

Hopton Wafers Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 10th August 2020 using the Zoom on-line facility commencing at 7pm.

Present: Chairman Cllr Barry Buffery, Cllr Peter Cuthbert, Cllr Mark Humpage, Cllr Linda Clayton, Cllr Sue Turner and Unitary Cllr Madge Shingleton (in-part) and Clerk Mrs D McBride.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone with video and audio to please mute their audio and raise their hand if they wished to speak during the meeting.

- 126/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members
Cllr Harold Deane, Cllr John Price and Cllr Derek Bytheway had sent apologies being unable to join the on-line meeting due to internet issues but had given their comments on the Agenda to the Clerk prior to the meeting.
- 126/02 Declarations of Interest
There were no interests declared.
- 126/03 Public Participation Session
There were no members of public present.
- 126/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13th July 2020
The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13th July 2020 were taken as read and will be signed as soon as practicable.
- 126/08 Unitary Councillors' Reports
The Clerk shared Cllr Shingleton's August report on screen. Cllr Shingleton expressed the importance of contacting boundary owners regarding their responsibilities to manage hedgerows. Shropshire Council's Tree Officer will be in touch regarding Ash Die Back. There have been positive results following the appointment of the Highways Consultant. Repairs for Catherton Road have been reported again. Please ensure that any other side roads are also reported if they have not yet been repaired. Steve Smith is the new Officer for Drainage. The Draft Shropshire Local Plan Review is out for consultation. During the current pandemic there have been advantages in closer working with the Social Services sector, Primary Care and the Voluntary sector which provides for a smoother pathway for patients and their carers. Test and Trace will continue for any local Covid outbreaks. Small businesses are encouraged to apply for Covid support grants from Shropshire Council. The Future Fit plan remains but with a few amendments. Additional highway matters raised with Cllr Shingleton were the potholes and overhanging hedge in Stockhall Lane, worn road markings and lack of cats' eyes, also signs hidden by overgrown hedges on the main road which Shropshire Council usually have cut round by now.
- 126/05 Matters Arising – Clerk/Lengthsman and Councillors' Reports
- i) Clerk/Lengthsman Report
- Highways**
Mr Bargman has repainted the gates at Doddington Cattle Grid. It was agreed he has done an excellent job. Shropshire Council Highways have thanked us for our efforts and taking such a pride in our area. A request to Shropshire Council regarding additional bins has still not been responded to so this has now been requested through My Shropshire. A section of hedge has been removed creating a new access into a field off Earls Ditton Lane. This has been reported by several residents and Shropshire Council Highways are looking into this matter.
- BT Phone Box at Hopton Wafers**
Shropshire Council's Historic Environment Team have now responded regarding the proposed adoption of the BT Phone Box. They will assist with the process in conjunction with the latest consultation from BT regarding the removal of more phone boxes in Shropshire.
- Planning**
A letter has been sent to Planning Officer Mike Davies and Director of Place Mark Barrow following the Officer's comments regarding the number of market dwellings being permitted in the parish.
- Cleobury Mortimer Neighbourhood Development Plan Consultation**
Following comments from councillors the Clerk has responded on behalf of the Parish Council. It was felt that the Plan is generally well thought out but there were some concerns over the lack of firm proposals for highways to solve issues from the additional traffic that will be generated.

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126/05 Matters Arising – Clerk/Lengthsman and Councillors’ Reports (cont’d)

ii) Parish Plan Update

Cllr Humpage informed the meeting that Cllr Clayton has found a resident willing to help with updating the Parish Plan. All information has been circulated and a Zoom meeting will be arranged to go through the data and look at preparing an updated Plan.

126/06 Payments

(a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

- i) Mrs D McBride - Clerk’s Salary (August) - £340.89 (Cheque)
- ii) Mr C Bargman – Lengthsman Salary (June-July) and equipment - £207.45 (Cheque)
- iii) HMRC – PAYE – (August) - £8.40 (Cheque)

All cheques will be signed as soon as practicable.

126/07 Planning Matters

(a) New Planning Applications:

- i) Reference: 20/02024/FUL (validated: 14/07/2020)
Address: 2 Whatsill, Doddington, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 0QB
Proposal: Erection of single storey and two storey extensions to include first floor balcony
Applicant: Mr Alex Gurney (2 Whatsill, Hopton Wafers, Doddington, DY14 0QB).
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support this application.

(b) Planning Decisions – FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

- i) Reference: 20/01270/FUL (validated: 06/04/2020)
Address: Proposed Dwelling West Of Bridge Cottage, Hopton Wafers, Shropshire
Proposal: Erection of two storey building comprising one residential unit with balcony and ground floor entertainment/games room
Decision: Grant Permission

(c) Updates on outstanding planning matters:

- i) Reference: 20/01086/FUL – the process and subsequent refusal of planning permission for the Glamping Site To The North Of Hopton Wafers has been challenged with Shropshire Council.

126/09 Consultation

Council went through the West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner’s Town & Parish Council Annual Survey Questionnaire and completed the form which will be submitted by the Clerk. Cllr Buffery confirmed that the Police have been supportive of Community Speed Watch but we do need to get the hard-standing installed in Hopton Wafers so we can start traffic monitoring.

126/10 Parish Matters/Highways

- i) Cllr Clayton has checked the hedges alongside the footpath from Hopton Bank to Doddington. Some are still overgrown and need attending to and others have been trimmed. The Lengthsman will be asked to help with some of the work removing soil from the pavement to create more space. The landowners opposite Doddington Lodge and also adjacent to the bus shelter at Foxwood need contacting regarding their overgrown hedges.
- ii) Cllr Buffery raised a resident’s query regarding the hedge removal between The Dingle and the School building and whether it was compliant with Planning. The Clerk will check and report back.

126/11 Future Agenda Items

- i) There were no further items raised.

126/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 14th September 2020**, 7pm. This meeting is scheduled to be held at Hopton Wafers Village Hall. Public meetings are subject to government guidance and the required risk assessments being carried out but Council felt that it was safer to continue using Zoom for the time being. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.59pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 127/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-

B Buffery **14th September 2020**
Signed.....Chairman **Date.....**