



MINUTES OF HIGH HAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT HIGH HAM VILLAGE HALL
ON TUESDAY 27th May 2025

Present: Nancy Green (Chair), Dave Vigar, Amanda Chuter, Robert Webb, Catherine Roberts, Nick Fear, Rob Rice.

Unitary Councillors: Richard Wilkins Clerk: Vicky Young

Public Approx: 6

Meeting opened at the conclusion of the Annual Parish Meeting at 8.30pm

1) Present, consideration of apologies received and confirmation that a quorum is present –Apologies were received from Mike Stanton (Unitary Councillor). Quorum confirmed present.

2) Election of Chairman for the year and signing of Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

This item was chaired by the clerk. Nancy Green was elected Chairman. Proposed by Amanda Chuter, seconded by Dave Vigar. Nancy Green having indicated that she would be willing to stand the motion was carried unanimously and the chairman's acceptance of office was duly signed.

3) Election of Vice-Chairman for the year. Nancy Green took the chair. Dave Vigar proposed Amanda Chuter as vice-chairman, seconded by Nick Fear. Amanda Chuter indicated that she would be willing to stand again as vice chairman - the motion was carried unanimously.

4) Declarations of interest on agenda items. None

5) Public Session: None

6) Representatives, Appointments & Policies including

- Planning Officer. Dave Vigar appointed with Rob Rice as deputy.
- The School Representative. – Nick Fear appointed.
- The Village Hall Representative. –Dave Vigar was appointed. This was not to be a committee member but a liaison point of contact.
- SALC. Vicky Young appointed –
- Parish Lengthsman Liaison. - Amanda Chuter appointed.
- Strimmer project – Nick Fear was thanked and appointed to continue.
- The Hext Almshouse Trust. – Jane Vigar kindly agreed to continue.
- Speed Indicator Device . - Dave Vigar was the agreed contact for High Ham Parish.
- Footpath officer – Nick Fear was appointed.
- To appoint the Council's Tree Warden. – Tim Lawton had been asked and accepted and was duly appointed.
- To appoint the Honorary Auditor. – Mike Tottle appointed.
- Playing Field Management Committee ratification. (2 from pc reqd) - to be confirmed after the committee agm next week. (Derek Deighton (Chair), Rob Rice, Rob Webb, Charlotte Bean, Paul Devalle, Lesley Deighton, Catherine Roberts).
- Millennium Wood Management Committee ratification including at least 2 council members. Amanda Chuter , Dave Vigar, Rob Webb, Nick Fear and Roger Powell were ratified as members.
 - Adoption of Code of Conduct, Standing Orders, Financial regulations – unanimously decided to carry on with current arrangements. This was the newest code of conduct for 'Somerset' had been circulated previously.
 - Environmental issues – Rob Webb was nominated as lead councillor.
 - Cemetery contact – Nancy Green would continue in the role. Proposed by Dave Vigar, seconded Nick Fear and carried unanimously. Dave Vigar to deputise if required.
 - Defibrillators – Dave Vigar was to be the contact for queries relating to the defibrillators.



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- Highways liaison – Catherine Roberts was appointed. Dave Vigar would continue on the Abattoir Liaison Group .
- Any other – Finance committee - Dave Vigar, Nancy Green and Amanda Chuter to make up committee.
- Any other – LCNS representatives. Dave Vigar and Amanda Chuter were unanimously nominated by the council.

All appointments were unanimous.

7) Councillors reports

Richard Wilkins had presented the unitary councillors' report in the Annual Parish Meeting. The road closure in Langport and junction 26 closures were mentioned. Richard would chase up highways re the school safety barrier issue.

8) Approval of Minutes - The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd April 2025 were approved as a true record with minor amendment.

9) Adoption of accounts for year ending 31 March 2025 and resolution to agree annual return figures and Annual Statement of Governance. – the statement of governance must be completed before the resolution on the accounts.

a) Dave Vigar proposed, Rob Rice seconded that 'The Annual Statement of Governance' was approved for the year ending 31 March 2025. Carried unanimously.

b) Rob Rice proposed and Amanda Chuter seconded that the statement of accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025 be adopted. Carried unanimously.

c) Risk Assessment and statement of Internal Control. The statements had been reviewed in April 2019 It was confirmed by the council that these statements should continue as they were.

10) Matters arising/Items for Discussion

a. Highways - Long Street was jetted on 28th February. Butleigh Drove, had been reported by both Walton and High Ham Parish Councils. The blocked culvert on Field Road, opposite Burrow Lane was on a list with the highways department, but no indication as to the time frame for repair/investigation was given. The overgrowth on High Ham Hill was to be kept under review.

Nythe Road bridge and Cradle bridge were noted for the 'bump' (like hitting a curb) over them. Highways were to be asked about the guard rails at Henley Chapel with the view to being able to replace them. Subsidence on Bere Drove was noted. Some work that was overdue had been marked up to the village green and Bridgehorn.

b. Lengthsman – Moss treatment in the playground was taking place in the play area. Grass cutting was continuing and visibility plays were having greenery cut back to clear them. Weedkilling on St Andrews corner of the pavement was to take place.

c. Cemetery- no matters arising.

d. Playing Fields – report given in Annual Parish Meeting. Preparations for the fete were going well.

e. Footpaths – the 'stone stile' footpath in Low Ham had been cut. Harry was thanked for his help with the strimmer project over the last year, but was resigning and Nick Fear would continue.

f. Village Hall- The 100th year of the hall would be celebrated with an exhibition of village history at the hall.

11) Correspondence. Unanimously agreed to keep the bin that the council was asking for payment for emptying weekly. £338 per year quoted. Dave Vigar proposed, Nancy Green seconded this proposal which was carried unanimously.

An abject apology had also been received with regards to someone walking a dog in the cemetery.



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12) Planning applications for consideration

A) 25/01064/DOC1 The Hall Henley Langport Somerset TA10 9BG Discharge of Conditions No. 3 (Materials and Window Details) and No. 8 (Finished Floor and Ground Levels) of Planning Application 12/03435/FUL. - notification only and now decided.

B) 25/00736/S73A Bramley Cottage Orchard Home Henley Langport Somerset TA10 9BG Proposal: Application to secure planning condition in relation to use of building as holiday accommodation/ancillary accommodation to the main dwellinghouse. In relation to approval 20/00185/FUL for The change of use of a modern agricultural building and associated operational development to provide a single unit of holiday accommodation/ancillary accommodation to the main dwellinghouse - It was to be minuted that there was concern raised with regard to the high number of air B&Bs proliferating which were of no benefit to the parish. - Unanimously agreed to pass 'no comment' to the planning officer on the basis that the legal issues around the removal and replacement of conditions such as these was a matter for the professional planners at the unitary council to consider.

C) 25/00792/DPO Bramley Cottage Orchard Home Henley Langport Somerset TA10 9BG ProposalApplication to discharge planning obligation (dated 7th April 2021) relating to Application No. 20/00185/FUL proposing instead a suitable worded planning condition to restrict the use of Bramley Cottage to holiday/annexe accommodation.– Notification only so no comment.

13) Planning Applications Decided -25/00828/HOU Proposed single storey rear extension and installation of additional dormer window to front elevation Valley View High Ham Langport Somerset TA10 9DB - Granted

14) Summary of Meetings attended. - None

15) Payments for approval and cheques to authorise

The following items were approved for payment

Clerks wages - £469.63

Parish Lengthsman - £758.34

Cemetery maintenance - £226.67

Insurance - £1272.06

16) Matters of Report and items for next meeting: Dennis Davis award

Dave Vigar was thanked for his time as chair.

17) Date of Next Meeting

The Date of the next meeting was set as Tuesday 24th June 2025

The meeting closed at 9.40pm