



MINUTES OF HIGH HAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT HIGH HAM VILLAGE HALL
ON TUESDAY 23rd April 2024 7.30pm

Present: Dave Vigar (Chairman), Amanda Chuter, Catherine Roberts, Nick Fear, Nancy Green, Rob Webb, Rob Rice. V Young (Clerk).

County Councillors: none

Public approx: 8

Meeting opened at 7.35pm.

1) Apologies and declarations of interest County Councillors Mike Stanton and Richard Wilkins had sent apologies. There were no declarations of interest on the agenda items.

2) Public Session: Chris Rawlins from Stembridge Mill Cottage introduced himself to the meeting and said that the windmill still needed a lot of work by the National Trust before it could be opened. A planning application should come forward at some point. Chris was thanked for the update and it was good news that matters were progressing.

The new sign at the top of Hext Hill had no permission and was close to the road safety chevron and was to be reported. It was also to be queried with regards to the current planning permissions and if these new businesses advertised complied.

3)Planning applications for consideration

A) 24/00851/COL - Certificate of Lawful Use or Development – notification only

Farthings Hillside Farm Road High Ham Langport Somerset TA10 9DB Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for proposed Internal - Alterations and Replacement French Doors. - notification only.

B) 24/00590/HOU – Householder Application - Henley Corner Henley Road High Ham Langport Somerset TA10 9BH Erection of single storey extension at rear. The application unanimously raised no objections. It was felt that it was a modest and essential improvement to the property.

4) Planning applications decided.

It was noted that planning decision timings appeared to be affected by fewer councillors and decisions were taking longer to be reached.

The draft letter to go to the MP with regards to retrospective planning was read and would go out within the week.

24/00332/HOU – 2 Jubilee Cottage – Granted

24/00562/TPO - 10 Hamdown Court – Granted

23/03090/HOU – 2 Hillside, Long Street – Granted. This was passed through on delegated powers but conditions had been imposed with regards to water run-off. There was some concern as to the future of the iron gates.

5) Approval of Previous minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th March 2024 were approved as a true record with minor amendment only.

6) County/District Councillor reports – The County Councillors written report for the month had been forwarded to the councillors. The report was available on the website.

7) Ongoing Action Points and Updates.

Lengthsman: The bank issues had been noted with regards to the new year contracts. Work as per AC report.



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Highways/ Footpaths

Highways – potholes reported again. The dip 100 yards or so to the 'Ashcott' side of the junction to the denture clinic had been reported and was on the list for Kier to look at and sort out. With regards to the blocked drain by Willow Cottage, works have been ordered and should be in this financial year.

It was noted that the 'blind' gate had been reported as it was felt that this was a particularly dangerous access point.

Millennium Wood – It was noted that the hedges had been cut on the outside only as it was too wet to cut on the inside without damage. Rachel and Craig continued their schedule of work with the maintenance of the woods.

Parish Green - It was noted that the pollarding was now complete.

Refurbishment of Noticeboards –

Any other – inc School/Village Hall/ Playing Fields Website– An enforcement issue reference 23/00034/ENF – alleged breach of social events – land of Field Road. The complaint had been closed as the site inspector had found nothing. This had been investigated by the authority in the winter whereas it required an investigation in the summer months when it is used.

There was concern that the National Trust wall could collapse. Amanda Chuter would write again.

Playing Fields/Wessex Internet – the wayleave contract was unanimously accepted. It was also agreed that it must miss the footings of the pavillion.

The Playing Field Committee were working hard on organising a fete. (13th July). The Parish Council agreed to pay printing/advertising costs.

Noticeboards – Rob Rice thanked for his work on sorting out the noticeboards. The new board on 'The Green', looked very good. The old one could be lad with ply and oiled and the 'High Ham' topper board removed to make a replacement board.

Cemetery – It appeared that the grass management plan was working well. The final lot of 4 ashes interments was later this week. It was agreed that a small noticeboard was required for the cemetery. It was noted how plastic flowers etc still kept arriving. Rob Rice would ask Bancombe Joinery for a quote for a small lockable A3 sized noticeboard.

8) Correspondence/Meetings attended – There had been no LCN meeting. Fortnightly meetings continued between the Unitary Council and interested councillors/clerks.

9) Financial

The following payments were authorised

Lengthsman - £758.34

Clerk's wages - £437.13

Cemetery management payment – April 2024 -226.67

Cosmic re domain name for 2 yrs- £48.00 (highhamparishlife)

Cosmic re domain name for 2 yrs - £36.00 (highhamparishcouncil)

R Webb – re playing field expenses – paint - £59.98

10) Date of next meeting - 28th May 2024 at 7.00pm for the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the annual Parish Council meeting.

11) Items for next meeting.

There was a reminder that next month would be the Annual meetings of the Parish and the Parish Council.

With no other business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.55pm