



**MINUTES OF THE COMMONS & HAMS COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2017  
AT 7.30PM AT KEMPSEY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**PRESENT:** - Cllr Waller (Chair), Cllr Dodge, Cllr Ferguson and Cllr Geens

**IN ATTENDANCE:** - Sharon Baxter (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer) and two members of the Public.

1. Apologies: Cllr Michael (Personal) - accepted
2. Declarations of Interest
  1. Register of Interests: Councilors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
  2. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature - None.
  3. Cllr Waller declared an ODI on two items relating to agenda item 8. Stonehall Common:-
    1. The tender for the scrub control is in the front of his property.
    2. A complaint about the drainage ditch to him from his neighbour.

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time, notes of which are appended to these minutes.
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3. The minutes of the Commons & Hams Committee of 13.11.17 having been previously circulated were signed as a true and correct record.  
Matters arising from these minutes - None.
4. Ashmoor Common -  
**Funds**  
There is approximately £9500 ring fenced funds in the Council budget to use on maintaining Ashmoor Common. The grant is next due to be renewed in 2020.  
**Future Work**  
This money will be used to concentrate on bramble control and to establish a water supply in the centre of the common.  
**Tender for Bramble Control** – The Committee discussed a draft invitation to quote previously circulated;  
**RECOMMENDATION:** - To issue invitations to quote for scrub clearance ( comprising of bramble, gorse and weeds) for areas of Ashmoor Common.  
**Cattle Contract**  
Cllr Waller to liaise with Mr Gove to enquire if he is happy to continue with the cattle contract.  
**Cattle 2018/19**  
It is anticipated to purchase 10 Red Devon Cattle for 2018/19 in April/May next year.  
**Aerial Photographs**  
To assist with managing the commons it was felt it would be useful to have aerial photographs of both Ashmoor Common and Kempsey Common. Cllr Waller to make further enquiries from Pearson Aerial Surveys.
5. Kempsey Common –  
**Track to Caravan Park**  
Being presented with further information this item is now to be referred to full Parish Council for a decision.  
**Rider Friendly Gate Latch**  
This is to be installed at the gate to Common Farm. This work will be amalgamated with the purchase and installation of a new gate for Stonehall Common. Cllr Waller to devise a specification for quotes to be obtained.

Action

Clerk

CW

CW

CW

**Tender for Scrub Control**

The Committee needs to define which areas to control, Cllr Waller will try to locate a map in the first instance, to assist.

CW

6. Kerswell Green –

**Tree surgery and ditch works** - Work is progress

7. Normoor Common –

**Tree Surgery** – No update available

8. Stonehall Common –

**Dog Litter Bins**

Two locations to install the dog waste bins have been identified.

Volunteers are happy to install these bins.

Four volunteers are happy to incorporate dog waste into their domestic waste for disposal purposes.

A proposal has been placed on the December Parish Council agenda.

Tender Scrub Control – The Committee discussed a draft invitation to quote previously circulated;

**RECOMMENDATION:-** To issue the invitation to quote for the removal of scrub from areas of Stonehall Common

**Drainage Ditch**

A response has been submitted to a recent complaint received.

Clerk

9. **Lower Ham - Update on Riverbank Maintenance**

Cllr Ferguson to follow up an enquiry submitted to Severn River Trust.com to seek advice/guidance regarding who is responsible for maintaining the riverbank.

GF

10. **Allotments** -

Awaiting a reply from the owner regarding the possible allotment site off Pixham Ferry lane.

JM

11. Any Other Business – None

Meeting Closed 8.50 pm

Signed ..... Chairman..... Date

**Public Question Time**

A parishioner requested an update following the Public Consultation on the access track for the caravan park, highlighting the potential problems surrounding car parking, mains water and drainage issues which the Parish Council needs to take into further consideration.

A parishioner raised concerns about the benefits/advantages of the Parish Council acquiring parts of the Lower Ham for recreational purposes.