

HAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual meeting of Ham Parish Council took place at 7.00 pm on Thursday 9 May 2019 in Ham Village Hall

Present: Mr C Dean (Chairman), Mr R Buchanan-Dunlop, Mr J Marriage, Mr D Bicknell, Mrs C Garrod (Acting Parish Clerk) and 8 members of the public.

1. **Apologies:**
Lady Walker and Mr Humphreys

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**
The Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 9 May 2018 were confirmed, and signed by the Chairman.

3. **Election of Officers:**
Mr. Charles Dean was proposed as Chairman by Mr. Marriage and seconded by Mr. Buchanan-Dunlop. Lady Walker was proposed as Vice-Chairman by Mr. Dean and seconded by Mr. Bicknell.

4. **Matters Arising:**
Mrs. Garrod is resigning as acting Parish Clerk with effect from the end of the year. The Chairman thanked Mrs. Garrod for staying on while the search for a new clerk took place. Mr. R Buchanan-Dunlop announced that he would be resigning from the Committee after ten years, six as Chairman. The Chairman thanked Mr. Buchanan-Dunlop for all his hard work. He has been asked and has agreed to remain as Finance Officer.
The Council invites applications for the vacant position on the Council.

5. **Finances and Parish Precept.**
 - 5a. The annual governance statement was approved by the council.
 - 5b. The annual finance statement was approved by the council.
 - 5c. Mr Buchanan-Dunlop was appointed Responsible Finance Officer.
 - 5d. Mr Buchanan-Dunlop presented the Financial Statement and reported that the donation of £75 for repainting of the sign for the Crown & Anchor public house is part of a village subscription, not involving Parish funds. This donation will be expended once the repainting of the sign has been invoiced.

The Community Infrastructure Levy of £2,793.53 represents a grant from Wiltshire Council arising from a levy imposed on building works in Ham.

Funds at 31 March 2019

£1,000 is earmarked for the repair of Field Lane.

£1,700 is earmarked for the purchase of a new defibrillator.

The Parish Council has requested a Precept for 2019/20 of £1,500.

True reserves now stand at £2,968.46 (i.e. funds at 31 March 2019 less the sums earmarked above and the £75 for the pub sign repainting).

The following Parish Council assets are insured for

Village seat (on Green)	£ 590
Notice boards	£1694
Filing cabinet	£ 108
Defibrillator (current)	£1700
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	£4092

However the filing cabinet is missing and will be written off and a new seat is needed. The estimated cost is £300.

6. Roads, Signs and Speed Limits.

The subject of the potholes in the village was raised and Mr Buchanan-Dunlop remarked that the repairs were just 'sticking plasters' rather than a solution. Mr Wheeler will follow this up with the Highways department. Mr Bicknell suggested villagers use the 'My Wiltshire' website to report such issues.

Following the recent rain, flooding has occurred again outside the Hawleys' house. A member of the public asked that the Speedwatch signs be removed from the village. Mr Bicknell agreed to arrange their removal.

7. Bridleways and Footpaths.

News is still awaited regarding available planings for Field Lane. A member of the public wants to know if there is an alternative source of planings and how much will they cost. Mr Marriage will investigate and report back. Mr Marriage invited villagers to contact him with concerns over the footpaths. He will suggest a date for the annual Parish Walk and put it on the village WhatsApp site. It was requested that the walk encompass the nature reserve. Wiltshire Council arrange for seven sheep to graze it in the winter to keep the grass down.

8. Refurbishment of the Crown and Anchor Sign.

This is due to go up on 17 May. It will cost £1400. £700 has already been raised. Mr Humphreys has agreed to co-ordinate fund raising.

9. Any Other Business.

The defibrillator is being progressed. Tudor Cottage has been demolished and building work will be completed in January 2020.

10. Next Meeting.

To be arranged.