

# HAM PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES FROM THE QUARTERLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

A Quarterly Meeting of Ham Parish Council took place at  
**7.30pm on Thursday 31 August 2017** in Ham Village Hall

### Attendees

Mr R. Buchanan-Dunlop (Chairman), Mr C. Dean (Vice Chairman), Lady Walker, Mr N. Jones, Mrs D. Byatt as (Parish Clerk) and six members of the public.

### Apologies

Mr J. Marriage

#### 1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 May 2017 had been circulated and agreed and were signed.

#### 2. Matters Arising

**a. The Crown & Anchor.** The owners of the Crown & Anchor had submitted a planning application following the consultation held in the pub on 19 May 2017, and a Parish Council planning meeting to consider it was due to take place on Thursday 7 September. The Chairman explained that Wiltshire Council now circulated planning documents online only. As a result, other than plans produced by the applicants, no plans would be produced at the planning meeting by the Parish Council, and it might therefore be a good idea to warn those intending to come to the meeting accordingly. It was noted that a complaint had been made to Wiltshire Council that only a small proportion of the letters known to have been written in support of the planning application had so far been posted on the appropriate Wiltshire Council site. Meanwhile all letters sent or copied to the Parish Clerk had been circulated to all members of the Parish Council.

**b. The Parish Magazine.** The Chairman reported that the voluntary subscription by gift envelopes appeared to have collected sufficient money for this year's magazine budget, and therefore Ham PCC and the Parish Council were unlikely to be asked to provide additional funding.

#### 3. Parish Council

It was noted that Mr Steve Byatt had withdrawn his application to be co-opted onto the Parish Council as he was leaving the village, and it was agreed that efforts needed to be made to find a replacement volunteer.

#### 4. Finances

The Chairman reported that cheques had been signed for Grass Cutting: £319.20 and for Insurance: £195.03.

## **5. Police Report**

Various extracts were read out from recent Community Police Reports. It was taking longer for the Police to answer 101 calls, as demand was now assessed at the first point of contact. There had been 37 thefts from cars in the Marlborough area since May 2017. There had been a number of burglaries in July and August. Councillor N. Jones reported that there had been what appeared to be an attempted burglary on his house while he was away, which was caught on CCTV. He said that the Police had acted promptly when he informed them by calling 101.

## **6. Flooding**

Nothing to report

## **7. Roads and Signs**

It was noted that the Parish Council had not received the autumn schedule of Parish Steward's visits from Wiltshire Council. The Chairman said he would investigate.

## **8. Bridleways and Footpaths**

**Great Field.** A member of the public reported that the path leading across Great Field, which had been ploughed, was not easy to walk on. The Chairman agreed to take this up with the farm manager.

**Field Lane.** The Chairman reported that together with Mr M. Marriage he had inspected Field Lane with Mr Roy Hibberd to obtain a quote, but had subsequently it had been confirmed that crushed concrete could not be used on a bridle path. Since then the Head of Wiltshire Council Footpaths had visited the lane and had offered five lorry-loads of road planings which had been accepted. However, these had yet to be delivered, and it would not be possible to obtain a firm estimate for the work until this was done.

## **9. Superfast Broadband**

Much of the village now had access to Superfast Broadband. Ham Spray was still without access, but was expected to be connected shortly.

## **10. Parish Walk**

Saturday 14 October was agreed for a Parish Walk in the morning.

## **11. Parish Hog Roast**

Sunday 17 June was agreed as the date of the Parish Hog Roast in 2018.

## **12. First World War Memorial Tree Planting**

It was noted that Wiltshire Council had proposed a commemorative tree-planting scheme in 2018 to honour those who had died in the First World War. It was planned to plant 10,000 trees in the county by planting a Wiltshire memorial wood, or by local communities planting their own trees, or a combination of the two. The Woodland Trust would fund 80% of the cost of centenary woods and provide trees free to local communities. After discussion it was agreed that Ham should support the proposal for a Wiltshire Memorial Wood but would not plant trees locally.

### **13. Any Other Business**

- a. Ham Fest Family Fun Day.** Councillor Lady Walker reminded the meeting that the Ham Fest Family Funday would take place on Saturday 16 September from 12-3pm followed by a Harvest Supper at 7 for 7.30pm.
- b. Telephone Kiosk.** It was pointed out that the redundant BT telephone kiosk had had its telephone removed but the kiosk itself remained in place. The Chairman said he would contact Wiltshire Council about it, but ultimately BT was responsible for its removal.
- c. Notice Boards.** A complaint was raised that the information on the parish noticeboards was out of date. Councillor Lady Walker agreed to investigate.

### **14. Date of Next Meeting**

Friday 24 November 2017

The Chairman said that Mrs D. Byatt would shortly be leaving the village and that this was her last meeting as Parish Clerk. He thanked her very warmly on behalf of the village for her support to the Parish Council.

Meeting closed at 19.55  
Ham Parish Council  
September 2017