

Hopton Wafers Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 11th February 2019 at Doddington Village Hall commencing at 7pm.

Chairman: Cllr John Price

Clerk: Mrs D McBride.

Present: Cllr John Price, Cllr Roger Hayward, Cllr Barry Buffery, Cllr Harold Deane, Cllr Derek Bytheway, Cllr Sue Turner, Cllr Peter Cuthbert and Unitary Cllr Gwilym Butler.

109/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Cllr Linda Clayton – another meeting.

Unitary Cllr Madge Shineton – another meeting.

109/02 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made. Cllr Bytheway informed the meeting that he has resigned from Hopton Wafers Village Hall Committee.

109/03 Public Participation Session

There was one member of public present. No matters were raised.

Council agreed to bring the following Agenda item forward.

109/09 Unitary Councillors' Reports

Unitary Cllr Gwilym Butler reported that he is back on Shropshire Council's Cabinet representing Communities and Place Plans. There will be a Place Plan meeting in Cleobury on Thursday 9th May. These meetings will eventually take over from the LJCs. The Rural Services Network campaign for fair funding for rural areas has now got the ear of more than 80 MPs and some House of Lords members. Cllr Bytheway asked why there is a disproportion between urban and rural areas. Cllr Butler explained this was mostly historic when towns had a lot of money put in to encourage people to live there but he agreed that rural communities need the same services and that the system should be fair for all people. The Road Safety Task and Finish Group met last week. The majority of serious injuries and fatalities are on A roads and mostly are residents from out-of-county. The Group looked at what is built now and what can be incorporated into new developments to improve things for the future. The CIL Task and Finish Group is on-going and they hope to provide an update at the Place Plan meetings. Cllr Butler is also a member of the Police and Crime Board for Shropshire. The police are increasing their precept by 10% to enable them to provide more officers; there will be five more officers for Bridgnorth and five more for Ludlow as they have realised that the rural areas are under capacity and that they need to deal with rural crime more effectively. We hear a lot in the press about knife and gang crime but the biggest issues in West Mercia are highway/traffic incidents. West Mercia does have a pot of money (from the precept increase) to be used for community enforcement projects such as Community Speed Watch, CCTV and 'poster' police, not for highway alterations. Work on the co-op crossing in Cleobury has now started. There will be traffic lights from 11th – 20th February then full closure from 9-4.30pm on 21st and 22nd February then traffic lights again from February 25th to March 5th. The Nursing Home in Cleobury is due to open this Spring and Doddington Lodge is also due to re-open soon.

109/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th January 2019

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th January 2019, be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.

109/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Reports since the last meeting

i) Clerk's Report

Councillor Vacancy

There have still been no enquiries despite adverts on the notice boards and the website. Please encourage anyone interested to write in to the Clerk.

Community Speed Watch

We finally have our equipment back and will soon start again in Doddington.

Highways

Contact made with Traffic Engineer regarding the principle of speed reduction and creating a Speed Watch area in Hopton Wafers.

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109/05 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Reports since the last meeting (cont'd)

The following road closures have been notified to us:

Road Closure: Stockhall Lane, Hopton Wafers

Start Date: 18th April 2019 **End Date:** 18th April 2019

Purpose: Road Closure: Tree Trimming - No excavation.

Works Promoter: Western Power Distribution

Road Closure: Love Lane, Cleobury Mortimer

Start Date: 15th April 2019 **End Date:** 17th April 2019

Purpose: Road Closure: Sluice Valve Rebuild chamber Carriageway

Works Promoter: Severn Trent Water

Road Closure: Hillgate to Jct North of Silvington, Silvington

Start Date: 24th April 2019 **End Date:** 24th April 2019

Purpose: Road Closure: Tree trimming - No excavation.

Works Promoter: Western Power Distribution

Road Closure: Hopton Bank End of to Sproseley Farm Jct, Hopton Wafers (near Genoli)

Start Date: 13th May 2019 **End Date:** 13th May 2019

Purpose: Road Closure: Remedial works to Boundary Box.

Works Promoter: Severn Trent Water

SALC

SALC New Training Programme for 2019 has been issued.

Cllr Buffery will attend the Chairmanship Skills on 3rd July 2019, 10am – 4pm at Shirehall.

The SALC area committee meeting is on 28th February at 7.30pm, at Craven Arms Methodist Hall.

Cllr Buffery will attend.

Clerk's Wages were paid by Standing Order even after Bank had been given letter to cancel payment. Payment was returned on 26th January as cheque had already been paid in.

Cllr Turner, Cllr Buffery and the Clerk will attend the Place Plan meeting at Cleobury Country on Thursday 9th May at 7pm.

- ii) Lengthsman Report – Mr Bargman will send a full report next month.
- iii) Cllr Bytheway and Cllr Hayward gave a report from Hopton Wafers Village Hall. A special meeting had been called to discuss issues between the Church and the Village Hall. Council noted this and hopes that this will not affect the Village Hall redecoration works which we have supported. Various functions are planned at the Hall over the forthcoming year.

109/06 Financial Matters

- i) The Chairman signed the approved budget for 2019/20 which will now be published.
- ii) Council discussed the three quotes received for the bus shelter and RESOLVED to approve the quotation from Mark Tudor. Subject to permission from the landowner, highways and grant funding, it is hoped that work will start in the early summer. The Clerk will now ask for confirmation of permission from Midland Quarry Products, Highways and the Commoners Association as well as formally request money from our CIL/Neighbourhood Fund.

109/07 Payments

- (a) To approve the following payments:
 - i) Clerk's Salary (February) - £343.29 (Cheque)
 - ii) HMRC – PAYE (February) - £6.00 (Cheque)
 - iii) Lengthsman Salary – no payment due

The Chairman raised concerns that this Council has spent money on the Community Led Plan review but we have had no report recently. Clerk will ask Secretary for an update and ask if there is anything we can do to facilitate completion.

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109/08 Planning Matters

(a) To consider new planning applications:

- i) Reference: 18/05588/FUL (validated: 11/12/2018) (Amendment)
Address: Marsh Down Farm, Earls Ditton, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 0NN
Proposal: Change the use of existing annex to form a dwelling erection of extensions to include ground floor annex
Applicant: Mrs Dianne Simonds (Marsh Down Farm, Hopton Wafers, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 0NN)
Council noted that further amendments had been made and it had since been granted permission.
- ii) Reference: 19/00436/FUL (validated: 28/01/2019)
Address: Hill Bank Cottage, Hopton Bank, Hopton Wafers, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 0QF
Proposal: Erection of single storey sun room extension and a detached implement/storage building
Applicant: Mr R Hill
Council RESOLVED to support the proposals.
- iii) Reference: 18/05808/FUL (validated: 14/01/2019)
Address: Development Land West Of Water Works, Hopton Wafers, Shropshire
Proposal: Erection of 1no dwelling (modification to previously approved 13/05064/FUL- plot 1 only)
Applicant: Mr Neil Ensor (Cornmeadow Green, Claines Worcester, WR3 7PN)
Council RESOLVED to support the proposals as the brick skin would be an improvement on wooden cladding previously proposed for the property. The balcony must be at the rear of the property.

(b) To receive updates on outstanding planning matters

- i) 18/03718/FUL - Land Adjacent to the Dingle, Hopton Wafers Erection of 2no detached dwellings – nothing new on this application since September 2018.
- ii) 18/04598/FUL – change of use of forestry land to a glamping site near Catherton Common – amendments have been made following comments from highways and is still pending consideration.
- iii) 18/05835/FUL – Earls Ditton Farm conversion of farm buildings – some amendments to the barns have been submitted following comments from Shropshire Council.
- iv) 18/05739/FUL – Earls Ditton Lane – erection of two dwellings. There has been no update from Shropshire Council but part of the site has been levelled and a large static caravan installed on-site.

109/10 Parish Matters/Highways

- i) The New Road cattle grid is blocked again. The Clerk will report this to the Commoners Association.
- ii) Council were pleased to note receipt of the Environmental Maintenance Grant for the current financial year. As timescales are tight, Council agreed that ditching work as well as on-going Lengthsman work would be the priority for this money. Council can apply again in April for the next financial year.
- iii) Cllr Buffery reported that he has five volunteers willing to help with Community Speed Watch. The Clerk will arrange training at Doddington Village Hall as soon as possible.
- iv) Concerns were raised that no signs had been put up in Hopton Bank warning people of the traffic lights in Doddington.
- v) There have been complaints that no gritting has taken place in Cleeton during recent frosty weather. Also the road is starting to collapse into the ditch – The Clerk will report these matters to highways.

109/11 Annual Parish Meeting

Council RESOLVED to set the date of the Annual Parish Meeting for Monday 20th May, 7pm at Doddington. It was agreed to put together a formal annual Council report for the Chairman to read out at this meeting. The Clerk will draft this up and send out to members for further input and discussion at the next meeting.

109/12 Future Agenda Items

To discuss Council's Annual Report and complete the Expression of Interest Form for CIL Local money.

109/13 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 11th March 2019 at 7pm Hopton Wafers Village Hall. The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 110/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-

J Price

Signed.....Chairman

11/03/19

Date.....