

Hopton Wafers Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 14th October 2019 at Doddington Village Hall commencing at 7pm.

Chairman: Cllr Barry Buffery

Clerk: Mrs D McBride.

Present: Cllr Barry Buffery, Cllr Linda Clayton, Cllr John Price, Cllr Harold Deane, Cllr Peter Cuthbert, Cllr Derek Bytheway, Cllr Sue Turner and Cllr Tim Evans.

- 117/01 Election of Chairman and receive signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office
Cllr Barry Buffery was elected Chairman (proposed Cllr Deane, seconded Cllr Cuthbert) and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 117/02 Election of Vice-Chairman and receive signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office
Cllr Sue Turner was elected Vice-Chairman (proposed Cllr Deane, seconded Cllr Cuthbert) and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 117/03 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members
There were no apologies from Parish Council members. Unitary Cllr Gwilym Butler is working away.
- 117/04 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest.
- 117/05 Public Participation Session
There were two members of public present.
The Chairman explained that questions raised normally should be relevant to Agenda items only.
Mr Hayward expressed his apologies to the Council for the additional work tonight in electing a new Chair and Vice Chair due to his resignation. He apologised for leaving the last meeting so abruptly but felt he could not stay in the circumstances.
A resident raised a question about seeking permission for hedge cutting adjacent to a Bridleway. The resident was advised to contact the Shropshire Access Team who oversee all public footpaths, bridleways etc.
- 117/12 Unitary Councillors' Reports
Cllr Madge Shingleton stated that Airband is offering broadband in this area now. If anyone is interested please phone 01905 676121 or email: hello@airband.co.uk There is a Community Led Housing day being held at The Coppice, Bicton Heath on Tuesday 22nd October – everyone welcome. Mark Barrow will open with a briefing on housing and Kinlet will be making a presentation on their scheme. Cllr Shingleton is attending the SALC AGM is on 15th November – Cllr Buffery is also attending. Please report any Highways using 'My Shropshire' and let her know if any problems as she can give feedback to the IT department. The Secretary of State for Health has agreed with the local decision without any amendments regarding the two county hospitals but there will be a Local A&E at the Princess Royal. More information on what constitutes a Local A&E is to come. The two CCGs have amalgamated into one with David Evans as the new accountable officer. They can get on with the £312m 'Future Fit' which will have ripple effects across all county health services. Cllr Turner asked about the proposed Local A&E. We need more services at our local community hospitals but the problem is a lack of skilled staff due to the indecision over the main hospitals' restructure. A query was raised regarding the process to move a post box in Doddington. Previously Royal Mail were very reluctant to move it but now that access is poorer, they may be willing. Cllr Butler may be able to help. Cllr Shingleton went around the parish with the Highways Technician last Friday and pointed out local concerns with pot holes, Earls Ditton Lane junction and Hopton Court Bridge. Cllr Bytheway asked why the roads are better in Wales. Cllr Shingleton answered that the Government gives them more money. The Rural Services Network is pressing Government for fairer funding as do our local MPs. The Queen's Speech today included a promise for more investment in infrastructure.
- 117/06 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9th September 2019
The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9th September 2019 were taken as read with one correction in that the venue is to be amended to Hopton Wafers.

Hopton Wafers Parish Council

117/07 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Reports since the last meeting

- i) Clerk's Report

Casual Vacancy – the official vacancy notice has now expired. No-one has expressed an interest to the Clerk so we will await a formal response from Elections on whether an election has been requested. If no election is called Council may co-opt to fill the vacancy. Council were happy for the Clerk to draft up written procedures for this process.

Highways - Cllr Deane has liaised with contractor and Lengthsman regarding ditching work which started along the Crumpsbrook Road. Good job overall as it got water running off the road better. When chasing up prices for the Hopton Wafers Village Hall and Church signs the Clerk was told we are now under Bridgnorth division. We have not been formally notified of this by Shropshire Council

Bus shelter – may not need planning permission but possibly Building Regulations / Certificate of Lawful Development. The Clerk has asked for clarification on this.

Proposed Development at Doddington - Meeting arranged for Council Chair and Clerk to meet with Shropshire Rural Housing Association and developers on Wednesday 23rd October at 10am.

SALC - Web Accessibility Regulations training is on Wednesday 30th October from 2-4pm at Lord Hill Hotel. The AGM & 70th Celebration – Friday 15th November at Lord Hill Hotel. Cllr Buffery is attending. He and Cllr Deane will arrange to sell the draw tickets which have been sent out.

Correspondence -The Pensions Regulator have written regarding re-enrolment and re-declaration of compliance. Council were happy for the Clerk to complete this for the staff.
- ii) Highways Maintenance report – covered previously.
- iii) Community Speed Watch and Highways update - Cllr Buffery reported that only one session of Speed Watch had taken place since the last council meeting due to the poor weather. Cllr Buffery, Cllr Turner and the Clerk met with Mark Booth from the Safer Roads Partnership to assess Hopton Wafers. Three sights were identified and we are hopeful it will go ahead subject to Traffic Regulations and the speed/volume survey being carried out. Volunteers are needed. Registration forms are available from the Clerk. There is a new lightweight Speed Gun which is easier to use. Cllr Bytheway asked what the cost of vehicle-activated traffic lights would be at Earls Ditton junction. It is unknown at this point but Cllr Evans raised safety and noise concerns when temporary lights were installed some years ago. As Planning keep allowing more housing down Earls Ditton Lane there needs to be a solution to slowing traffic down on the main road to enable vehicles to exit the junction safely, especially if turning right onto the main road.

117/08 Financial Matters

- (a) Council considered and RESOLVED to approve the quarterly budget review and bank reconciliation.
- (b) Council reviewed and RESOLVED to approve the six-monthly review of Risk Assessments. The Clerk will check that our drainage contractor has an oil spill kit.
- (c) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:
 - i) Mrs D McBride - Clerk's Salary (October) - £340.89 (Cheque)
 - ii) Mr C Bargman – Lengthsman work – August/September - £125.00 (Cheque)
 - iii) HMRC – PAYE – (October) - £8.40 (Cheque)
 - iv) Mrs D McBride – Clerk's admin expenses - £107.57 (Cheque)
 - v) A P Supplies – Ditching work - £342.00 (Cheque)
 - vi) SALC – AGM event fee - £38.50 (Cheque)

117/09 Planning Matters

- (a) Planning Decisions – For information only
 - i) Reference: 19/01502/FUL (validated: 29/07/2019)
Address: Doddington Village Hall, Doddington, Hopton Wafers, DY14 8NL
Proposal: Part retrospective application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the improvement of existing car park
Decision: Grant Permission
 - ii) Reference: 19/02904/FUL (validated: 28/06/2019)
Address: Hawksmoor, Hopton Wafers, Shropshire, DY14 0NA
Proposal: Erection of 1 dwelling (modification to previously approved 13/05064/FUL- Plot 2 (Hawksmoor) only)
Decision: Grant Permission

Hopton Wafers Parish Council

117/09 Planning Matters

- (b) To receive updates on outstanding planning matters
- i) 19/01533/FUL – affordable dwelling SE of Oaktree Cottage – no update since May.
 - ii) 19/01628/FUL – extensions to Birches – no update since ecology reports in June.
 - iii) 19/01329/FUL – two dwellings south of Doddington – may go to Committee in November.
 - iv) 19/01742/FUL – new dwelling at Crumpsbrook – nothing since amendment in June.
 - v) 19/02260/FUL – garage extension at No.3 Barton’s Field – no update since June.
 - vi) 19/03178/FUL – two-storey outbuilding at Hopton View – likely to be refused due to size and lack of ecology reports but possibly going to Planning Committee.

117/10 Place Plan Review

- i) The Clerk read through the current list of projects suitable for funding from CIL or Neighbourhood Fund. Further ideas included requesting ‘Concealed Entrance’ signs for the access to Ashcroft. Cllr Buffery will bring information to the next meeting regarding Welcome signs for Hopton Wafers and Doddington villages with white gates. The Clerk is checking if the Safer Roads Partnership will fund them. The road layout at Hopton Bridge needs improving. Cllr Evans will look into the feasibility of finding accurate grid references for every household.

117/11 Consultation

Council RESOLVED to object to BT’s proposal to remove the payphones at Doddington and Crumpsbrook. Both telephones are out of order and despite being reported to BT, they have not been repaired. This would likely explain why there have been no calls from these payphones. We have an increasing number of elderly residents, who invariably do not have mobile phones. Doddington and especially Crumpsbrook are very isolated rural areas on the edge of common land and when weather is poor or during power-cuts a traditional payphone could save lives.

117/13 Parish Matters/Highways

- i) The big gate at Doddington Cattle Grid is bent and the reflective gate post is damaged. Clerk will report.
- ii) The gullies need cleaning out at Doddington and Hopton Bank urgently.
- iii) The cats eyes along the main road need replacing.
- iv) Another grit box is required at the bottom of Ginny’s Lane and outside Sheanker.

117/14 Future Agenda Items

Update on the Hopton Bank sewerage treatment plant.

117/15 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 18th November 2019** at 7pm Hopton Wafers Village Hall.

The Chairman thanked Council and the public for their participation and closed the meeting at 8.42pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 118/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-

B Buffery
Signed.....Chairman

18th November 2019
Date.....