

# Hopton Wafers Parish Council

---

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 using the Zoom on-line facility commencing at 7pm.

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

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to please mute their audio and raise their hand if they wished to speak during the meeting. The Chairman will then invite them to unmute their audio to speak.

132/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Cllr Tim Evans – working.

Unitary Cllr Gwilym Butler – Local Elections planning meeting.

132/02 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

132/03 Public Participation Session

There were two members of public present. Mr Simon Harris introduced himself as a Conservative candidate running with Gwilym Butler in the forthcoming elections. Mr Harris can be contacted through Facebook or by email [simonforcleobury@gmail.com](mailto:simonforcleobury@gmail.com).

132/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were taken as read and will be signed as soon as practicable.

132/05 Matters Arising – Clerk/Lengthsman and Councillors' Reports

The Chairman, Cllr Buffery read aloud from a letter which he had received in the post from a resident of Hopton Wafers. The anonymous author commented that the removal of hedges in Hopton Wafers had been discussed by the Parish Council at several meetings but queried why there had been no action taken. The Chairman confirmed our frustration with the lack of action from Shropshire Council but the tone of the letter was rude and disrespectful. As the author is anonymous, we cannot advise them to direct their frustration to Shropshire Council who have the power to act on this matter. All we can do is ask Shropshire Council to investigate the issues which we have done and repeatedly chased them for a report on what they are going to do. We strive to help residents with all issues and help facilitate positive outcomes and we are as frustrated as our mysterious author about the lack of action on this matter. The Clerk wrote to Highways, Planning, Enforcement and our Unitary Councillors upon receipt of a copy of this letter but has had no formal response.

i) Clerk/Lengthsman Report

**Proposed Bus Shelter at Doddington**

The drawings for the bus shelter have been delayed due to the architect being ill.

**Post Box at Doddington**

As requested at the last meeting a letter was sent by recorded delivery to the General Manager at the Royal Mail Sorting Office, Wolverhampton on 20<sup>th</sup> January regarding proposals to move the Post Box from No.15 Doddington nearer to Earls Ditton Lane. As there has been no response the Chairman felt that we need to take this matter further with a higher authority.

ii) Parish Plan Update

Cllr Humpage reported on the draft Plan review. There have been two Parish Plan meetings since the last Parish Council meeting. The content is complete and the Clerk has worked on re-formatting the document. Once we have a few more photographs the latest draft will be ready to be sent out to councillors for comment later this week. Cllr Madge Shineton asked if there is something in the Plan regarding healthcare. Cllr Humpage confirmed that healthcare has been covered in the Parish Plan.

132/06 Payments

(a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

i) Mrs D McBride - Clerk's Wages (February) - £336.40 (Cheque)

ii) Mr C Bargman – Lengthsman's Wages (Nov – Jan) - £60.00 (Cheque)

iii) HMRC – PAYE – (February) - £38.00 (Cheque)

iv) SALC – Annual subscription and training fees - £383.10 (Cheque)

The cheques will be signed as soon as practicable.

*Initials...BB....*

# Hopton Wafers Parish Council

---

## 132/07 Planning Matters

### (a) New Planning Applications

- i) Reference: 21/00258/FUL (validated: 27/01/2021)  
Address: 4 Doddington, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 0NR  
Proposal: Erection of a detached garage with a storage area in loft space  
Applicant: Mr Philip Summerfield (C/o Agents).  
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support this application but ask that a condition be placed on the garage so that it cannot be used as a separate residential unit.
- ii) Reference: 21/00519/HHE (validated: 29/01/2021)  
Address: Tylers Hill, Doddington, Hopton Wafers, DY14 0NR  
Proposal: Erection of a single storey kitchen extension to the rear of a detached property dimensions 5.0 meters beyond rear wall, 3.70 meters maximum height, 3.70 meters high to eaves.  
Applicant: Mr Duncan Chittick  
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support this application.

### (b) Planning Decisions (for information only):

- i) Reference: 20/04354/FUL (validated: 04/11/2020)  
Address: 3 Whatsill, Doddington, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 0QB  
Proposal: Erection of two storey timber frame extension replacing existing single storey lean to include first floor balcony  
Decision: Grant Permission.

### (c) To receive updates on outstanding planning matters.

- i) Planning Reference: 20/04983/FUL – conversion of stable block at The Coach House, Hopton Bank - Ecology has recommended refusal as more information is required regarding bats.
- ii) Planning Reference: 20/05221/FUL - a single storey rear extension at Cherry Tree Cottage, Doddington – notification received today that permission has been granted.

## 132/08 Unitary Councillors' Reports

Unitary Cllrs Gwilym Butler and Cllr Madge Shingleton's written reports had been circulated by email prior to the meeting and will be attached to these Minutes. Cllr Shingleton went through the main points in her report and reminded Council to ensure that comments from the Parish Plan regarding healthcare are included in the Place Plan.

Cllr Shingleton confirmed she would chase up the Planning Officer regarding the hedge removals in Hopton Wafers. Cllr Buffery commented on the recent information from SALC regarding holding face-to-face meetings again from May when the temporary legislation ends. Cllr Shingleton felt, personally, that the infection rate may not be down enough by then and that face-to-face meetings could be delayed until autumn but Government will have to make that decision and advise us.

## 132/09 Parish Matters/Highways

Cllr Turner reported the drains outside Crown Cottages are blocked. The Clerk will report this again and also send the contact details for reporting Highways issues to all councillors. Cllr Buffery said the grit box at the top of Earls Ditton Lane (junction with the A4117) had not been filled.

Cllr Peter Cuthbert joined the meeting and gave apologies for being late.

Cllr Humpage confirmed that he has been working on the Parish Council's Facebook page and encouraged everyone to follow it. Cllr Humpage put a link to tonight's Agenda and the Parish Council website on Facebook. He will also update the headings and put links in for planning applications, reporting highways issues and Covid support. Improving social media is an action from the Parish Plan to improve communication so this should help people get more involved with the Parish Council. Please give Cllr Humpage some feedback on the Facebook page. Cllr Buffery thanked him for this excellent start in getting more information out to the community especially with links to the website but commented that the Councillor profiles need updating. Mr Hayward asked if there could be a link directly to Zoom meetings but Council was cautious due to potential hacking. Following a discussion, it was agreed to continue with the current format where people can contact the Clerk if they wished to join the meeting. The Chairman stated we will follow our Standing Orders and only permit comments regarding items on the Agenda and the Clerk can advise people on the procedures.

## 132/10 Future Agenda Items

There were no further items raised.

Initials...**BB**.....

# Hopton Wafers Parish Council

---

132/11 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021**, 7pm using the Zoom on-line facility.  
The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.48pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 133/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-

Signed.....*B Buffery*.....Chairman Date.....*8<sup>th</sup> March 2021*.....