

Hopton Wafers Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9th March 2026 at Doddington Village Hall commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr Sue Turner (Chair), Cllr James Hilton, Cllr Paul Blakeway, Cllr Steve Chapman, Cllr Maria Cook, Cllr Barry Buffery and the Clerk, Sarah Brown

Chairman, Cllr Sue Turner welcomed everyone to the March meeting.

192/01 To receive and accept apologies and reasons for Absence from Members

Cllr Mark Humpage, Lengthsman Anthony Harman and Unitary Cllr David Davies

192/02 Declarations of Interest

None.

192/03 Public Participation session

None.

192/04 Unitary Councillors' Reports

None.

192/05 Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9th February 2026 were taken as read and signed.

192/06 Matters' Arising

None.

192/07 Clerk, Lengthsman and Chairperson Reports

i) Clerk's Report

Correspondence from member of the public regarding the large pothole on the road to Cleeton, that has left the road impassable, with some cars damaged and concerns about access to the village, particularly for those residents who are dependent on carers. Clerk had asked the Lengthsman to look at the road to see if there were improvements that he could make, however after inspection he reported that there is nothing he can do in his capacity as Lengthsman. Correspondence between Andy Keyland and our Unitary Cllr David Davies has been shared with the Clerk stating that the road has been closed but highways are aware that some locals are removing the road closure signs which does not help the situation. Due to stretched resources, highways are unable to investigate the issue immediately and undertake any necessary reports so it is likely that the road will remain closed for several weeks.

The defibrillator at Hopton Bank Garage has been used and therefore the pads need to be replaced. Clerk has researched several suppliers and best pricing is Defib4life £57 plus VAT, £265 for a pack of 5 (adult or child). Cllr Steve Chapman agreed to research whether he could obtain better pricing and will report back urgently. (All attendees agreed that the Clerk should purchase a replacement pack as a matter of urgency in the short-term).

Chairman, Cllr Mark Humpage has reported that confirmation has been received that six new Speedwatch volunteers have been cleared for participating in the parish.

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Lengthsman's Report

None.

192/08 Financial Matters

- i. Council approved budget for 2025-26
- ii. Council considered and approved moving bank account to Unity Trust Bank

192/09 Payments

Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

i) Mrs S. Brown - Clerk's Wages (Mar)	£339.78
ii) HMRC – PAYE – (Mar)	£84.80
iii) Clerk's Expenses	£57.88

192/10 Planning Matters

- (a) New Planning Applications

None

- (b) Planning Decisions – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

None

192/11 Parish Plan

No update since the last meeting.

192/12 Parish Matters/Highways

- i) New Parish matters – Crumpsbrook Bridge, sign has been removed. Work will start tomorrow 10.03.26.
- ii) New Highways matters -A4117 in Hopton Wafers by Bridge Cottage. The wall is collapsing and cracking. Assessment has happened and report that works will be completed in the summer which will result in the road being closed for the duration.

192/13 Future Agenda Items

None.

192/14 Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 13th April 2026 at 7pm at Hopton Wafers Village Hall.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.26pm.

Signed:

Date: