

#### **MINUTES**

of the

#### Severn Ham Committee meeting

Held at Town Hall, Tewkesbury on 24th September 2025 at 10.00am

Present: Cllrs P Brookes (Chair), E Ash, R Bartlett, C Cody, Mr Perry, Mr Pagel (GEDA)

In attendance: J King (Deputy Town Clerk)

SH 25/015 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs J Raywood, C Danter & Mr Baggs.

SH 25/016 To record declarations of interest

Mr Perry – Farming interest

SH 25/017 To consider requests for dispensations

None received.

SH 25/018 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 21st May 2025

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21st May.

Proposed by Cllr Ash, seconded by Cllr Bartlett.

SH 25/019 Public Participation

None.

SH 25/020 Correspondence

No correspondence.

SH 25/021 Matters arising from the previous minutes – for information only

SH22/058 Eel Pass monitoring details – ongoing.

SH22/070 Legacy proposal – Updated draft proposal sent to Severn Trent for

consideration - ongoing.

SH23/058 Apply to Natural England to harrow an area – closed.

SH24/011 Swan support options – permission from EA required to install a floating

nesting platform, swans have currently had a successful year with 9 cygnets- ongoing

SH24/048 Update on eel licences – ongoing

SH25/009 EA to share protocol on moving floating pennywort with Ms Corsie

SH 25/022 To receive an update from Severn Trent and to agree any actions

Update received from GEDA – Works have been completed on the Ham. Willow whips will be planted at the green pipe bridge burst site in November / December; as the plants have to be dormant when planted, these will be planted where the boulders are situated in order to improve soil stability and increase biodiversity.



Due to the dry weather, the green hay did not take well. It is proposed that oats are sown on all of the reinstatement areas – by the green pipe bridge and the two areas in the north of the site, to protect it over the winter months. This is the same approach that was taken down the pipeline reinstatement strip previously.

Stock proof fencing to be taken down in November / December.

## SH 25/023 To receive an update from Caroline Corsie, Environmental Advisor and to agree any actions

No update.

#### SH 25/024 To receive an update from Talek Renals, Environment Agency

No update.

## SH 25/025 To receive an update from Tewkesbury Commoners regarding Eelscapes and agree

any actions

No update.

### SH 25/026 To receive an update from the Deputy Town Clerk and agree any actions

- (i) Eelscapes project Defra have agreed to project moving into negotiation phase.
  Drop-in session being held this evening at Wheatpieces Community Centre –
  Deputy Town Clerk will be there (3-7pm).
- (ii) Improving fish migration along the Severn waiting on results of trials of acoustic fish deterrent.
- (iii) The Feed Ducks initiative permission was requested from Natural England to install a wildfowl feeder on the Ham.

It was RESOLVED to install a wildfowl feeder on the Ham. Proposed by Cllr Cody, seconded by Cllr Bartlett.

(iv) Hay sale - Ham was sold as one plot this year and due to poor yields nationwide, sold for £8775. This should not be taken as an indicative income for future years, as last year it cost £800 to clear the site on unsold plots.

### SH 25/027 To retrospectively agree tree works on the Ham at a cost of £2200

It was RESOLVED to retrospectively agree tree works on the Ham at a cost of £2200. Proposed by Cllr Ash, seconded by Cllr Bartlett.

#### SH 25/028 To note the tree survey on the Ham at a cost of £975

New insurance company has mandated that independent tree surveys should take place every three years. The above was noted.

### SH 25/029 To receive the committee budget report and earmarked reserve report

The reports were received and noted.



# SH 25/030 To agree the virement of £5,000 from Ancillary Management (500/4880) to Staffing Professional (110/4100)

It was REOSLVED to agree the virement of £5,000 from Ancillary Management (500/4880) to Staffing Professional (110/4100). The additional £1000 will come from the proceeds of the hay sale this year.

Proposed by Cllr Cody, seconded by Cllr Bartlett.

#### SH 25/031 To consider and agree the committee budget for 2026/27

It was RESOLVED to approve the committee budget for 2026/27.

The amount for the HLS is based on an approximate calculation of what will be received. An accurate amount will only be known in December 2025. If the HLS amount is less than expected, the budget will be adjusted by decreasing the Ancillary Management amount, and if more than expected, will be adjusted by adding an additional spend to the tree works and footpath repair categories. The budget will be net neutral overall.

Proposed by Cllr Cody, seconded by Cllr Bartlett.

The meeting closed at 10.29am

Next meeting dates:

December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025, March 25<sup>th</sup> 2026 at 10am.

Signature of Chairman upon approval of the minutes .....