

Hopton Wafers Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 8th December 2025 at Hopton Wafers Village Hall commencing at 7.04pm.

Present: Cllr Mark Humpage (Chair), Cllr Sue Turner, Cllr Barry Buffrey, Cllr Andy Jones, Cllr Maria Cook, Cllr Tracey Wood, Cllr James Hinton, Lengthsman Anthony Harman and the Clerk, Sarah Brown

Chairman, Cllr Mark Humpage welcomed everyone to the December meeting.

189/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Cllr Paul Blakeway, Cllr Steve Chapman and Unitary Cllr Dave Davies

189/02 Declarations of Interest

None.

189/03 Public Participation session

None.

189/04 Unitary Councilors' Reports

Attached.

189/05 Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10th November 2025 were taken as read and signed.

189/06 Matters' Arising

None.

189/07 Clerk/Lengthsman and Chairperson Reports

i) Clerk's Report

Clerk has received correspondence from NALC regarding a mobile signal briefing. Cllr Andy Jones to attend on Thursday 22nd January at 6pm.

Cllr Barry Buffrey has shared his notes from the AGM held in October as follows:-

- Katrina Baker was re elected President; Minutes of 75th AGM read and accepted; Presentation of awards for Long standing Clerks; Presidents Award; Retirement of former county secretary; Presented by HM Lord Lieutenant Anna Turner JP; Presentation by CLA & Unity trust (bank); Adopted Annual Report and Audited Accounts; to set subscription fee for 2026-27 as recommended by the executive (an increase of 3.5p per elector from 50p to 53.5 up to 3500 elector, additional electors an increase of 1p per elector with an administrative fee for up to 1000 electors of £70 (as previously)); the vote to adopt new subscription level was carried out

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Lengthsman's Report

The 30mph sign has been repaired last week. Covered areas during the recent heavy rain. Catherton Common area was improved, Stockhall Lane has been checked also. Outside the Pound House the drain is blocked, it would be good for the homeowner to make contact when it becomes blocked. A gulley near Hopton Bank Garage is blocked, will go tomorrow to clear this. Will clear the area around the bus shelter at Crumps Brook. There are other small jobs that need attention. The bridge in Hopton Wafers towards Hopton Court to reduce the bank on either side of the road to prevent road flooding. Clear the gulleys up towards Hopton Bank.

Cllrs thanked Anthony Harman for his continued hard work in the Parish.

189/08 Financial Matters

- i. Council discussed the draft budget and Precept Proposals for 2026-27.

(a) 189/09 Payments

Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

i) Mrs S. Brown - Clerk's Wages (Dec)	£339.78
ii) HMRC – PAYE – (Dec)	£84.80

189/10 Planning Matters

(a) New Planning Applications

Reference: 25/04240/FUL (validated: 10/11/2025)

Address: The Dingle, Hopton Wafers, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 0NB

Proposal: Proposed single storey front / side extension for secure storage / garaging

Applicant: Mr And Mrs Smith

Council to support

Reference: 25/04349/VAR (validated: 28/11/2025)

Address: Barn 2 Barn Conversions At Earls Ditton Farm, Earls Ditton, Shropshire

Proposal: Variation of conditions no2 (approved plans) pursuant to 18/05835/FUL to allow changes to barn 4

Applicant: Mr And Mrs Van Eeden (Earls Ditton Farm , Earls Ditton, Hopton Wafers, Kidderminster , DY14 0HN)

Council to support

(b) Planning Decisions – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Reference: 25/03736/CPE (validated: 09/10/2025)

Address: Glebe Farm, Hopton Bank, Hopton Wafers, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 0ND

Proposal: Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the property known as Glebe Farm, Hopton Wafers which has been used in continual breach of an agricultural occupancy condition for over 10 years.

The property has therefore established a lawful unfettered residential use.

Decision: Certificate - Not Lawful

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189/11 Parish Plan

Clerk reported that members of the communities of Hopton Wafers village, Ditton Mill and Doddington have reached out to offer support with the upcoming work on the Parish Plan. Volunteers from Crumpsbrook and Doddington Heights would be appreciated to incorporate all areas of the Parish.

189/12 VAS Data

VAS data has been uploaded however due to technical issues this is not yet available. Will report at next meeting.

189/13 Parish Matters/Highways

- i) New Parish matters
- ii) New Highways matters – Pot holes on Crumpsbrook have been filled in; Notification of road closure from 9th until 20th March at the bridge at Crumps Brook (to be readvertised on facebook nearer the time).

189/14

Future Agenda Items

None.

189/16 Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 12th January 2026 at 7pm at Doddington Village Hall.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.16 pm.

Signed:

Print name:

Date: