



MINUTES OF HIGH HAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT HIGH HAM VILLAGE HALL  
ON WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2017

Present: David Vigar (Chairman), James Godfrey, Amanda Chuter, John Vigar, Chris Palmer, Bryan Bartlett, Gerard Tucker (District Councillor), Clare Aparicio Paul (County Councillor), V Young (Clerk).

Approx: 15 parishioners

Meeting opened at 7.30pm.

- 1) **Apologies:** Nancy Green
- 2) **Declarations of Interest on agenda items:** None

**3) Open Discussion :**

Ambulance routes were queried. The County Councillor was to enquire if the Highways department could write to the relevant authorities about emergency vehicles etc using unsuitable routes which take longer, rather than following sat nav.

**4) Councillors reports**

Clare Aparicio Paul gave the **County Councillor's report**. The flooding issue on Field Road had been pointed out to highways. The dropped curb by the school had been approved for the small scheme improvements but no work would be done until the next financial year. Somerset Waste Partnership contract was coming to an early end of contract and a new contract for waste management was to be procured. Clare left the meeting with her apologies.

**Gerard gave the District Councillor's report.** The report updated the council on planning matters that had gone to area north. Gerard was thanked for help arranging the cleaning by the school in half term.

- 5) **Approval of Minutes** - The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017 were approved as a true record.

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

a. **Highways**

Various matters were noted and progressing. Field Road flooding was being worked on. Beer drove potholes had now been repaired. Drain sump/sucker had been hired and work completed and the Parish Council were to go back to the County Council if there were further problems.

Amanda Chuter proposed, David Vigar seconded and it was carried unanimously that another £250 be used for clearing additional drains with the system that Craig had just used on the others.

b. **Parish Lengthsman /Cemetery work /Millennium Wood/Strimmer Project** . Tony Whitford was thanked from the Parish Council for all his volunteer work strimming footpaths and strimming at the cemetery and for the organised walks. The strimmer was now in for its service. 14 walkers had attended the organised walk on 16<sup>th</sup> October .

**Parish Lengthsman - Craig Howe**

The following reports were made.

**October 2017 Activity**

38hrs worked

190.5 hrs remaining

Final phase of this season's vegetation management:

Grass cutting in cemetery and Millennium Wood.

Weed spraying pavement/kerbs Hamdown Court, Picts Hill and Cemetery.

Drainage:

Inspection of priority drains in preparation for SSDC drain sucker working in parish 9th Nov.

20 identified between School and Henley.

Millennium Wood:

Grass mowing



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Crowns lifted on rides to allow access for tractor and flail for boundary hedge cutting.  
Brash will be chipped at a later date.

November

9th Nov working with SSDC StreetScene team and drain sucker

21st Nov, 9am working party will clear invasive Parrot Weed in MW pond.

**Parish Council Public Rights of Way - Volunteer Strimmer, Tony Whitford**

Strimmer will be collected by SCC for annual service 23rd Nov. Return expected Feb 2018

**October 2017 Activity**

Total 4 hrs 30 mins

High Ham Cemetery - 3 hrs

L12/36 Pipers Ash enclosed section

L12/10 stile east of Breach Wood - 1hr 30 mins

**September 2017 Activity Update**

Total 5 hrs

High Ham Cemetery - 3 hrs

L12/1+3 gates, stiles either side Nythe Rd

L12/4 Fountain Ln entrance

L12/36 gate Low Ham Rd to Stembridge Rd

L12/23 gates, stiles Moretons to Leazemoor Ln

Gate Culver Hill

Stile Furpits Ln

Stile Reservoir - 2 hrs

**Millennium Wood**

grass mowing

crowns lifted on trees along outer ride

c. **Millennium Wood:**

See Lengthsman Report.

d. **Website** - This had now gone live. Items were still to go on as part of the continual editing etc.

e. **Village Hall** – The hot cupboard and water boiler had been delivered. There was to be a New Year's Eve party and another Big Breakfast on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2017. Gwen to be contacted regarding the cheque for the trolley.

f. **Housing Needs Survey**– There had been over 100 responses. The results were currently being collated and should be available soon.



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g. **Dennis Davis Award** – Chris Palmer gave a brief overview confirming the purpose of the award is to acknowledge the significant contribution being made by an individual or group in the parish each year. The award is in memory of Dennis Davis who did so much for the High Ham community throughout his lifetime. This is a Parish Council award and this year a shortlist of nominees have been drawn up by the Parish Council who will agree which individual or group win this year's award following further discussion. Nominations put forward for 2017 were as follows:

- The High Ham Lunch Club
- Karen Cook – air ambulance fund raising (including The Christmas Crew), her work with the Red Cross, school governor and history group work
- Millennium Wood Team
- Tony Whitford – Volunteer strimmer/organised walks
- Playing Field Committee
- History Group
- Bryan Bartlett – Parish Website & Highways liaison.

A presentation would be made in the coming weeks

It was unanimously agreed that Chris Palmer should go ahead and purchase the cabinet shown for £50.00 for displaying the award in the Village Hall

h. **Other** – Finger Post Restoration Project – There were 12 in the Parish, most in poor condition. There were 5 volunteers awaiting the compulsory training (mainly regarding paints allowed). It was currently thought that the maximum cost would be £200 for the allowed paints etc.

Noted that Wynstay/Agricentre would be moving soon, but that the site may be used as a storage depot until August.

#### **7) Correspondence.**

NHS Health Check letter to be queried. Parish still interested in hosting.

#### **8) Planning Applications for Consideration**

a) 17/04205/FUL Land At, Old Manor Farm, Low Ham, Langport, Somerset, TA10 9DP, Change of use, erection of equine facilities including a stable block, machinery store, arena and canter track. – Deferred discussion until December meeting.

b) 17/04024/FUL Lower Broadacre Farm, Broadacre, Henley, Langport, Somerset, TA10 9AY, Change of use of land from agricultural to commercial/tourism use for the siting of Shepherds huts and the siting of a relocated mobile holiday home. - Unanimously supported on the proviso that the holiday lets are tied to the farm.

c) 17/03986/FUL Henley Farm Barn, Henley Road, High Ham, Langport, TA10 9BG, Conversion of an existing wooden clad barn from storage/utility area into a self contained one bedroom holiday let. Unanimously supported on the proviso that the holiday let is tied to the farm.

d) 17/03517/FUL Torwood, High Ham, Langport, Somerset, TA10 9DB, Demolition of cottages and the erection of 2 No. dwellings.

The Parish Council unanimously were unable to support the amended plans. The revisions created issues of visually impairing the street scene and the tandem parking on plot 2 was not felt to be acceptable as a practical solution. It was strongly felt that should the planning officer be minded to grant the application that householders rights to permitted development should be removed. (With particular reference to ensuring that access can be maintained to undertake any necessary works on Hillcrest.)

The Parish Council still, however, support the application previously commented on.



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**9) Planning Applications Decided**

The application for the bungalow on Union Drove had gone to appeal.

17/03387/FUL Well Cottage ,Hillside Farm Road,High Ham,Langport,TA10 9DB Conversion of stand alone garage in rear garden of property into residential accommodation. – GRANTED

17/03075/COU Land OS 0012, Henley, Langport, Somerset,, Change of use of land and formation of car park. - GRANTED

17/02242/FUL Nenmead Farm ,Field Road,High Ham,Langport,TA10 9DQ Change of use of layby to part residential and part agriculture and stopping up of one point of access/egress to Field Road. – GRANTED

**10) Summary of Meetings attended.**

Dave Vigar had attended a meeting of the Internal Drainage Board. Dredging work on the Sowey/King Sedgemoor Drain had been brought forward to October 2018. The stretch of river between burrowbridge to oath lock was to be dredge/jetted. Concern had been raised about some future work moving the problem to another stretch of land rather than curing it.

**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

Parish Lengthsman, Mil wd, - £125.00

Parish Lengthsman weed killer – £19.95

SSDC Entertainments Licence - £70.00

Somerset Landscapes (2 cuts October) - £119.28

D Vigar – British Legion wreath - £20.00

C Palmer – cabinet in keeping with Village Hall for Dennis Davis award - £50.00

High Ham Village Hall – up to £100 for grant share of luncheon trolley

**12) Matters of Report and items for next meeting**

Jess Pitman had been officially installed as Parish Rector.

The Precept was to go on either December or January's agenda as required.

St Andrews Fayre was to be 16<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm

**13) Date of Next Meeting**

The Date of the next meeting was set as Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Meeting closed at 21:00 hrs.