

Hopton Wafers Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 12th June 2023 at Hopton Wafers Village Hall commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr Sue Turner, Cllr Maria Cook, Cllr Barry Buffery, Cllr Andy Jones, Cllr Harold Deane, Cllr Paul Blakeway, Cllr Linda Clayton and the Clerk, Sue Jones.

Vice-Chairman, Cllr Sue Turner welcomed everyone to the June meeting.

160/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members
Cllr Mark Humpage – Holiday

160/02 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest.

160/03 Public Participation Session
None.

160/04 To confirm the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 15th May 2023
The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 15th May 2023 were taken as read and signed.

160/05 Matters Arising

- a) Cllr Buffery asked the Clerk for an update on the works that SC have agreed to do to Earls Ditton Lane, as there have been some potholes filled.

160/06 Clerk/Lengthsman and Councillor Reports

i) Clerk's Report

- a) The clerk has received an update from the Bridges and Structural Engineer – Pete Gould and he said WSP are in the final process of completing the design and gathering the relevant Pre – Construction Information needed to pass on to Kier. This then will allow Kier to provide a price and programme date for the works. He has already discussed the construction phasing with Kier and they have advised that a road closure will not be required to carry out the grid replacement and the works can be done under the existing temporary traffic management. As soon as programme dates and time scales have been confirmed. Kier's communication team will provide the necessary updates.
- b) The clerk has been in contact with the suppliers of the VAS to schedule the installation of the signs. It appears that they now have the location of the signs there will need to be some form of Traffic management to enable the VAS to be installed safely. The clerk to investigate the process with SC.
- c) Site Visit – A4117 – Road Safety Improvements
Jon Eastwood (SC) thought it may be better met after the end of the consultation then he will have had an opportunity to review the responses from the 50mph consultation, and hopefully be able to advise on the next steps. Clerk to keep Councillors.
- d) Village Hall Hire
Hopton Village Hall £15 per meeting, Doddington £10 per meeting plus electricity which for the last 2 meeting have averaged at £7.50.

ii) Update on appointment of Lengthsman

The clerk asked councilors if they could provide a list of highway works that need doing around the parish, a schedule can then be produced to give to the Lengthsman. Interviews to be arranged for the appointment before the next meeting.

160/07 Financial Matters

- i) Council noted receipt of the Precept - £9,900.00 and Lengthsman Grant - £1,500
- ii) Council confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest with PKF Littlejohn LLP.
- iii) Council considered and resolved to approve the Certificate of Exemption AGAR 2022/23
- iv) Council considered and resolved to approve the Internal Auditor's Report.
- v) Council considered and resolved to approve AGAR Section 1 - Annual Governance Statements 2022/23.

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- vi) Council considered and resolved to approve the audited accounts and bank reconciliation for the year ending 31st March 2023.
- vii) Council considered and resolved to approve AGAR Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2022/23.

160/08 Payments

- (a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:
 - i) Mrs S Jones - Clerk's Wages (June) - £314.82 (Cheque)
 - ii) HMRC – PAYE – (June) - £78.60 (Cheque)
 - iii) Mrs. M, Wood -Internal Audit Fee £100.00
- (b) The Council RESOLVED to refuse the Grant Request - £1,200 for Doddington Village Hall.

160/09 Planning Matters

- (a) New Planning Applications:
FOR INFORMATION ONLY:
23/02085/CPL | Certificate for proposed lawful development for the construction of an access track | Land To The East Of The Gobbetts Cleeton
St Mary Kidderminster Shropshire DY14 0QW

160/10 Unitary Councillors' Reports

The Unitary Councillors had sent their written report earlier this month but had not attended. Report available on the website.

160/11 Place Plan

The Place Plan team have in May 23 started a 12-week engagement with Town and Parish Councils. In order to access CIL monies and improve the local infrastructure it is essential that the infrastructure (or any other relevant project) is included on the Place Plan. This is a dynamic Plan and new projects can be added at any time – but there is now an opportunity to dust off 'possible' projects and get them on to the Place Plan. There are several projects on the Place Plan that was published in 2019 that are still outstanding/ongoing.

1. Installation of bus shelter at Doddington.
2. Speeding concerns across the A4117.
3. Installation of mains sewerage at Doddington.
4. Issues about grid referencing (it was suggested to encourage the use of What 3 words and the understanding of Grid references.
5. Provision for facilities and sport at Hopton Wafers Village Hall.
6. The Camber on the junction at Earls Ditton Lane and the A4117 requires attention. These could be included in the new Place Plan.

Councillors to consider further projects for the next meeting.

160/12 The Boundary Review

The Boundary Commission has released its proposals for the changes to our Unitary Council wards. The existing Ward would be split into two. Firstly, Cleobury Mortimer town, plus Coreley, Milson and Neen Sollars PC but also taking in Boraston and Nash. The other ward would be Hopton Wafers, Farlow, Wheathill, Stottesdon, Neen Savage, and Kinlet. The Boundary Commission are proposing to call this ward the Stottesdon ward. This may cause confusion as a lot of the parishes do not look to Stottesdon and that Parish may get a lot of the queries. Cllrs Butler and Harris are proposing it be called Cleobury Mortimer Rural. A discussion was held and it was RESOLVED that a submission would be made that the name should be Cleobury Mortimer Rural. No further comments to be made.

160/13 Parish Matters/Highways

- i) To receive any new Parish Matters
 - a) Clerk to ask for an update on the mains drainage at Hopton Bank/Doddington
- ii) To receive and new Highway matters.
 - b) Since the resurfacing of the highway on the A4117 at Doddington there is now surface water running off the road causing flooding to property. As the road is now too high. Cllr Clayton to report on "Fixmystreet"

160/14 Future Agenda Items

160/15 Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 10th July 2023, 7pm at Doddington Village Hall.

The Vice-Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.22pm.