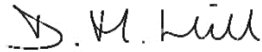


**TEWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
SEVERN HAM COMMITTEE
25th SEPTEMBER 2024**

To: Councillors P Brookes (Chair), C Danter, J Raywood, C Cody, J Baddams, E Ash, Mr J Bagg, Mrs K Andrews, Mr T Perry, Ms C Corsie, Mr M Cluley.

You are hereby summoned to a meeting of the Severn Ham Committee to be held in the Town Hall, High Street, Tewkesbury on **Wednesday 25th September 2024 at 10:00 am.**

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend.



Debbie Hill
Town Clerk
11th September 2024

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of interests
3. Dispensations
4. To approve the minutes of the Severn Ham committee meeting held on 19th June 2024
5. Public Participation *(to provide members of the public/press with the opportunity to comment on items on the agenda or raise items for future consideration. In accordance with Standing Orders this will not exceed 12 minutes in total and 3 minutes per person.)*
6. Correspondence
7. Matters arising from the previous minutes – for information only
8. To receive an update from Severn Trent and agree any actions
9. To receive an update from Caroline Corsie, Environmental Adviser and agree any actions.
10. To receive an update from the Deputy Town Clerk and agree any actions including:
 - i. Eelscape Project
 - ii. Legacy Issues
 - iii. EDF project to support migratory fish
11. To receive the committee budget report and earmarked reserve report



TEWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the

Severn Ham Committee meeting

Held at Town Hall, Tewkesbury on 19th June 2024 at 10.00am

Present: Cllrs P Brookes (Chair), J Baddams, C Danter, J Raywood, Ms C Corsie, Mr Perry, Mr Baggs (Clerk to the Commoners)

In attendance: J King (Deputy Town Clerk), Mr R Safe (Tewkesbury Popular Angling Association)

SH 24/001 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cody, Ash & Mrs Andrews.

SH 24/002 To record declarations of interest

Mr Baggs – Clerk to the Commoners

Mr Perry – Hay spreading and application

SH 24/003 To consider requests for dispensations

None received.

SH 24/004 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2024

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2024.

Proposed by Cllr J Raywood, seconded by Cllr Danter.

SH 24/005 Public Participation

There was no public participation.

SH 24/006 Correspondence

One item of correspondence was received from the Abbey, who thanked the Severn Ham Committee for their use of the Ham for the River Blessing Service.

SH 24/007 Matters arising from the previous minutes – for information only

SH20/024 ELMS Model for the Severn Ham – ongoing.

SH22/058 Eel Pass monitoring details – ongoing.

SH22/070 Legacy proposal – circulated – now with Severn Trent.

SH23/025 Plug plant project – assent given – complete

SH23/026 Bird boxes – being installed - ongoing

SH25/039 Pennywort – with Environment Agency – ongoing

SH23/055 Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation to circulate – complete

SH23/058 Apply to Natural England to harrow an area – ongoing

SH23/058 Engagement with local schools – with Cllr Cody - ongoing



TEWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

SH 24/008

To receive an update from Severn Trent and to agree any actions

Written report was received from Severn Trent.

Legacy / dock issue – Severn Trent are still considering the request for the Rootwave machine and ongoing costs.

Bund repair – payment to carry out this work was received this week.

Green hay spreading – no agreement reached for this year yet.

Penny Anderson Consulting will be carrying out the National Vegetation classification surveys on the Severn Ham and at Coombe Hill over the next few weeks. These surveys will be repeats of the previous surveys undertaken in 2023

The committee discussed the recent leak on the Severn Ham and the potential impact of repairs on the site. The Deputy Town Clerk has met with the site manager and will keep the committee apprised of any progress.

SH 24/009

To receive an update from Caroline Corsie, Environmental Advisor and to agree any actions

Ms Corsie provided the following update:

In terms of numbers of seeds, there is not much difference between green hay and small bales. Thanks were given to Kym Jackson who hosted the Severn Ham committee to see the meadows.

Ms Corsie and Deputy Town Clerk attended the most recent Severn Vale Catchment Basement meeting.

Meeting with Emma Rothero from the Floodplain Meadows Partnership on site next Wednesday to discuss approaches for the dock issues.

Future agenda item – possibility of a full vegetation survey on the Severn Ham. This may be useful for transitioning to new schemes.

SH 24/010

To receive an update from Tewkesbury Popular Angling Association

TPAA gave the following update:

Main concern from last year is the floating pennywort. The floods took a lot of it away. Avon Navigation Trust have a barge and have been working upstream on removal. The angling club offered assistance with the works.

Anglers have noted that soil has filled the river where the leak on the Ham has occurred. The water has been tested and there is no pollution issues. Question was asked as to whether Severn Trent would clear the river at the same time as reinstating it. **Action:** Deputy Town Clerk to raise with Severn Trent.

SH 24/011

To receive an update from the Deputy Town Clerk and agree any actions including:

- i. Eelscape Project – Deputy Town Clerk is part of the Stakeholder Group meetings which are looking at how to involve everyone in the project which is vital to moving forward to the next phase.



TEWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

ii. Hay sale

For the first time not all of the hay was sold on the Ham due to the prevalence of the docks. Two options have been proposed, one the removal as haylage, the second by making hay. Both will cost £800. Haylage option is preferred as it will not spread the seed as widely.

It was RESOLVED to take the haylage option at a cost of £800, subject to checking that this is allowed in the Higher Level Stewardship and Severn Ham Acts. Proposed by Cllr J Raywood, seconded by Cllr Danter.

Post meeting note: The Higher Level Stewardship states that 'the sward should be managed through grazing and cutting' and refers to the 'haylage auction'. The Severn Ham Act 1808 refers to 'hay harvest' and that we should 'mow or cut the grass or herbage'. On this basis the haylage option has been requested to take place in the cut after 10th July.

iii. Rootwave / Legacy Issues

There is no response yet regarding the Rootwave machine from Severn Trent. The issues with docks have become worse and it may be necessary to investigate alternatives.

Sward lifters and trials were discussed. No conclusion reached. It may be necessary to have a working group meeting to deep dive into the options regarding docks.

iv. Hinkley Point C Consultation Update

Changes were requested to the documentation from EDF regarding access to the Ham to carry out surveys. Updated documents have not been received.

v. Report from Environment Agency

Helping the Fish Home – Teams call organised for after the elections.

Abbey Mill - Any future works to the eel pass will be delivered by Asset Performance team. Details regarding timescales will be shared when more information is available.

Avon Floating Pennywort – A working group has been set up and surveys are being produced to help the maps that will influence the management plan. Next step will be to get hot spots removed – if possible and appropriate through a combination of some of our internal teams, staff environmental leave days and potentially days with external partners/volunteers. TPAA have volunteered to get involved. In the meantime the operations team will be working with the Avon Navigation Trust to clear the Pennywort at Abbey Mill itself over the next month or so.

vi. Help for nesting swans – it was felt that assistance should be provided to the last pair of nesting swans in Tewkesbury if possible.



TEWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Action : Deputy Town Clerk to speak to Wetherspoons.

- vii. Land Agent for 2024/5 – Current Land Agent; Mike Cluley has left Carver Knowles and is working independently.
It was RESOLVED to move the land agent contract for the Severn Ham from Carver Knowles to Mike Cluley with immediate effect.
Proposed by Cllr Danter, seconded by Cllr Baddams.

SH 24/012 To receive the committee budget report and earmarked reserve report
The reports were received.

The meeting closed at 11.15am

Next meeting: Wednesday 25th September 2024

Signature of Chairman upon approval of the minutes

DRAFT

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 11/09/2024

Month No: 5

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual	Variance Annual	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	Transfer to/from EMR
<u>500 Severn Ham</u>						
1620 Hay Auction	732	500	(232)			
1630 Basic Payment Scheme	3,675	7,245	3,570			
1640 Wayleaves	0	390	390			
1700 Fishing Rights	0	1,800	1,800			
1710 HLS Payment	0	22,248	22,248			
1715 Reinstatement Compensation	2,800	0	(2,800)			
Severn Ham :- Income	<u>7,207</u>	<u>32,183</u>	<u>24,976</u>			<u>0</u>
4450 Maintenance	111	1,500	1,389		1,389	
4550 Water	39	265	226		226	
4850 Commoners Grazing Compensation	0	3,500	3,500		3,500	
4855 Hay Sowing Project	63	4,000	3,937	2,550	1,387	
4860 Volunteers (Rec & Prom)	508	1,000	492		492	
4865 Auction Fees	0	500	500		500	
4870 Weeding	0	2,575	2,575		2,575	
4875 Tree Conservation	0	3,000	3,000	3,500	(500)	
4880 Ancillary Management	0	4,000	4,000		4,000	
4885 Nesting Project	86	1,000	914	5	909	
4890 Carver Knowles	0	2,000	2,000		2,000	
4895 Cross Compliance Consultant	0	530	530		530	
4900 Conservation Advisor	1,425	5,738	4,313		4,313	
4905 Footpath Repairs	0	2,000	2,000		2,000	
Severn Ham :- Indirect Expenditure	<u>2,231</u>	<u>31,608</u>	<u>29,377</u>	<u>6,055</u>	<u>23,322</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>4,976</u>	<u>575</u>	<u>(4,401)</u>			
Grand Totals:- Income	<u>7,207</u>	<u>32,183</u>	<u>24,976</u>			
Expenditure	<u>2,231</u>	<u>31,608</u>	<u>29,377</u>	<u>6,055</u>	<u>23,322</u>	
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>4,976</u>	<u>575</u>	<u>(4,401)</u>			
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>4,976</u>					

Account	Opening Balance	Net Transfers	Closing Balance
320 EMR BUILD 64 BS Maintenance	66,935.00		66,935.00
321 EMR BUILD Town Hall Gardens	250.00		250.00
322 EMR MOOR Prior's Court	19,894.23		19,894.23
324 EMR E&A Noticeboards & Swapbox	1,708.00		1,708.00
325 EMR E&A Playground Projects	24,003.00		24,003.00
326 EMR E&A Youth	4,105.00		4,105.00
328 EMR BUILD War Memorial	7,875.73		7,875.73
329 EMR SH Severn Ham	34,133.00		34,133.00
330 EMR E&A CCTV	4,125.00		4,125.00
331 EMR E&A Tree Maintenance	5,650.00		5,650.00
332 EMR E&A Street Furniture	6,014.00		6,014.00
333 EMR E&A Toilet Block Project	13,145.00		13,145.00
335 EMR E&A Bus Shelters	10,773.25		10,773.25
336 EMR FIN Regalia	209.00		209.00
337 EMR FIN Website	2,520.00		2,520.00
338 EMR FIN Professional Fees	5,237.00		5,237.00
339 EMR FIN Legal	17,467.00		17,467.00
340 EMR FIN Elections	5,000.00		5,000.00
341 EMR FIN Tourism & Marketing	1,757.00		1,757.00
342 EMR FIN Newsletter	2,148.00		2,148.00
343 EMR SH Weeding	22,679.00		22,679.00
344 EMR SH Severn Ham Tree Maint	8,000.00		8,000.00
345 EMR SH Hay Sowing Project	8,675.00		8,675.00
346 EMR SH Footpath Repairs	3,253.00		3,253.00
349 EMR MOOR Projects	14,051.00		14,051.00
350 EMR BUILD Watson Hall Lease *	20,000.00		20,000.00
351 EMR BUILD 64 BS Grant Income	144,321.00	-144,321.00	0.00
354 EMR BUILD TH Maintenance	18,029.00		18,029.00
355 EMR BUILD WH Projects	19,319.00		19,319.00
356 EMR BUILD WH Bar Equipment	2,062.00		2,062.00
357 EMR BUILD 64 BS Projects	11,219.00		11,219.00
359 EMR PLA Community Devel Planni	5,856.00		5,856.00
360 EMR BUILD TH Projects	33,362.00		33,362.00
361 EMR FIN Community Grants	600.00		600.00
362 EMR FIN Tewkes Live Music Fest	2,199.00	-2,199.00	0.00
364 EMR Buildings Fundraising	720.00		720.00
365 EMR FIN Events and Services	2,439.00		2,439.00
366 EMR BUILD TH Equipment	870.00		870.00
367 EMR E&A Toilet Block Utilities	1,429.00		1,429.00
369 EMR STA Training	2,087.00		2,087.00
370 EMR PLA CIL	2,252.00		2,252.00
371 EMR PLA Planning Consultancy	1,415.00		1,415.00
372 EMR STA Professional Fees	3,792.00		3,792.00
373 EMR E&A Defibrillators	1,500.00	-1,500.00	0.00
375 EMR BUILD WH Go Fund Me	76.00		76.00
	<u>563,154.21</u>	<u>-148,020.00</u>	<u>415,134.21</u>