



MINUTES OF HIGH HAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT HIGH HAM VILLAGE HALL  
ON TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017

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

Approx: 21 parishioners

Meeting opened at 7.35pm.

1) **Apologies:** Chris Palmer and had sent his apologies.

2) **Declarations of Interest on agenda items:** - John Vigar declared an interest in the planning application for The Lodge (item 9a) by virtue of its location.

3) **Open Discussion :** The Christmas Crew were congratulated on their charitable fund raising.  
The Lengthsman was to clear the pavement around the postbox on the green.

**4) Councillors reports -**

The District Councillor's report highlighted issues of rural crime and also some small grants available from various sources. There was to be a presentation at Compton Dundon Village Hall on the evening of 9<sup>th</sup> February for the local Parish Councils.

Derek's monthly report had been forwarded to the councillors. Problems with funding the care bill were highlighted. Additionally Derek would ask the Police and Crime Commissioner some questions about rural crime and livestock thefts at a meeting in Yeovil. Derek Yeomans left the meeting with his apologies at the conclusion of this item.

5) **Playing Field Plans** - The draft plans were reviewed and the Parish Council authorised the playing field committee to move ahead to the planning and consultation stage.

**6) Approval of Minutes -**

13<sup>th</sup> December 2016 minutes were approved as a true record with a minor grammatical amendment to item 7f.

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

a. **Highways.** The Wagg Bridge issue had been resolved. The pipe had been installed. Gripes had been dug out. Work still progressing on the Cooks Hill problem. Fly tipping had been cleared. Thomas Drove was thought to be in Walton. Fly tipping issues there were to be passed on. BB was to look into contacting the Cranes re a Hedge. The issue raised regarding the Chevrons on the corner of the highway at the Hext Hill junction was to be passed on to Highways as were the potholes outside Beer Farm.

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

lengthsman

38hrs worked

114hrs remain



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**Millennium Wood:**

2 new paths cleared in the middle copse as part of the Identification Trail - to be completed with ID Information Board in Spring.

Work started on chipping of brash. Some wood piles are being kept to be sold as income for MW.

Craig and Roger Hall have selected and marked trees for felling to make room for new trees from the The tree whips given by Trust for Conservation Volunteers.

**Cemetery:**

Branches growing around cables, cleared.

**Highways:**

Collected and delivered de-icing supplies from Somerset Highways depot. 10 bags distributed between parish grit bins. The Hext Hill bin full of water - holes drilled to empty.

**Drainage:**

Grips and grids cleared in Low Ham , including those on Hext Hill and Long St.

Planned work in January includes: to create seating for outdoor classroom in MW.

**Footpath Strimmer**

No December activity.

SCC have collected strimmer for servicing - awaiting return.

A new role, Volunteer and Trails Officer, has been added to the SCC Rights of Way Team - Tracy Sutton. She will be Tony Whitford's link to the team. Hopefully, this will result in further practical support for Tony in his work to improve our footpaths and increase their use.

**January Parish Walk**

Monday 16th January - meet 10am at Half Moon car park, Somerton, for a brisk walk.

**c. Millennium Wood:**

No update but the pond was now full.

**d. Website** - Cosmic were working on the build process of the site.

**e. Village Hall** – The photographs were back up. Some table trolleys were now available. The committee room and storage areas were to be improved and it was hoped to improve the heating system.

**f. Housing Needs Survey.** The Parish Council confirmed that they were happy to continue. It appeared as if the grant should cover the total cost including the deposit.

**8) Correspondence.**

Franks undertakers had been in touch regarding fees and cemetery costs as well as another matter.

The cemetery fees were to go on the next agenda.

The Church in the Field at Low Ham had now been taken on by the Church Conservation Trust.

**9) Planning Applications for Consideration**

a) 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.

b) 16/05153/COL Hill View Farm Cottage, Hill View, Low Ham Road, Low Ham, Langport, Somerset, TA10 9DY, Application for a lawful development certificate for the existing use of the building as an independent dwelling



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c) 16/05122/COL Land Rear Of Owl Cottage, Low Ham Road, Langport, Somerset, TA10 9DY, Application for Lawful Development Certificate for the existing residential use of two brick and stone buildings known as Aunt Emily's on land to the rear of Owl Cottage, Low Ham.

**10) Planning Applications Decided –**

16/04573/FUL – Cider Cottage - Granted  
16/04906/FUL – Chapel Cottage – Granted  
16/04862/FUL – One Moor Barn – Granted  
16/04882/FUL – Orchard View Cottage – Granted

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

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

The following items were approved for payment  
Craig Howe – Parish Lengthsman monthly SO - £482.33  
Craig Howe – Chipper Hire - £50.00  
V Young – Clerk wages – December -221.56  
D Vigar – expenses £30  
J Vigar – expenses –Christmas tree - £80  
ICO - £35.00  
Wessex Water - £20.80

£60 was raised by the carol singing and it was authorised that this be donated to Somerset Links Transport (Yeovil area- covering High Ham)

**13) Matters of Report and items for next meeting –**

Cemetery Fees-for next agenda

**14) Date of Next Meeting** WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 7.30pm was the date for the next meeting.

No further business –meeting closed at 20.40 hrs.