platform - construction completed
2 new paths cleared for tree ident trail
Bird feeders restocked by Roger Hall - he will be purchasing feed to feed for winter/spring

The cost of feeding birds this year at the Millennium Wood was approved as it was part of the ethos of the wood. It was hoped as time went on firewood could be sold and proceeds from that could be used for bird food. It was agreed that the feeders could be stocked for 28 weeks this year. The estimated cost was £130.

d. **Website** - Continuing the mechanics of the site being worked on to ensure that the site functioned as it should.

e. **Village Hall** – It was reported that the Big Breakfast had been very successful. Fundraising was continuing.

f. **Housing Needs Survey.**

The quote was reviewed it was decided not to go ahead with the Community Council for Somerset quote until it was known if the Community Council for Somerset were successful in applying for grants. If they were not the potential cost was £3667.

It was proposed by John Vigar and seconded by Nancy Green and carried unanimously that the housing needs survey would not start until the success of the grant application was known.

g. **District Councillor Report**

Gerard Tucker introduced himself to the meeting as the new district councillor for Turn Hill.

8) **Correspondence.** SALC training dates to March 2017 were handed out.



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9) Planning Applications for Consideration

- a) 16/04862/FUL One Moor Barn, Henley, Langport, Somerset. TA10 9BG – Erection of an extension – After discussion it was unanimously agreed to support the application.
- b) 16/04906/FUL Chapel Cottage, Windmill Road, High Ham, Langport, Somerset TA10 9DL – Erection of a single storey side/rear extension. Replacement roof to the attached garage. Alterations to the front garage elevation. - After discussion it was unanimously agreed to support the application.
- c) 16/04882/FUL Orchard View Cottage, Henley, Langport, Somerset. TA10 9BG – Proposed demolition of existing extension and detached garage, together with the erection of new two storey extension and detached garage.- After discussion it was unanimously agreed to support the application with the additional comment that road frontage gates would be preferred due to the rural nature of the area and livestock levels in the area.
- d) 16/04901/FUL Henley Farm Barn, Henley Road, High Ham, Langport. TA10 9BG – Erection of agricultural barn for the storage of fodder and machinery. - After discussion it was unanimously agreed to support the application.
- e) 16/05117/FUL The Lodge, Stout Road, High Ham, Langport TA10 9BX – Proposed extensions and alterations to dwelling, conversion of barn to garaging and storage. Change of use of agricultural land to domestic curtilage. – Discussion on the application and decision deferred until the meeting on 10th of January 2017.

The planning applications that had come in since the meeting were for Certificates of Lawfulness. There had been an extension granted on one until after the next meeting. The other one had not been granted an extension. It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council make no comment on either of them unless a subsequent extension be agreed.

10) Planning Applications Decided –

- 16/04316/LBC- Windsor Farm - Granted
16/04160/FUL – Poplar Farm – Granted
16/04526/OUT – Land OS6730, Junction of Henley Road and Nythe Road – Withdrawn

11) Summary of Meetings attended. - None

- a. **Precept-** The budget set by the budget working party was reviewed and agreed. This was set at £23,510.00 as per appendix 1.

b. Payments for approval and cheques to authorise

The following items were approved for payment
SSDC – annual premises licence - £70.00
Somerset Landscapes – mowing playing field October - £115.20
Craig Howe – Parish Lengthsman monthly SO - £482.33
Craig Howe- Millennium Wood and Chipper Hire - £165.00
V Young – Clerk wages – October-221.56
A Chuter – speedwatch expenses - £4.00
G Webb – work to carpark Millennium Wood -£688.00
F R Attwell & Son – re Scalpings for Millennium Wood - £692.46
Wynnstay/Agricentre – re Millennium Wood – £158.47
Ashcott Parish Council - £44.00
P Green - £211.98



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Huck Nets - £2034.00

Derek Webb - £608.40

12) Matters of Report and items for next meeting –The playing field committee item from the public session was to go on the next agenda.

13) Date of Next Meeting 10th January 2017 at 7.30pm was the date for the next meeting.

No further business –meeting closed at 21.40hrs.

Appendix 1

Basic Council Expenditure

17/18

projected.

Clerks Wages / Expenses

3000

General Admin in CB

Emergency Plan contingency

1100

(above is 1000 for defib in this year + 100 specific community project contingency- any additional could come from unforeseen parish exp contingency)

Elections

0

Insurance

875

Cemetery maintenance

500

Millenium Wood upkeep re birds

140

Village green and churchyard - d plant

1350

Church Wall

1000

Village Hall Rent

200

Internal Auditor

50

Audit Commission

200

Subscriptions

275

Donations / xmas tree/gifts

100

Website annual cost

100

Sports Field Loan (PWLB)

700

Mowing Sports Pitch

1200

PF Misc Repairs/weed control & preservation/inspection/fencing/equip repairs and renewals

500

Playing Field Water Rates & Rospa

150

Licence

75

unforeseen parish exp and highway contingency

1500

contingency admin expenses

700

Millenium Wood Hedging

500

parish lengthsman

6500

Strimmer project contribution/training

150

Millenium wood additional mtce costs

800

Set up new website

500

Playing field bmx track surfacing

295

xmas tree lights

200

Speedwatch costs

50

anything else unforeseen

800

Basic Total Expenditure

23510