

Hopton Wafers Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th March 2022 at Hopton Wafers Village Hall commencing at 7pm.

Present: Cllr Barry Buffery, Cllr Mark Humpage, Cllr Sue Turner, Cllr Maria Cook and the Clerk Mrs D McBride.

The Chair, Cllr Barry Buffery welcomed everyone to the meeting.

146/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Cllr Harold Deane, Cllr Linda Clayton and Cllr Derek Bytheway – unwell.
Cllr Paul Blakeway – working.

146/02 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Buffery declared an interest in Agenda Item 146/08 (b) (ii) S.137 grant application.

146/03 Public Participation Session

There were five members of public present.

Mrs Cameron updated the meeting regarding the grant application for a Jubilee event at Doddington Heights. The event will be a welcomed community celebration following the lockdowns during Covid. There will now be a maximum number of 85 people which will reduce the grant application request accordingly to £765.00. Mrs Gibb offered to answer any questions regarding Doddington PCC's grant application for a community event. Mrs Gibb had noted comments in Council's February Minutes regarding Doddington churchyard. Cllr Buffery explained that one water butt had a leak and the bins at the rear of the church were difficult to access in winter when the ground is wet. Mrs Gibb explained there is a second water butt by the tower which is full but will attend to the other one. The bins by the compost heap are to encourage visitors to separate waste into the correct bins but there are other bins at the bottom of the steps which will be highlighted with new notices. Ms Hill asked for Council's support with her concerns regarding the licence for the Audio Farm Festival in September. She feels the music should finish earlier as the sound carries across the parish to her home and affects her sleep. She would permit noise monitoring to be undertaken at her home. She had been unable to speak with the organisers last year when she tried to raise her concerns.

146/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th February 2022

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th February 2022 were taken as read and signed.

146/05 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

146/06 Clerk/Lengthsman and Councillor Reports

i) Clerk's Report

Website

Mr Bargman has asked if we are able to help with the administration of the website with a view to taking it over. We could do this with some support from him initially. It would make sense to ensure all hosting payments are paid directly by us too. This was agreed.

SmartWater

The two new We Don't Buy Crime entrance signs have now been installed on the main road.

Bus Shelter at Crumpsbrook

Ground work is due to start on Monday 28th March with a site meeting next week to mark area out.

Defibrillators

There has been an email from the British Heart Foundation (BHF) querying the registration information of the three defibrillators with The Circuit. As all defibrillators were registered with West Midlands Ambulance Service which was linked with The Circuit/BHF, the Clerk has asked them what information they need as it is unclear on their website.

Highways

The requirement to have all drains cleaned down the whole of Hopton Bank has been reported again.

Vehicle Activated Signs

Shropshire Council has all the information it needs to install the poles. An order has been placed with Coeval for the signs.

Post Box at Doddington

Following a letter from the Clerk, Philip Dunne MP has written to Royal Mail about moving the Post Box at Doddington.

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

Hopton Wafers Parish Council

146/07 Financial Matters

- i) Due to Lloyds Bank not receiving the last Bank Mandate a new form was completed and signed.

146/08 Payments

(a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

- i) Mrs D McBride - Clerk's Wages (March) - £312.00 (Cheque)
- ii) Mr C Bargman – Lengthsman's Wages (February) - £40.00 (Cheque)
- iii) HMRC – PAYE – (March) - £62.40 (Cheque)
- iv) Coeval Limited – four vehicle activated signs - £18,289.44 (Cheque)
- v) SALC – Councillor training course - £30.00 (Cheque).

(b) Council considered and RESOLVED to approve the following S.137 grant applications:

- i) Doddington PCC – Community Celebration - £725.00 (Cheque)
- ii) Doddington Heights Residents Association – Jubilee Event - £765.00 (Cheque)

Cllr Humpage chaired the meeting for item (b) (ii) as Cllr Buffery had declared an interest and took no part in this item. There is £1,400.00 remaining in the budget for S.137 payments and so £90.00 will be transferred from general reserves.

146/09 Planning Matters

(a) New Planning Applications:

- i) Reference: 22/00881/FUL (validated: 07/03/2022)
Address: Catherton Farm House, Catherton, Shropshire, DY14 0LJ
Proposal: Conversion and erection of extension to pool barn to create one residential dwelling (resubmission)
Applicant: Mrs C Blumberg
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support this application.
 - ii) Reference: 22/00882/LBC (validated: 07/03/2022)
Address: Catherton Farm House, Catherton, Shropshire, DY14 0LJ
Proposal: Conversion and erection of extension to pool barn to create one residential dwelling affecting a Grade II Listed Building (resubmission)
Applicant: Mrs C Blumberg
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support this application.
- (b) Planning Decisions – FOR INFORMATION ONLY:
- i) Reference: 21/05937/FUL (validated: 22/12/2021)
Address: Old Miners Arms, Doddington, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 0NU
Proposal: Proposed erection of a timber triple garage and relocation of existing timber building.
Decision: Grant Permission
 - ii) Reference: 21/05498/FUL (validated: 23/11/2021)
Address: Dantra House, Doddington, Hopton Wafers, Shropshire, DY14 0NT
Proposal: Installation of a photovoltaic solar panel array on the house and adjacent garage roofs
Decision: Grant Permission

(c) New Licensing Applications:

- i) Reference: 22/00396/LPREM
Address: Hopton Court, Hopton Wafers, Shropshire. DY14 0EF
Application for Licence for Audio Farm Festival in September 2022.
Outcome: Council noted the concerns raised during the public participation time and will write to the Licensing department to ask that the hours for music are reduced ie to finish earlier but also that sound is monitored around the area to assure residents that the sound is within guidelines. It is recognised that the application is being processed earlier this year and that there is more time to plan traffic management. A one-way system for traffic should be notified to all attendees prior to the event and clearly marked on the routes to minimize disruption on local roads for residents. Residents need to be aware of how to report any issues during the event if there are any concerns with sound or traffic. Relevant contact details will be sought for such reporting.

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

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146/10 Unitary Councillors' Reports

The recent Unitary Councillors' reports had been circulated to all members. Council is disappointed with Cllr Butler's February report where he states 98.3% of Shropshire residents have access to superfast broadband – this is not the case in our rural parish as many residents can only access basic broadband. Also, that Shropshire Council has filled 21,000 pot holes. This may be the case but there are an increasing number of pot holes in Hopton Wafers and Cleobury Mortimer some of which had been temporarily filled previously but have since washed out.

146/11 Doddington Mobile Post Office

The Post Office have written to inform us that the Mobile Post Office will remain permanently closed despite saying they are undertaking a period of public consultation. The service ceased operating in April 2020 due to the pandemic. Council felt that the mobile Post Office service at Doddington was not very well used as most people had to drive there and often preferred to go to town where there were more facilities available.

146/12 Parish Plan

Cllr Humpage had been in touch with officers at Shropshire Council regarding mobile phone coverage and the possibility of installing masts on church buildings. The officers are keen to help but they have less power than with broadband improvements. It is difficult to get mobile suppliers to get together to install a mast. Chris Taylor had offered to attend a parish meeting but no date has been confirmed as yet.

146/13 Parish Matters/Highways

- i) There were no new parish matters.
- ii) Highway issues are on-going but everyone is encouraged to report any defects through Shropshire Council or Fix My Street.
- iii) Council agreed the policing priorities for April – June 2022 should be the same as the previous period – speeding, anti-social driving and anti-social behaviour including suspicious activities by unauthorised visitors to premises. Community Speed Watch dates will be agreed with the volunteers.
- iv) Council discussed the perceived benefits of having white gates installed on the road verges to highlight the villages' entrances. It was agreed that following the next few sessions of Community Speed Watch the locations will be assessed as some roads have either no verges or very steep verges which may not be suitable. Matter to be brought back to a future meeting.

146/14 Future Agenda Items

There were no further items raised.

146/15 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 11th April 2022, 7pm at Hopton Wafers Village Hall.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.03pm.

It was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting (Minute Ref 147/04) that these minutes are a true record of the meeting, subject to the following corrections:-

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

**11th April 2022
Date.....**