



MINUTES OF HIGH HAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT HIGH HAM VILLAGE HALL
ON TUESDAY 27th SEPTEMBER 2022 at 7.30pm

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

Pubic approx: 9 (inc County Councillor Mike Stanton)
Meeting opened at 7.30pm.

A one minute silence was held in recognition of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. A statement of commemoration was read by the Chairman which is appended to these minutes.

1) Apologies & declarations of interest:- Apologies were received from Paul Brunsdon, Richard Wilkins and Gerard Tucker. There were no declarations of interest.

2)Public Session: All those who had helped with commemoration events over the period of mourning were thanked.

A second resuscitation session was being arranged for 4th October.

Problems with livestock being bothered by low flying paramotors was noted. Please continue to report issues to South Somerset District Council with regard to waste/litter.

Used toilet paper was being found regularly on the edge of a drove and it was thought to be cyclists using the route. The matter had been reported.

It was noted that the Parish needed to start thinking now as to how to celebrate the coronation which was likely to be in June next year.

A note was also made to look out for vulnerable neighbours, including keeping a look out for those who are independent and previously in good health. Recently a resident had fallen and been found by a neighbour but she had not been found for a few days.

The owners of Teddy Bear Cottage were in attendance. Should there be more queries with regard to planning consent appliance could the Parish Council speak with them first.

It was noted that item 3B was withdrawn from the agenda as there was a delay at the District Council with the application.

3) Planning applications for consideration -

A) Ref: 22/02365/FUL Land Opposite Keepers Cottage Church View Low Ham Langport
Change of use to private equestrian and construction of a timber stable block and area of turnout, partially retrospective. - The nearest neighbour raised no objections. The Parish Council raised no objections but did want to clarify in the comments that there should be no flood lighting and that it was for private use only and not commercial use.

B) 22/01990/FUL The Ranch Stout Road High Ham Langport
Erection of 2 no. polytunnels, a livestock building and an agricultural storage building (Part retrospective) – Withdrawn from the agenda as there was now a delay on the application at the District Council. Item to go on a future agenda.

C) 22/02039/FUL Land OS 1449 Gore Lane Pitney Langport Somerset
Change of use of land to Gypsy / Travellers site with a mobile home, day room and touring caravan with associated works. The Parish Council had been given the opportunity to comment on the application if they wished. As it was not directly on the border of the Parish the Parish Council decided in this instance not to comment.



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4) Planning applications decided.

22/02123/s73 - S73 application to vary condition 3 (external surface materials) to change the roof tiling materials to be slate grey marley modern concrete tiles for the whole roof of the dwelling in relation to planning approval
21/01297/HOU: Erection of single storey extension at north end with extension to raised platform, erection of porch and erection of two storey extension at South end. – Kirk Hill – APPROVED

22/01959/HOU – erection of single storey rear extension to dwelling – Walnut Cottage - APPROVED

22/01506/FUL – Demolition of existing buildings and erection of a new dwelling on land rear of Owl Cottage – Aunt Emilys, Low Ham – REFUSED

22/01477/S73 – S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of planning consent 21/00241/FUL (proposed conversion of farm buildings to a dwelling) to make minor amendments to the internal layout – APPROVED

A planning application to modify a S52 agreement with regard to Balls Farm had been submitted. The Parish Council had not commented as the application was tidying up a few legal issues only.

It was noted that the CLT had been asked for an extension on a decision by the District Council until January 2023.

There was some discussion regarding the phosphate issue which was holding up several applications.

5) Approval of Previous minutes.

The minutes of 23rd August 2022 were approved with minor amendment as a true record.

6) County/District Councillor reports

Mike Stanton's (County Councillor) report had been circulated to councillors. It noted various waterboard issues and phosphates. Local Community Networks (LCNs) were being discussed at County Council level. A consultation was taking place with regard to these and with 3 different sizes of LCNs being considered. The new chief executive was to take office soon and the transition to unitary was going reasonably well but was handicapped by price increases.

7) Ongoing Action Points and Updates.

Code of Conduct – The new (LGA) model for adoption by all Somerset Parish Councils had been circulated and was unanimously adopted by the Parish Council.

Phone box booths & additional Defibrillator(s) -

Shelving to sort in the booth at Low Ham. It was noted that the High Ham 'exchange' box was working very well and being well used.

Temporarily the Henley defibrillator was at High Ham but would be put back in place in a few days time when the software updates for the defibrillator which was normally kept at the school was complete.

Future Work at Cemetery Green – ongoing. Nick Fear would help try to find tiles that would match up for the lynch gate. Glastonbury reclamation may be able to match tiles.

Concern was noted with regard to plots being reserved at the cemetery. The layout being in rows of 10. There was concern that these were being booked but if the ground got any harder and stonier then it may not be possible to fit rows of 10 in. A working party group was to meet at the cemetery. The request for a wooden bench for the Williams family to use temporarily was discussed. It was decided that the family could make use of the bench already there, but that it was not to be fixed down. Dave Vigar would speak with the family.

Nancy Green and Vicky Young to liaise re system/paper trail on reserving a grave.

Millennium Wood-see lengthsman report.



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Lengthsman – Cemetery: paths unused section mown. grave edges strimmed
Millennium Wood: Rides and paths mown.
Picts Hill: bridge and adjacent hedges and pavements verges cut/strimmed
30mph signs cleared of vegetation
MW - Site Meeting to discuss continuing tree management: suggested dates afternoon 10th/11th October.

Highways/ Footpaths The second volunteer strimmer (Harry) had started and they had rota for the strimmer. The reports of which paths are cleared go on High Ham facebook page.
Various highway defects were noted for onward reporting to Somerset County Council
A letter from a resident at Picts Hill was considered. It was noted that the Parish Council had already been in contact with the minister for transport and the county council with regard to the HGV route which went off A roads and used 'b' roads and also went passed a busy secondary school in both directions. The matter was ongoing and abattoir liaison group meetings were attended with regard to this.

Another instance of a lorry getting stuck on the road behind the Church had occurred. It was hoped that now the highways department were aware of yet another incident that they would issues clearer signage or pictorial signs.

A problematic hedge in Henley was to be monitored and reviewed should it cause further problems.

Playing Fields – It was discussed that they would like an opening event for the new play equipment in conjunction with the school and the Dennis Davis award presentation.

Refurbishment of Noticeboards –Someone had painted the noticeboard in Long Street and were thanked. The board on the green and the Henley board were difficult to see though. Perspex quotes to be arranged.

Any other – inc Village Hall/School It was noted that the school had recently had an OFSTED inspection.

8) Correspondence and Items of report.

It was noted that the District Council had written with regard to Old Manor Farm and that the flood lights were an enforcement issue although they saw no evidence of commercial use for feed sales. A new application should be forthcoming soon.

There was to be a 'levels' meeting on 5th November at Edgar Hall in Somerton with regard to LCNs and the local government re-organisation.

More discussions on LCNs were due to start taking place again soon every fortnight on a Wednesday for clerks and chairmen.

It was noted that a parishioner complaint re the state of Eastfield reserve had been forwarded to the District Council and the reply indicated that they had 'nearly' found a resolution with a new grazier and wardens would strim the paths.

9) Financial

The following payments were authorised

Lengthsman - £853.13

Clerk's wages - £402.68

SALC/NALC – subscription april 2022-March 2023 - £247.77

Somerset Landscapes – £66.13

Play Inspection Company –annual safety inspection - £72.00

Confirmation that balance was paid re Playing Field – equipment - £17,677.20

PKF Little John – External Audit - £240.00

10) Summary of meetings attended and Date of next meetings

With no other business to discuss the meeting was closed at 9.50pm