

Hopton Wafers Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 10th February 2020 at Doddington Village Hall commencing at 7pm.

Chairman: Cllr Barry Buffery

Clerk: Mrs D McBride.

Present: Cllr Barry Buffery, Cllr Sue Turner, Cllr H Deane, Cllr T Evans, Cllr Peter Cuthbert and Cllr Derek Bytheway.

121/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Cllr Linda Clayton – unwell.

Unitary Cllr Gwilym Butler – unwell.

121/02 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Buffery declared an interest in Agenda Item 121/07 Payments – travel expenses.

121/03 Co option of new councillor

Following an interview earlier in the evening Council RESOLVED to co-opt Mr Mark Humpage to the Parish Council. Cllr Humpage signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took his seat with Council members.

121/04 Public Participation Session

There were three members of public present. Mr D Fellows, representing Hopton Court Estate, informed Council of the planning situation regarding the Glamping Site. The original planning application for 12 pitches was refused but they have reduced the current use to six and feel that the site is now policy compliant. A planning statement, ecology and other reports will be sent in with a new planning application to regularise matters. Photos and plans of the site were distributed. Council will undertake a site visit when a formal planning application is made.

121/05 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13th January 2020

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13th January 2020 were taken as read and signed.

121/06 Matters Arising/Clerk and Councillors' Reports since the last meeting

i) Clerk's Report

Highways

Chased up gulley cleaning and jet washing along A4117 and asked for replacement cats' eyes and white lines again. Reported more pot holes along A4117 and Crumpsbrook Road.

Lloyds Bank Mandate

Lloyds Bank rejected our request as they claim that neither Roger Hayward or Sue Turner were added despite us sending in the form last August. A new Mandate needs to be completed and sent in to their complaints team who assured the Clerk it would be actioned urgently.

CIL Request

Chased again regarding our request for more information on possible projects but have now found out that the Officer is currently off sick. Clerk is chasing this up via other officers now.

ii) SALC Area Committee Report

Cllr Buffery attended the SALC Area Committee meeting on 30th January. The venue had been changed at short notice. Richard Wooley, Chief Executive of Connexus gave a presentation on their work. He was challenged on Connexus's record of housing conditions and standards from Nash's representative. Tom Blackburn, the new consultant to Shropshire Council, whose role will cost £130K over six months spoke about his appointment and his recommendations for improvements in the Highways department. Cllr Buffery informed him that there are 28 potholes between Doddington and Rocks Green. There are currently over 3,500 pot holes in the county. Cllr Buffery felt it was unacceptable that SALC did not issue Minutes promptly from the previous Area meeting in September, but also there are no Minutes from the Zero Carbon Meeting last autumn. Cllr Buffery asked the Clerk to chase SALC if Minutes are not received by Friday 21st February as SALC assured him they will be sent by then.

121/07 Financial Matters

(a) Council RESOLVED to approve Mrs M Wood as Internal Auditor for the current year.

(b) Members were given copies of the approved budget for 2020/21. The Chairman signed the file copy and the budget will now be published.

Hopton Wafers Parish Council

121/07 Financial Matters (cont'd)

- (c) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments and cheques were signed:
- i) Mrs D McBride - Clerk's Salary (February) - £340.89 (Cheque)
 - ii) HMRC – PAYE – (February) - £8.40 (Cheque)
 - iii) Andrew Deptford – Defibrillator spares - £114.00 (Cheque)
 - iv) AP Supplies – Ditching and Drainage work - £144.00 (Cheque)
 - v) Hopton Wafers Village Hall – Hall hire - £48.00 (Cheque)
 - vi) B Buffery – travel expenses (SALC meeting) - £13.50 (Cheque)

121/08 Planning Matters

- (a) Planning Decisions – FOR INFORMATION ONLY:
- i) Reference: 19/05038/FUL (validated: 18/11/2019)
Address: St Johns Church, Doddington, Hopton Wafers, Shropshire
Proposal: Installation of replacement pedestrian path to include retaining walls and guard rails
Decision: Grant Permission
- (b) To receive new updates on outstanding planning matters:
- i) There were no recent updates on any of the outstanding planning matters.

121/09 Unitary Councillors' Reports

Cllr M Shineton requested a copy of the latest Glamping plans. Cllr Shineton recommends Council attend site visits especially for something different such as a camping site. Council confirmed that Cllr Buffery and Cllr Deane will attend a site visit when the new application is made. Cllr Shineton expressed her sadness about the publicity regarding a £1,000 consultant to sort out highways. She stated that the disorganisation of Highways department is beyond a joke and that the department re-shuffling last year has not helped so hopefully this consultant can sort things out. Front line workers feel things will improve now too. Cllr Butler will be off duty for at least three months as he is unwell. The Climate Change Workshop this afternoon was very good with a big representation. A lot of information and suggestions given will be collated into a report and sent out in 7-10 days. The Local Plan Review is underway and will be out for formal consultation later this year. A new Flood Officer, John Bellis has been appointed. Approximately 700 apprenticeships are available across the county – see Shropshire Council's website for information. As Diamond have had the contract for the 292 bus for a month now Cllr Shineton is trying to arrange a meeting with them, Worcestershire County Council and local representatives. A Planning briefing on dangerous buildings was postponed as all officers were out on site inspections. Please copy Cllr Shineton into all highway's correspondence.

121/10 Annual Parish Meeting

Council set the date of the Annual Parish Meeting for Monday 18th May, 7pm at Hopton Wafers Village Hall. The Clerk will invite Philip Dunne MP and Clive Dean, Shropshire Trust Wildlife Officer for Catherton Common.

121/11 Parish Matters/Highways

- i) Potholes and drains are in desperate need of attention. Cllr Turner reported a resident's concerns that two blocked drains near Hopton Bridge are filled with silt and displaced surface water is eroding his driveway. Despite the resident reporting this twice to Shropshire Council nothing has been done.
- ii) A resident asked if there could be a height restriction on Stockhall Lane as lorries have taken his phone lines down several times.
- iii) Cllr Buffery asked where we were with permission from MQP for the new bus shelter. Due to a change of Director all details need to be re-sent for their consideration. The Clerk will follow up.

121/12 Future Agenda Items

Update on Community Speed Watch at Hopton Wafers.

121/13 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 9th March 2020**, 7pm at Hopton Wafers Village Hall. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.45pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 122/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-

B Buffery

09/03/20

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