

HOPTON-CUM-KNETTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL

The following minutes will be submitted for approval & signing by the Chair at the next meeting of the Parish Council. If any changes are made to the minutes at that meeting, a correction will be notified on the website.

Nicholas Spring, Clerk to the Council
(Telephone 07813396404 & email hoptonpc@outlook.com)

MINUTES

Date: Monday 13th March 2023
Time: 7pm
Venue: Hopton Village Hall

Present: Cllrs L. Macklin Horsfall (Chair), R. Capon, S. Delve, D. Faiers, J. Hassan, B. Shadbolt, J. Thompson

3 members of the public were also present.

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr A. Hanks, Cllr J. Spicer (SCC) & Cllr C. Bull (WSDC)

2. Members' declarations of interests & dispensations

None

3. Public participation session

None

4. Reports from the County and/or District Councillor

None

5. To approve as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2023

The minutes were approved.

6. To review any action points highlighted in the minutes

There were no items to review that were not covered already on the agenda.

7. Reports from

a. The Chair

Grants to the Village Hall and the Church had been raised. The Clerk advised that the Council's Grant Awarding Policy should be followed and noted that there were some legal restrictions governing grants to religious organisations.

A request had been received from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to erect a sign at the cemetery to indicate that it contained two war graves. The Council approved the request.

b. Councillors

Cllr Hanks had sent a report:

a) The condition of the boardwalk continued to deteriorate and it was agreed that the idea of recycled plastic boardwalk should be explored with Suffolk County Council which could potentially be jointly funded.

b) Following Cllr Bull's offer to support the funding of a water mains spur to the Healing Wood, an application had been made to Anglian Water who had indicated the cost would be in the region of £1,200 but on surveying the site said labour alone to dig the trench would be £23,000. This was not feasible and therefore water storage on site within an enclosure will be needed.

c) The Suffolk tree officer was delighted with the oaks and other trees planted between Nethergate Street and the Hopton Fen access. Hopefully there will be more hedging to complete more of this work in the autumn. It is hoped to establish a tree nursery in the near future

d) There was another successful meeting of the History Group on 9th March and there will be meeting during the morning in April and an evening meeting in May.

Cllr Delve reported on plans for a Village Picnic on the Playing Field on Sunday 7th March to mark the Coronation. The Village Hall and Bowls Club would be available if wet weather. Volunteers were needed to help. Cllr Delve also updated on the Crooked Garden.

Cllr Hassan reported that she had been liaising with the Village Hall Management Committee on the playground project. She had had a site meeting with one company and more were planned. The idea was to install equipment which would cover a range of age groups.

Cllr Shadbolt reported that he hoped to progress the updating of the Emergency Plan shortly.

Cllr Thompson reported on the idea of a Neighbourhood Plan and that a Rural Exceptions Site would enable housing for village residents to be prioritised. The first step would be to undertake a Housing Needs Survey.

Cllr Capon reported that he would attend to the issue of access to land arising from the new hedgerow between Nethergate Street and the Hopton Fen.

Cllr Faiers reported that some new equipment had been installed in the Village Hall play area.

8. Planning

- a. To consider the Parish Council's responses to any planning application consultations

Application no: DC/23/0367/HH a. insulated external render to existing elevations
b. alterations to fenestration c. single storey link extension d. two storey rear extension following demolition of rear porch, existing garage and outbuilding e. electric vehicle charging point Location 31A Nethergate Street Hopton Suffolk IP22 2QZ

The Council agreed to support the application.

- b. Hopton South development update (if any)

None

9. Finances

- a. Council received the monthly Financial Report
b. Council approved the Payments Schedule

10. Date of next meeting: Monday 10th April 2023