

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH MEETING OF HOPTON CUM
KNETTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 12th July AT 7PM,
HIGH STREET CHAPEL, HOPTON**

PRESENT: Councillors: L. Macklin (Chair), A. Hanks. R.Capon, M. Filler, D. Faiers, Cllr C. Bull and Cllr J. Spicer
Invited guest – Su Delve
2 members of the public

		ACTION
1.	Apologies: Cllr Shotbolt, Cllr Taylor	
2.	Declaration of Interests - None	
3.	The draft minutes of the last meeting (14 th June) had been previously circulated and were approved.	
4.	Previous Action points were reviewed and were to be covered within other agenda points during the meeting	LM
5	<p>Update from Hopton Primary School – Cllr Macklin reported that there would be a school representative present at the September meeting. The school is having a ‘green’ boiler installed over the summer holiday.</p> <p>Update from Su Delve – At the last meeting Su had expressed concern over a lack of contact with police HQ. As a result of this she has now spent time with the new Community Engagement Officer, P.C. Lee Andrews Pearce. He patrolled the village with Su on Sunday 14th July and spoke to many parishioners. P.C. Pearce is keen to make this a regular event, every 6 to 8 weeks, with a move to a mobile patrol in the future that will take in Knettishall and other villages.</p> <p>Hopton is considered to be a village that does not need much police presence.</p> <p>P.C. Pearce talked with Cllr Macklin during his visit and confirmed with her that the role of the Parish Council is to pass problems on to the police as they become aware of them.</p> <p>Su’s role is to help people access the police acting as a conduit if necessary.</p> <p>Problems can be reported directly through 101 if not an accident or emergency, in which case it is 999.</p> <p>It is also possible to report issues through the Suffolk Constabulary website.</p>	LM
6.	<p>Hopton South Development</p> <p>Hopton Parish Council send their condolences to the family of David Sarsons on his passing.</p>	MF

	<p>The sale of the development land has been completed and for the new footpath through the Parish playing field both the Options (allowing Burgess homes to construct the path) and Easement (allowing people from the new site to have free access to use the path) are in place.</p> <p>There are still planning points to be cleared between the District Council and Builder. These are technical points and are not considered to be an issue. Work is expected to start in the first quarter of next year.</p>	
7.	<p>County Councillor Joanna Spicer gave the following update -</p> <p>Cllr Spicer had shared her communications with Matthew Lee of County Farms with the Parish Council. In summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the vegetation and undergrowth leading west from Olives Throat has been cut and flailed. b) Miles drainage has been contracted to dig and profile ditches and will finish this work late August 2021. <p>The Footpaths Officer has reported to Joanna that the contractor has cut footpaths including Olives Throat but will not cut the vegetation to the sides until after the second nesting season. Boardwalk repairs are now all complete.</p> <p>Burgess Homes will be expected to pay for some of the surface upgrading along Olives Throat.</p> <p>Mowing has been difficult this year because of the weather affecting the way verges have grown. There is a timetable published for this work but it is only a guideline and wet weather may affect this. Following parishioner questions about the timing of the mowing the Parish Council has been advised that there will be a path cutting map available on line. Current cutting schedules can be found at: www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/grasscutting There are also links to SCC verge cutting schedules.</p> <p>Update from West Suffolk District Council- Councillor Carol Bull shared the following:</p> <p>There is an anti-idling campaign being launched to stop vehicles sitting with engines running, particularly outside schools.</p> <p>There is a Parish Council Forum online on 14th July.</p>	

	<p>The District Council locality budget is now available if you require a small grant to help start up costs towards a project. Community Chest grants for larger projects will be open for applications soon.</p> <p>Orchid Meadow has been visited to find out the intent of the owner who has not completed a planning application. They have been asked to remove some of their constructions.</p> <p>Cllr Bull reported that the preferred site for the new West Suffolk Hospital is Hardwick Manor (70 Ha). The buildings and gardens will be retained and integrated into the hospital.</p>	
8.	<p>Crooke's Corner – the slabs and bench are ready for installation</p> <p>Healing Wood – An application has been made to The Woodland Trust for hedge and tree packs. It is hoped these will be for an autumn delivery</p>	
9.	<p>Chair's Report:</p> <p>a) Cllr Macklin has been in correspondence with a family hoping to erect a headstone in the cemetery. Although ordered locally this is being made in China and there was some confusion about the interpretation of the sizes stated in the Parish guidelines. Cllr Filler has suggested modified wording to make this clearer.</p> <p>b) The post of parish clerk has been advertised. No one has been forthcoming yet and Cllr Macklin may have to find a locum clerk</p> <p>c) Councillor recruitment. Cllr Macklin suggested that Su Delve be co-opted on to the council. All councillors agreed and Su will be completing the required paperwork.</p> <p>d) Festival of Suffolk. The Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk is looking for a Festival of Suffolk Champion in each village to support County's work on the Queen's 70th anniversary celebrations. This is a voluntary coordination role.</p>	<p>MF</p> <p>LM</p>
10.	<p>Update from other Councillors</p> <p>Cllr Capon – footpath issues had all been covered.</p> <p>Cllr Faiers – all headstones were tested in 2020.</p>	

	<p>Cllr Filler has re-shared previous correspondence about the work needed on the village hall using money from the Hopton South Development. Possibly available from the end of 2023. He is encouraging the Village Hall Committee to engage with this.</p>	
11.	<p>Meeting ended at 20:13</p> <p>Date of next meeting: September 13th at 7pm. Hopton Village Hall</p> <p>There will be no meeting in August.</p>	