

HAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A QUARTERLY PARISH MEETING

A Quarterly meeting of Ham Parish Council took place at 7.00pm on Tuesday 15th November in the Village Hall.

Present: Mr C Dean (Chairman), Lady Walker (Vice-chairman), Mr J Marriage, Mr M Humphreys, Mr. A Taylor, and 3 members of public.

1. Apologies: none.

2. Minutes

The Chairman asked if the minutes from the quarterly meeting on the 31st August 2022, and planning meetings on 31st August and 27th September 2022, could be signed off. All councillors concurred.

3. Matters Arising: none.

4. Roads, Signs and Speed Limits

The Chairman reported that Wiltshire had announced we would now have two Parish stewards each month which should assist in working through the many jobs.

Mr. Taylor reported on the current speeding situation as being largely unchanged.

The Chairman raised concerns from residents on Spray road about the speeds witnessed and the lack of visibility on some of the repeater signs. It was also noted that the Parish Steward had made very little progress on this matter. Mr. Taylor explained that hedge cutting would be taking place within 2 weeks which would improve things.

A short discussion ensued about the 20mph limit and the Chairman summarised the reasons this was discounted some years before.

The discussion continued to speed indicators. The Chairman explained that it had been agreed to improve signs before proceeding and to investigate their effectiveness at other locations. Discussion continued to speeding in general and the various options available to the village. It was noted that there were no obvious solutions to the problem.

Mr. Taylor agreed to get further pricing to cover the various options, including smiley faces and report back the following week. The Chairman suggested the council voted on the principle of spending a maximum of £3000 on a speed indicator. All councillors agreed. However it was noted that the full amount would not be available without increasing the Precept.

5. Flooding

Mr. Humphreys reported that all was well despite the recent heavy rainfall.

6. Bridleways and Footpaths

Mr. Marriage reported that he was not aware of any problems.

7. Finances

The Chairman explained that the Precept was historically £1,500 but had been increased in the past for specific projects.

The Chairman asked the council to vote on the Precept amount and it was agreed to keep the Precept unchanged at £1,500.

It was also discussed that an emergency meeting could be called in January, prior to the deadline of the 18th, to override this decision if information about speed indicators became available.

8. Correspondence:

The Chairman reported on correspondence from Scottish & Southern Electricity to prepare villagers for potential power cuts. Mr. Bicknell kindly agreed to pass on the leaflets and glow sticks as needed.

9. Any Other Business: none

The Chairman raised the issue of the Parish records currently in storage and the idea of a filing cabinet. It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

The Chairman reported that the Village Green Christmas lights switch on would be on Friday 2nd December at 6:30pm, and that Ben at the pub had agreed to provide mulled wine for us again.

10. Date of next meeting

The Chairman agreed to circulate dates by email.

The meeting closed at 7:50pm