

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH MEETING OF HOPTON CUM KNETTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2020 AT 7PM VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING, APPROVED AT
JANUARY MEETING**

PRESENT: Councillors: L. Macklin (Chair), R. Capon, A Hanks, J. Taylor, M Filler, D. Faiers, B. Shotbolt (after item 3) R. Salter (Clerk), Cllr C. Bull, Cllr J. Spicer & Su Delve

0 members of public.

		ACTION
1.	Apologies: Claire Wright, Hopton Primary School	
2.	Declarations of interest: None	
3.	Councillor Co-option. It was proposed by Cllr Macklin and seconded by Cllr Taylor that Ben Shotbolt be co-opted onto the Parish Council. This was unanimously agreed. Ben Shotbolt then joined the meeting and was welcomed to the meeting and the Parish Council by the Chair. RS to send paperwork to BS for signing	RS/BS
4.	The draft minutes of the last meeting (9 th November) had been pre-circulated; were taken as read and approved.	
5.	Previous actions were reviewed – Flint Wall – This item is now closed as no further action can be taken. Cllr Filler provided an update on the Hopton South Development meeting that he and Cllr Macklin attended. It was a positive meeting with Burgess homes, a local builder. Their houses tend to be in keeping with their surrounding and they are keen to encourage wildlife. They are building at Rickinghall and Botesdale plus built the 3 semis on the main road opposite the site. They don't expect building to start till at least late 2021. It was hoped to hold a further meeting, including planning before Christmas but this is unlikely to happen. There is a need to extract the surgery element from the planning approval which is with the District Council at the moment. No other surgeries were interested in the site. Other actions are completed or on this agenda.	
6.	Mrs Claire Wright from Hopton Primary School sent her apologies but provided an update for the Parish Council – Due to the current restrictions, we have been forced to create the magic of Christmas slightly differently this year, attempting to ensure the children don't miss out on too much. Obviously, there are some things we are just unable to do. The children have made a Christingle and listened to a service from Rev Cathy. We have all had Christmas dinner, celebrating with our hats and class teachers! Some children have been fortunate to go on school trips and outings this half term. Where we have been unable to attend planned trips, we have used the local attractions to walk the children too. Every class has performed and recorded a virtual Christmas show which has been added to our online platform for all the parents to view. Small pieces of work continue within the building, tiny aspects but some which will make a difference to our school. New dividing	

L Macklin

R Salter

	<p>doors are soon to be fitted in the main body of the school as well as the sensory lighting that is going in our KIWIS (keeping it well in school! room.</p> <p>Staff are ready for a much-earned break after yet another tiring term.</p>	
	<p>Update from Su Delve – the Police Support role is currently stood down. It was raised about an attempted burglary in Hopton and similar instances in surrounding villages. Su will put a post on Facebook to remind people to be aware and look at their house security.</p>	SD
7.	<p>Hopton South Development – covered under previous actions. DC/20/2119/TCA this was approved DC/20/2060/FUL after some discussion it was agreed unanimously to recommend refusal. The reasons for this are –</p> <p>Car Parking is not adequate.</p> <p>Sewerage/draining concerns if another 3 houses are approved. It is outside the settlement boundary so conflicts with building policy.</p> <p>Access to the highway is a concern.</p> <p>It is currently a commercial premise so is affected by the loss of employment use in the countryside if changed to a residential property.</p> <p>It is also next to the Hopton South Development site.</p>	RS
8.	<p>County Cllr Spicer reported that the village signs had been ordered. There was no progress on Olive's Throat.</p> <p>Cllr Spicer advised that the new Public Rights of Way Officers were in place and would be looking at the path from Olive's Throat hopefully before Christmas. Cllr Spicer asked if Cllr Filler can update her if the flooding gets worse at this location as the water level is high.</p> <p>District Cllr Carol Bull reported that the local plan consultation was ending soon.</p> <p>Families and Communities are paying out Government grants supporting local businesses, there are 6 different grants.</p> <p>She also updated the meeting on the following Planning items –</p> <p>Orchid Meadows – Prior Approval Application has been withdrawn. DC/20/1816/HH still needs some changes to the application due to the size of the building at the side.</p> <p>Grey Cottage application – decision expected soon.</p> <p>The name plate on Holme Close should have been repaired.</p>	
9.	<p>Greyhound Lane/Healing Woodland</p> <p>Cllr Hanks and Cllr Spicer had met to look at this area and had met with a local landowner who was there at the time, who will continue to be involved and is supportive. He would like to clear the ditches before work begins as this would then not need doing again for sometime. Cllr Spicer advised this was a good village project which the County Council will support. It will be called a Healing Wood. It now needs some preparatory work to be done.</p> <p>Cllr Hanks will put some costs together for the initial stages of the project. Looking to do planting later in the year in case of a dry summer and to give time to clear the area.</p>	

RSalter *LML*

	<p>Crooke's Corner update</p> <p>It is hoped to put the bench in place here and at Shickle Place this week. The remaining work will take place in the Spring and hopefully a group could meet then to work together. Thanks were given to Cllr Capon for providing the slabs. Cllr Macklin will provide the 3 bottles of wine that are part of the lease to the Crooke's for Christmas.</p>							
10.	<p>Proposed Councillor roles had been circulated and were agreed with two additions – Cllr Capon is the Charity Representative and Cllr Shotbolt will take on the Data Protection role. The Clerk will update this and put on the website and noticeboards.</p>	RS						
11.	<p>Local Plan response – it was agreed to provide the following response to the Hopton section in part three of the draft Local Plan-</p> <p>Although since the publication of Rural Vision 2031 we have lost the provision of a GP surgery in the village we agree that Hopton still meets the criteria for the retention of Local Service Centre status.</p> <p>We continue to support the inclusion of SHELAA site WS110 in the local plan.</p> <p>Whilst the draft plan notes the limited amenity open space in the village, this will be addressed through the provision of a recreation area to be incorporated into the WS110 development site for which planning authority has already been granted.</p>	RS						
12.	<p>There has not been an increase in Cemetery Fees for a few years and our prices are very low and not covering the costs of maintaining the cemetery. It was agreed that fees should be increased a moderate amount from April 2021. Cllr Filler will circulate revised fees for review and a decision at the next meeting.</p>	MF						
13.	<p>There was some discussion about face to face meetings in the village hall from March. It was felt it was too early to make this decision. The Parish Council had been advised they could not use the village hall due to the pre school using it during the day. Cllr Spicer will check whether a premise used for education can be used for other functions before further discussion takes place.</p>	JS						
14a.	<p>Clerks Report.</p> <p>i Bank Balances at 14th November 2020: Community Current Account: £12292.09 Business Premium Account (savings): £45564.48 £8645.50 Income received is 105.43% of expected income budget (£8200) £6374.82 Expenditure is 80% of expected expenditure budget (£7950)</p> <p>ii Payment Schedule for December had been pre-circulated and agreed by email. This included the following payments –</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Zoom for December</td> <td>£14.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Book - Charles Arnold Baker Local Council Admin</td> <td>43.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R Salter Salary</td> <td>£364.80</td> </tr> </table>	Zoom for December	£14.39	Book - Charles Arnold Baker Local Council Admin	43.95	R Salter Salary	£364.80	
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L Macklin

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14b.	<p>Chairs Report.</p> <p>The bottle bank had not been emptied. This is an issue for other Parishes too and the District Council are aware although another company empties the bottle bank. If anyone notices the bottle bank is full, it can be reported by calling 01842 820804.</p> <p>A thank you letter had been received from Home from Home for the Parish Council's recent donation.</p> <p>There had been some complaints about slippery pavements. All pavements are Suffolk County Council owned although swept by the District Council. Any problems should be reported on the website. Either via the link on the Parish Council website or direct with the County or District.</p>							
14c.	<p>Councillors Reports.</p> <p>Cllr Faiers advised he has done some work to the shelving in the telephone box to improve book storage.</p> <p>Cllr Taylor advised that Stanton Surgery had said the vaccine rollout timescales and designated centre was uncertain at present. The surgery had asked people not to ring about the vaccine.</p> <p>Cllr Macklin & Taylor were no longer doing the prescription runs for Stanton Surgery.</p>							
15.	<p>Date of next Parish Council Meeting Monday 18th January 2021.</p> <p>There being no other business the meeting was closed at 20.50 hrs.</p>							

L Macklin

R Salter