



MINUTES OF HIGH HAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT HIGH HAM VILLAGE HALL
ON TUESDAY 27th August 2019

Present: Dave Vigar (Chairman), Amanda Chuter, Paul Brunsdon, Andrew Davidson, John Vigar, Robert Webb, Gerard Tucker (District Councillor)
V Young (Clerk).

Approx: 25 parishioners

Meeting opened at 7.30pm.

- 1) **Apologies**, Chris Palmer, Clare Paul (County Councillor).
- 2) **Declarations of Interest on agenda items:** None

3) Open Discussion:

Nigel Salmon spoke regarding a potential development between the Primary School and Windmill Road. A public consultation will be arranged by them on behalf of the developers in order that an application for approximately 7 courtyard style houses.

The bad condition of the road going up the hill from Bridgehorne was noted and also the road between Charity Farm and Bere at the top of Turnhill.

4) Councillors reports

The county councillor reported that the audit had been completed and that they had been rated as favourable value for money. There were to be some more meetings regarding the connecting Devon and Somerset project. Noted that the Parish Council were waiting to hear from Derek Davis regarding the work required at Picts Hill for installing the SIDS in order that the Parish Council could obtain the promised funds for SIDS from a third party. Gerard presented the district councillor's report which is attached as an appendix to these minutes. He highlighted that there was some public concern regarding the District Council's investment policy and the fact that many of the investments were outside of the county.

- 5) **Approval of Minutes** - The minutes of the meeting held on 27th August 2019 were approved as a true record.

6) Planning Applications for consideration

19/01011/OUT –AMENDED

Address Land Adjoining Greymanes Lower Street High Ham Langport TA10 9DS

Proposal Outline application for the erection of a detached dwelling.

After much discussion the Parish Council by a voted not to support the application (by a vote of 4:1 and one abstention)

It was felt that it was not an appropriate location for a house and that additionally it was a sensitive site as it was next to a listed building. Additionally the parish council were not comfortable with being drawn into the specifics of a legal agreement on what was an outline planning application. It was felt that the location was unsustainable and that the previous comments of the Parish Council siting concerns still stood.

7) Planning Applications Decided

19/02110-Bere Farm – refused

19/01773/S33 – Stone Farm – granted

8) Matters for consideration/Items for Discussion

a. Enhancements at the Green - ongoing

b. Highways. & Fingerpost restoration project/ & SIDs (speed indicator devices)

various issues noted. Ditch opposite Old Manor Arm was full of shrubs and needed clearing.

Road to Nythe, Butleigh Drove – needed temporary signage re the unevenness.

The dropped curb by the school was to be chased up.

John Rollands (EA) was happy to come out to meet groups re flooding and water management.



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SIDS –the shared Turnhill one was progressing.

c. Parish Lengthsman –inc Mil. Wd Wk and Cemetery and Strimmer Project

Ongoing. There would be a major project re reducing the Ash in the wood. A memorial bench was to be purchased from the fund raising by the History/Parish Group and be placed in the Millennium Wood.

Lengthsman

Vegetation management includes:

MW grass mown on drives/paths

Cemetery grass mown

Hedge cleared around Playing Field fingerpost

Volunteer Footpath Strimmer

Cemetery grave edges strimmed

Assume Jake Taylor at SCC still waiting for Nick Fear's health forms to be okayed as there has been no notification giving Nick the ok to start. Papers submitted by Nick in early June.

Millennium Wood

Paths and rides mown,

A 4' bench has been ordered from Charlton Timberstore - they supplied the other MW benches and picnic tables. Once payment is made, the bench will be delivered to Dave, then onto MW. Money raised by Karen Cook at the talk given by the Low Ham Archaeology team, is funding the bench. The bench will have a plaque commemorating the parish men who fought and returned from WW1. MW is on the site of allotments allocated to the men who returned.

Winter programme of work proposal:

The management of the woodland must, this winter, be more radical than in previous years, to improve the health, and longevity of the woodland.

Action required:

1. Fell all ash trees that were planted with view to fell after 5 years - take action now, before disease reaches MW
2. Thin out oak trees to allow individual trees natural growth space
3. Replant, where appropriate, with other local/native species
4. Create timber stacks for later sale, and brash stacks - no chipping

A site meeting (dtba) will finalise the details, to be presented at October meeting.

Planting in 2000 included:

Oak 551

Ash 350

Field maple 143

Lime 140

Cherry 53

Dogwood/Spindle/Wayfarer/Guelder Rose 40 each

Hazel 30

Alder buckthorn 26

Birch 17

Walnut 10

nb. Since 2015 purchase of wood there has been thinning and removal of dead/diseased trees

d. Millennium Wood – inc above

e. Village Hall items – Next fil minght was on 10th or 11th October and the produce show had had a good turnout.

f. Playing Fields - The annual health and safety inspection had taken place. There was a small amount of improvement work to do. The committee were looking at raising £80,000 for the pavilion project. Funding from the Parish Council would help them obtain other grants. Finance committee to meet before the next meeting.

g. Speed Indicator Devices – already discussed.

h. Other/lecturn/The Pound – Dave Vigar to ask Geoff Webb re the parish roundels and the state of the wood stands. Re the lecturn – Rob Webb would try to obtain an extra quote.

There was a tree at The Pound requiring some attention. Craig to have a look at it.



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Defib posters- approved to take to a professional printer and also get them laminated – 20 posters to be made.

9. Correspondence. – no additional
10. Summary of Meetings attended - none

12) Financial

Bank mandate – ongoing, necessary form signed

The following payments were authorised

Clerk wages (gross) and expenses – £330.54

Parish Lengthsman - £511.88

Somerset Landscapes – mowing playing field– £63.90

Additional lengthsman's expenses – £20.00

CPRE - £100.00

Charltons (re bench) - £209.25

13) Matters of Report and items for next meeting -

JV to obtain the Parish Christmas tree. Carols around the tree set for Saturday 21st December.
Harvest lunch tickets could be obtained from Margaret.

The Date of the next meeting would be 22nd October.

Meeting closed at 21.30hrs