



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

Present: David Vigar (Chairman), James Godfrey, Nancy Green, Amanda Chuter, John Vigar, Chris Palmer, Bryan Bartlett, Gerard Tucker (District Councillor), Clare Aparicio Paul (County Councillor), V Young (Clerk).  
Approx: 20 parishioners

Meeting opened at 7.30pm.

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

**3) Open Discussion :**

School Parking issues discussed. School encouraging sensible parking.  
Any dangerous parking should be reported to the police at the time.  
Noted that there had been a landrover theft – Parishioners warned to be vigilant.

**4) Councillors reports**

Clare Aparicio Paul gave the **County Councillor's report**. It was noted that the curbs by the school could be dropped for wheelchair access under the small improvements scheme. This matter was progressing.  
The education and business partnership had received funding and would continue. This was a service aimed at connecting young people with businesses.

**Gerard gave the District Councillor's report.** The report updated the council on planning matters that had gone to area north. The Links transport service had to be closed as there were no viable options for it to continue.

**5) Approval of Minutes** - The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017 were approved as a true record.

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

**a. Highways**

Various issues were ongoing. The signage to the Millennium Wood had been completed with thanks for grant funding from the District Council. The Aller diversion was to be monitored. It had been reported from Highways that the roadworks were going well. Damage to be reported as needed and also after diversion lifted if heavy traffic using diversion causes damage.

There had been various issues of mud on the road. The most recent complaint was already being dealt with by the farmer. Overhanging hedges were reported. Dave Vigar to ask about cutting brambles back on a hedge causing problems in Henley.

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

September 2017 Lengthsman Report

38.5 hrs worked  
228.5 remaining

The Green - rotten bollards removed, 5 new installed

Vegetation management including:

Playing Field car park and BMX track - weed spraying  
Junction top of Long St - visibility splay hedge trimming  
Cemetery - weed spraying  
Millennium Wood - grass mowing

October up to 10.10.17

Millennium Wood - rides/ paths mowing  
Cemetery - grass mowing

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Millennium Wood

Rides mown - Lengthsman, Craig Howe

Site meeting: Dave Vigar, Amanda Chuter, Roger Hall, Amy Jenkins

**ACTIONS Agreed**

1. Dave to arrange Boundary hedge cutting with Olly Howley - to be done before ground gets too wet.
2. Roger to arrange site meet with Craig to select trees for removal etc
3. Roger to cut back overhang along rides up to 6'
4. Date to be arranged for volunteer work party to remove Parrot Weed from pond
5. \*Additional Lengthsman days\* to be requested during autumn/winter for the following tasks:

Hazel coppicing

Removal of selected trees

Bramble clearance/cut back in selected areas

Clearance of scrub growth around 2 crab-Apple sites

\*Request for additional days at Nov PC meeting.

Provisional agreement : to arrange an event September 2018: sale of cordwood and logs - BBQ - etc etc - gives a year to plan day and the wood for sale.

**Volunteer Footpath Strimmer**

6hrs strimming cemetery grave edges

2hrs footpaths

There were some piles of soil under a grassed area that Craig could use to fill in the holes in the cemetery.

**c. Millennium Wood:**

See Lengthsman Report re signage and lengthsman work.

**d. Website** - This had now gone live. Items were still to go on as part of the continual editing etc. Stones on roadsides information had been requested as had a planning page and school page.

**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. The agreed donation from the Parish Council to be sent to the Village Hall Committee.

**f. Housing Needs Survey**– There had been over 100 responses so far and the survey was going to stay open until Friday for any late surveys to be submitted. The results should be available by 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

**7) Correspondence.**

Chris Palmer to draft a letter to the Boundary Commission regarding the Parish Council thoughts on the consultation and that the council felt that the Parishioners should have been consulted before the Council rather than afterwards. The response to include that it would be preferable for the Parish to remain as it is if there were thoughts of adjustment unless the residents in the outer reaches of the Parish thought it was beneficial to change, and it was for this reason that it was disappointing that the residents had not been asked first.

There had been a donation of daffodils for which the parish were very grateful and would plant at various sites around the Parish.

Correspondence was ongoing regarding 'Finger Post' volunteer maintenance by the Parish. It was not quite as straightforward as hoped. Volunteers had to be trained etc and there were no funds from the County Council for maintenance for them. It was thought that in due course it would be helpful to put something on the website requesting volunteers and explaining what it entailed to look after the 10 finger posts in the Parish.



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There had been some correspondence regarding prices at the cemetery. The result of which it was proposed by John Vigar and seconded by Nancy Green that the Garden of Rest plots which were £75 for Parishioners should be £100 for non parishioners.

**8) Planning Applications for Consideration**

- a) 17/03866/FUL The Playing Field ,Windmill Road,High Ham,Langport,TA10 9DL Erection of a pavilion. - After discussion and notes made by the Playing Field Committee of a few concerns which were not material planning issues, but related more to security, the application was unanimously supported.
- b) 17/03517/FUL Torwood,High Ham,Langport,Somerset,TA10 9DB, Demolition of cottages and the erection of 2 No. dwellings. After discussion the application was unanimously supported. The applicant had agreed to re-route the neighbours drains so that the properties no longer shared.

**9) Planning Applications Decided**

17/03838/TCA The Lodge,Stout Road,High Ham,Langport,Somerset,TA10 9BX Application to fell 3 No. Cypress trees all within a designated conservation area. Application Permitted

17/03230/FUL 2 Hillside,Long Street,High Ham,Langport,Somerset,TA10 9DN, Demolish existing rear extension and erect a two storey rear extension to the dwellinghouse. Application Refused

17/03075/COU Land OS 0012,Henley,Langport,Somerset, Change of use of land and formation of car park. Application Permitted with Conditions

**10) Summary of Meetings attended.** - Amanda and Nancy had attended a session held by Somerset Association of Local Councils which had been helpful.

**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, expenses inc generator hire - £95.48

Parish Lengthsman weed killer – 19.95

Bryan Bartlett- re search fees for water utilities for the village green - £18.00

Somerset Landscapes (2 cuts September) - £119.28

Wynnstay – £111.55

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

There was to be a Quiz Night at the pub in aid of the Playing Fields on 14<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm.

John Vigar to obtain the Christmas Tree for the Parish Green. Date for carol singing was set as Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 6pm.

The next parish walk was on 16<sup>th</sup> October.

**13) Date of Next Meeting**

The Date of the next meeting was set as Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November.

–meeting closed at 20:40 hrs.