

HAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

An Annual Meeting of Ham Parish Council took place on Wednesday 9 May 2018 at 7pm in Ham Village Hall

Present: Mr R Buchanan-Dunlop (Outgoing Chairman), Mr C Dean (New Chairman), Lady Walker (Vice Chairman), Mr J Marriage, Mrs C Garrod (Acting Clerk) and 11 members of the public

Apologies: Mr N Jones

The Outgoing Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and in particular Councillor S Wheeler.

He also welcomed Mrs C Garrod to her first meeting as Acting Clerk and thanked her for taking on the position.

1. Election of a Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Mr C Dean was elected as Chairman and Lady Walker was elected as Vice-Chairman.

The new Chairman thanked Mr Buchanan-Dunlop warmly for his six years' service as Chairman and presented him with a bottle of malt whisky on behalf of the Parish Council.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held on 23 February 2018 were confirmed and signed.

3. Annual Governance Statement

The members of the Parish Council approved the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31 March 2018.

4. Annual Finance Statement

Mr Buchanan-Dunlop explained that expenditure had been significantly less than usual for the year ended 31 March 2018 as amongst other items there had been no advance payment for the Hog Roast and there had been no expenditure on a Christmas Tree or lights. The Parish Council funds remained in a robust position, and £1,000 of the reserves was still earmarked for the repair of Field Lane. The Parish Council approved the Annual Finance Statement for the year ended 31 March 2018.

The Parish Council appointed Mr Buchanan-Dunlop as the Responsible Financial Officer.

5. Roads, Signs and Flooding

It was noted that the series of dangerous potholes outside the Old Rectory Cottages had been repaired but others, particularly at the start of Ham Road remained. The

meeting was reminded that any individual could report a pothole, and was encouraged to do so, by going online to www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts.

6. Bridleways and Footpaths

Mr J Marriage reported that action had been taken to repair two stiles and remove a fallen branch from Field Lane. Mr Buchanan-Dunlop said it was planned to return to the business of repairing Field Lane once lambing was over. He was grateful that action was now being taken by Dove's Farm to clear a site for the dumping of the planings from Wiltshire Council.

Mr Melsom, from the floor, added that Wiltshire Wildlife had carried out work on the Ham Hill Nature Reserve during the winter, and the Reserve was well worth visiting now during the orchid season.

7. Refurbishment of Crown & Anchor Sign

Mr Buchanan-Dunlop said that the Wadworth sign painter had quoted an estimate of c.£900 for repainting the pub sign. This estimate would be refined once he had inspected the sign. The sum of £250 was already available from the previous pub 'Veg Fund', and it was agreed that a collection should be organised at the Hog Roast on 17 June to raise the balance.

8. End of First World War Commemoration

Mr Buchanan-Dunlop said that in conjunction with the Village Hall Committee it was planned to have a re-run of the WW1 exhibition, originally held in August 2014, over the weekend of this year's Remembrance Sunday. There would be a 'Private View' for the village on the evening of Friday 9 November, which would be a fund-raising event for the Village Hall. In due course he would be seeking sponsors for the supply of wine and eats for the evening.

9. General Data Protection Regulation

The Chairman reported that the Parish Council had registered under the new GDPR requirements at a cost of £35. He had received a copy of Shalbourne PC's GDPR policy statement and would adapt this for Ham. He commented that HamNet would come under the Parish Council registration but in any case all recipients had applied to join the net and could similarly request to be removed from it.

After-note: Under a recent Government amendment to GDPR, all parish councils are exempt from appointing a Data Protection Officer.

10. Hog Roast – Sunday 17 June 2018

Lady Walker reported that Jaime Popperwell had confirmed that he would provide the hog and rolls, and a carver, for £340. It was agreed that if possible marquees should be erected along the road outside Porch Cottages, as had been done in 2016, and that parishioners should be asked to bring their own chairs. It was noted that a bicycle tour would be routed through the village on Saturday 16 June.

11. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next quarterly meeting would be held in August, the date to be agreed later.