



MINUTES OF HIGH HAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT HIGH HAM VILLAGE HALL  
ON TUESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017

Present: David Vigar (Chairman), James Godfrey, Nancy Green, Amanda Chuter, John Vigar, Bryan Bartlett, Gerard Tucker (District Councillor), Clare Aparicio Paul (County Councillor), V Young (Clerk).  
Approx: 12 parishioners

Meeting opened at 7.30pm.

- 1) **Apologies:** Chris Palmer
- 2) **Declarations of Interest on agenda items:** None

**3) Open Discussion :**

There were complaints regarding laurel overgrowing at the bottom of Ham Hill. A sign had been knocked off its post at Henley Dray. It was noted that barrow cuttings were being dumped on Windmill Hill/Low Ham road junction. Concrete bags had been dumped down Windmill road. It was stated that fly-tipping should be reported without delay to the District Council who would arrange removal.

A Drain by the Green was to be cleared if possible, otherwise wait until Craig doing several in the autumn.

**4) Councillors reports**

Gerard gave his monthly District Councillor's report. He highlighted that there would in due course be a boundary review of the wards. Area North meeting in May had been cancelled.

Clare was welcomed to the meeting and gave the County Councillor's report. The situation regarding the footpath on which there was to be an enquiry was to be confirmed. It was stressed that rural parishes such as High Ham should participate in any consultations on which they were invited to participate.

**5) Approval of Minutes** - The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017 were approved as a true record with an amendment to 10d to change the name 'Paul Bishop' to 'David Fisher' and item 11 was corrected regarding the seat to replace 'cemetery' with 'Church'.

**6) Matters arising/Items for Discussion**

**a. Highways**

Bryan Bartlett updated the meeting on ongoing highways issues.

It was hoped to replace the posts on the green in August. The drain sucker was booked for October.

The issue regarding dropping the curb by the school, highways had indicated would be possible but should be paid for by another. As it was the school who was requesting this and they were county council it was thought that they would be best placed to push this issue with Highways.

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

**Lengthsman Report, Craig Howe - May activity**

14 hrs worked

379 hrs remaining

Vegetation management: strimming splays, junctions. Weed killer applied to priority pavements and kerbs.

Millennium Wood: interpretation board installed in car park. New signs fixed to main and pedestrian gates. Safety sign warning of deep water on main access gate to the wood.

Some pruning, strimming. Rides mown.

Local Owl and Butterfly conservation groups given information about MW at a conservation event - Craig says they are keen to visit.



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**Volunteer Footpath Strimming, Tony Whitford - May activity**

May - 16hrs strimming footpaths and grave edges in cemetery

June (so far) - 15hrs

May Parish Walk - 25th May

**Strimming activity May/June includes:**

Pipers Ash - enclosed area

Entrances to footpaths at reservoir, Fountain and Firing Range

Moretons to Leazemoor Lane

between Pound and Springfields Cottage, Low Ham

Leazemoor to Netherham

Village Hall to Standhill Road

Gates/stiles - Beer Drove, Cradle Bridge, Nythe

Footpath faults reported SCC Rights of Way

Detailed listings of footpaths strimming activity and fault reports will be on new website

***June Parish Walk - Monday 19th June. meet 10am Castlebrook Inn car park, Compton Dundon. 4miles***

The footpath officer had received a letter regarding the enquiry regarding a footpath in dispute. The situation regarding this was to be confirmed.

c. **Millennium Wood:**

See Lengthsman Report re signage and lengthsman work.

Finger post will be collected Thursday. Location for installation to be decided.

d. **Website** - Continuing.

e. **Village Hall** – The Committee room had received some improvement work and the committee were congratulated on the improvement.

f. **Housing Needs Survey**– Progressing.

**7) Correspondence.**

It was agreed that the speedwatch team would continue with some speed testing near the school. There had been a letter regarding speeding traffic at school pick up time. It was felt that it would not be appropriate to install the signs suggested in the letter.

The BT phonebox consultation was continuing there was no news yet as to whether the bids to keep the boxes had been successful.

**8) Planning Applications for Consideration**

a) 17/01828/FUL – Cider Cottage, Ham Hill, High Ham, Change of use of an existing agricultural vehicular access and land to a domestic vehicular access, with parking and turning provision (retrospective). Unanimously supported as avoids dangerous parking on the road.

b) 17/01866/FUL – Hill View Farm Cottage, Hill View, Low Ham – Continued use of Hillview Farm Cottage as a dwelling. On the basis that there were no physical changes on this application and it related only to whether it could be used as a dwelling the Parish Council unanimously supported the application and noted that it would be a waste to leave empty.



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The Parish Council recorded that the clerk had contacted the District Council to confirm that no decision had been reached on the application prior to the meeting as there had been an inadvertent comment by a contributor which indicated that the Parish Council had already commented on this application.

c) 17/02218/LBC – The Old Vicarage, Rectory Triangle, High Ham – There erection of a single storey rear infill extension.  
Unanimous – no objection.

d) 17/02248/PAMB – Fir Tree Farm, Long Street, High Ham – Notification for prior approval for the change of use of two existing agricultural barns into three dwellings. – Parish council not consulted this was just for notification only.

e) 17/02242/FUL – Nenmead Farm, Field Road – Change of use of layby to part residential and part agriculture and stopping up of one point of access/egress to Field Road.-Unanimous – support.

**9) Planning Applications Decided –**

The Council had been notified of an appeal lodged regarding a property just the other side of the parish boundary.

17/01287/LBC Low Ham Church,Low Ham,Langport,Somerset,TA10 9ER, Proposed external and internal repairs to the fabric of the building including works to roof, stonework, windows, doors, drainage and pathway. - GRANTED

7/01069/FUL Pear Tree Farm ,Henley Road,High Ham,Langport,TA10 9BH Demolition of existing store and erection of new two storey annexe and double car port. - GRANTED

17/01705/S73 Chapel Cottage,Windmill Road,High Ham,Langport,Somerset,TA10 9DL Application to vary conditions 2 (approved plans) of 16/04906/FUL to allow the substitution of plan 13/01353/02 B with 13/1353/02 C to provide more light and space. - GRANTED

**10) Summary of Meetings attended.** - None

**11) Payments for approval and cheques to authorise**

The following items were approved for payment

V Young – Clerk wages and expenses – £221.56

Parish Lengthsman - £492.16

Somerset Landscapes - £178.92 (3 cuts)

Parish Lengthsman – Millennium Wood – £152.31

Parish Lengthsman – Weed killer - £19.95

Parsigns - £132.00

**12) Matters of Report and items for next meeting** –None

**13) Date of Next Meeting**

The Date of the next meeting was set as Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2017 to commence at 7.30pm

–meeting closed at 21.15 hrs.