

# Hopton Wafers Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020 using the Zoom on-line facility commencing at 7.01pm.

Present: Chairman Cllr Barry Buffery, Cllr Peter Cuthbert, Cllr Mark Humpage, Cllr Sue Turner and Clerk Mrs D McBride.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting especially Unitary Cllr Gwilym Butler following his recent illness and wished him well for the future. The Chairman asked everyone to please mute their audio and raise their hand if they wished to speak during the meeting.

128/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Cllr Harold Deane, Cllr John Price, Cllr Derek Bytheway and Cllr Linda Clayton were unable to join the on-line meeting due to internet issues.

128/02 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

128/03 Public Participation Session

There were no members of public present.

128/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were taken as read and will be signed as soon as practicable.

128/08 Unitary Councillors' Reports

Unitary Cllrs Gwilym Butler and Madge Shineton had sent written reports which were circulated by email prior to the meeting and will be attached to these Minutes. Cllr Butler stated coronavirus cases in Shropshire are now 50 per day compared to 50 cases per week in August and Shropshire Council have just launched 'Step Up Shropshire' to help reinforce awareness and safety precautions for everyone to follow. Shropshire Council is keeping watch on the local economy. Ludlow and Bridgnorth have seen some of the highest rises in Universal Credit applications in the West Midlands. The campaign for Fairer Funding for the rural counties has been put back due to Covid. Cllr Shineton asked Council to ensure our Parish Plan was linked to the Place Plan and the Local Development Plan. She noted the local schools seem to be dealing well with Covid to-date.

128/05 Matters Arising – Clerk/Lengthsman and Councillors' Reports

i) Clerk/Lengthsman Report

**Highways**

Highways will check the overflowing drain below Hopton Bank Garage and the run-off from the next lane which flooded from the Common and washed stone into the road (weekend of 3rd-4th October). The Commoners Association will be asked if they can help. Highways will speak with Planning Enforcement about the hedge removals at the field at the bottom of Earls Ditton Lane.

**Mains Drainage at Hopton Bank**

Severn Trent are awaiting a funding decision (due November 2020) for the proposed drainage works. If successful, with parish consultation, the work would be completed by the end of 2022.

**Village Hall correspondence**

Doddington Village Hall's hire charges will be increasing to £10 per meeting once the Hall re-opens.

**Place Plan – CIL funds**

The Place Plan had been updated following the first publication but the question of whether CIL Local could be used for all Village Hall projects and road safety measures rather than Neighbourhood Fund remains. For CIL Local funding requests to be considered, Shropshire Council require the project to be included in the area Place Plan following discussion with our Place Plan Officer. The Place Plan currently covers the wall at Hopton Wafers Village Hall and the fence at Doddington Village Hall but there needs to be public discussion on whether to add other items which will be difficult due to Covid restrictions. The Clerk has asked if the Vehicle Activated Signs can be funded from CIL Local instead of Neighbourhood Fund together with Police & Crime Commissioner match funding. Once Highways have confirmed support for this project the grant funding application will be submitted to the PCC.

**Bus Shelter**

Further contact has been made with Midland Quarries Head Office and the plans and drawings have been re-sent to them for approval.

*Initials...BB...*

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## 128/05 Matters Arising – Clerk/Lengthsman and Councillors’ Reports

### ii) Parish Plan Update

Cllr Humpage informed the meeting that the next step is to get a few council members to help Mr Barrett and Ms Donaldson to formulate a draft Plan. Cllr Cuthbert, Cllr Clayton and the Clerk will help. Once the draft Plan has been prepared it will be shared with all council members initially to assess and ensure the action points are achievable. It is proposed to use the structure of the previous Parish Plan to guide the layout of this updated Plan.

Following the last Council meeting where Neighbourhood Plans were briefly discussed it was agreed that the main focus currently is to complete the Parish Plan review and consider a Neighbourhood Plan in the future. The Clerk has asked Vicky Turner for advice regarding Neighbourhood Plans undertaken by similar sized parishes in Shropshire. Council is aware that a lot of support is needed for a Neighbourhood Plan, it will be costly and will not reduce the number of houses we are expected to take across the parish as the Plan cannot override any county or national policies.

## 128/06 Financial Matters

- i) Council considered and RESOLVED to approve the quarterly budget review and bank reconciliation.
- ii) Council considered and RESOLVED to approve the six-monthly review of Risk Assessments.

## 128/07 Payments

(a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

- i) Mrs D McBride - Clerk’s Salary (October inc pay review) - £457.06 (Cheque)
- ii) Mr C Bargman – Lengthsman Salary (August – September) - £90.00 (Cheque)
- iii) HMRC – PAYE – (October) - £68.00 (Cheque)
- iv) Mrs D McBride – Clerk’s Admin expenses inc Zoom Fee reimbursement - £244.05 (Cheque)
- v) Doddington Village Hall – Hire charges (June 2019 – February 2020) - £30.00 (Cheque)

The cheques will be signed as soon as practicable.

## 128/08 Planning Matters

(a) New Planning Applications

- i) Reference: 20/03487/FUL (validated: 01/09/2020)  
Address: The Dingle, Catherton, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 0EX  
Proposal: Works to facilitate alterations to existing roof lines  
Applicant: Mr Len Freitag (The Dingle, Catherton Common, DY14 0EX)  
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to have no objections to the proposals.
- ii) Reference: 20/03453/FUL (validated: 11/09/2020)  
Address: Land Adjacent To The Woodhouse, Hopton Wafers, DY14 0EE  
Proposal: Erection of American Barn stabling for 12 horses, together with ancillary facilities and machinery storage. Outdoor riding arena 60m x 20m; Indoor riding arena 63m x 21.5m (internal riding area 60m x 20m) Horse walker including internal lunge pen  
Applicant: Mr And Mrs J Imm (The Woodhouse, Hopton Wafers, DY14 0EE)  
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the proposals subject to there being a condition on the site that no building can be used for residential purposes.
- iii) Reference: 20/03741/FUL (validated: 17/09/2020)  
Address: Dantra House, Doddington, Hopton Wafers, DY14 0NT  
Proposal: Erection of single storey extension to existing garage building  
Applicant: Mr & Mrs D. Wood  
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the proposals.

(b) To receive updates on outstanding planning matters.

- i) Planning Reference: 18/03718/FUL - land adjacent to The Dingle, Hopton Wafers. There has been no response from the Planning Officer regarding the hedge removal. Cllr Shineton is also chasing this matter up. There has been no update on the Planning Appeal for this site.
- ii) There has been no update on the proposals for a mixed development of market and social housing at Doddington since the Chairman and Clerk met with the owners and developers last year.

*Initials...BB....*

# Hopton Wafers Parish Council

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128/10 Parish Matters/Highways

- i) Cllr Turner informed the meeting that the culvert pipe is blocked in Stockhall Lane above Stockhall Farm and some overhanging branches still need trimming back. The Clerk will ask the Lengthsman to look into these matters.
- ii) Cllr Buffery had received an email from Mark Booth, Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator who asked if there is anything he can do to help us. Apart from Covid precautions the main issue outstanding in Hopton Wafers is getting the hard-standing installed. The Clerk will chase this up.

128/11 Future Agenda Items

- i) There were no further items raised.

128/12 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020**, 7pm using the Zoom on-line facility.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.54pm.

**It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 129/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-**

**B Buffery**  
Signed.....Chairman

**9<sup>th</sup> November 2020**  
Date.....