

Minutes of Hopesay Parish Council

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Parish Council Meeting Monday 29th March 2021, held remotely via ZOOM, 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. R. Loynes, J Cole, S Hingston, J Manifold, G Fryer, R Fowler, T Record (by phone); J Bowers (joined the meeting during agenda item 4).

Absent: Cllr I Alebon.

In attendance: Unitary Cllr D Evans, and 5 members of the public.

Clerk: Mrs M Gwilliam.

The Chairman introduced the meeting, and summarised procedure for virtual / remote meetings.

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllr I Alebon.

2. Declarations of i) Disclosable Pecuniary and ii) Personal Interests, and written requests for dispensations: None.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 22nd February 2021: The minutes were approved, and the Chairman was authorised to sign them as an accurate record. **Resolved.**

4. Hopesay Hill Management: Mr Peter Carty of the National Trust addressed the meeting about the National Trust's plans for nature conservation, tree planting, and time limited appropriate stock grazing for Hopesay Hill, for the coming years. A small herd of placid longhorn cattle would graze the hill at times between March and November. There is a 10 year Conservation Scheme running at present with Natural England. The Trust is hoping to lessen the bracken by planting native trees in the dense patches. The meadow at the north end will be diversified with wild flowers, to attract invertebrates and insects. A site meeting would take place on 16th April and interested parties were welcome to attend to learn further details.

Cllr Bowers joined the meeting during this item.

5. Public Participation: A member of the public addressed the meeting, introducing themselves and giving details of the new development at Taddymoor Farm. It was explained that a small low-input milking herd that did not require winter housing and would be dry for 2 months each year, had been set up. The new tenants were keen to meet with local residents who had concerns or who wished to know more, and any resident who wished to do so was invited to visit them.

6. Planning: New applications: 21/01299/TCA, field to south of Hopesay Farm, to cut down 3 Ash Trees and 1 Sycamore Tree within Hopesay Conservation Area. Council's Tree Warden had raised no concerns and Council **supported** the application. **Resolved.**

21/00815/TCA, Fern Hill House, Hopesay, reduce by 50% Leylandii trees (1, 3 and 6 on plan), remove 1no Leyland (4), 1no small Fir (5) and 1no Dead Cherry tree (7) within Hopesay Conservation Area. Council's Tree Warden had raised no concerns and Council **supported** the application. **Resolved.**

Enforcement: 21/07680/ENF, Tadmor Farm, Hopesay, Alleged breach of Planning Control in relation to planning permission 20/02434/AGR – usage. Ongoing. No update had been received.

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7. Unitary Councillor Report: Cllr Evans reported that it had been a difficult year, however there was some progress. The Place Plan was going forward. Highways and flooding issues were still prevalent but adult social care had to take priority. A councillor reminded Cllr Evans that broadband speeds within the parish were also still a problem. Council asked Cllr Evans to pass on its thanks to Cllr Lee Chapman for his efforts on its behalf whilst a councillor.

8. Updates from previous minutes, Clerk's report: Cllrs Manifold and Fowler volunteered to remove the bench in Hopesay from the pavement where it was in the way of the new build traffic.

9. Hall / Shop Lease Update: No further update on last month.

10. Flooding: Following on from the site meeting with residents and Shropshire Council, Shropshire Council had taken away a list of actions arising and had already carried out some drainage and clearance work. The Clerk had sent Shropshire Council copies of some informative old documents unearthed by the Tree Warden that may help to resolve the confusion over land ownership in Aston Hall grounds.

11. Aston Green: Council **resolved** to **authorise** the use of Aston Green for the Steam and Vintage Fair to be held on Sunday 27th June.

Maintenance tasks: the hedge has been laid and the tree has now been removed from the reed bed. Roots remain however and will need annual coppicing.

12. Correspondence: The Community Shop building's planning permission requires renewing in 2022. Previously, Council had sought planning permission on the shop's behalf. When it is time to consider the issue, Council will look at seeking planning permission again, with the shop underwriting all costs. One of the shop's committee members has volunteered to be the agent again and do all the required paperwork.

The member of the public who addressed Council in the Public session earlier had previously sent a letter explaining background details and asking to address Council, and this had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

Temporary road closures: Long lane level crossing maintenance 17th & 18th April; B4369 From Broome Road end To Junction B4367, Aston, 28th April, Severn Trent maintenance.

13. Assets inspection reports: Reports on the condition of Council's various assets had been submitted by councillors delegated to inspect them. The picnic table at the Arbor Tree was at the end of its life and was being replaced. The music box is still working. The wiring for the Arbor Tree light is being checked by a lighting electrical firm. At Aston Green, the plaque in the rock required new enamelling. Firms who could do this needed to be identified. Councillors were needed to volunteer to go through all the old sports equipment in the shed, some of which is incomplete. Cllr Bowers offered to assist Cllr Loynes with this.

14. Finance: The RFO presented the Bank reconciliation to 26th February 2021 (which had been circulated), there were no unexplained variances. Council **noted** the bank reconciliation. **Resolved.**

Bank Balances to 26th February: Current account £7,039.11p, Savings account: £8,142.33p.

P3 (Parish Paths) funds: The grant of £150 from Shropshire Council, which will be held by Council for the P3 group, had been received.

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Virement: The RFO advised a virement from Subs and Training to the IT budget, to cover the Vision ICT invoice (voucher 84 below). Council **resolved** to vire £203 from the Subscriptions & Training budget to the IT budget.

INVOICES to PAY:

Voucher	Name	for	Budget (from)	£amount	Cheque
79	Meg Gwilliam	Net salary, & home working expenses allowance	Salary 426.50 Office admin 26.00	452.50	SO
80	HMRC	PAYE tax on salary	Salary tax	73.20	100702
81	M Gwilliam	Anti-Virus Kaspersky	Office admin	7.50	100703
82	Robert Rodger Associates Ltd	Aston Green plan map	AG Management plan	250.00	100704
83	John Campion	Hedging stakes	35.41 Aston Green	42.50 inc 7.09 VAT	100705
84	Vision ICT	Website annual support	£233 IT	279.60 inc 46.60 VAT	100706
85	SALC	Training x 6 @ £30	training	180.00	100707
86	Ditton Services	Grass cutting monthly instalment	Aston Green 203	243.60 (VAT 40.60)	SO

Council **resolved** to accept the Finance Report and authorise the payments as listed.

15. Risk Register: Council deferred this item to the next meeting.

16. Parish Plan: A report written by Cllr Cole had been circulated. Council thanked her for her work in producing it. When all pandemic restrictions were lifted, it would be possible to commence consultation on a Parish Plan review, and Council deferred the matter to the July meeting.

17. Community Asset Listing: Council previously listed the Kangaroo as a Community Asset five years ago. The listing expired on 9th March 2021. To re-list the Kangaroo as a Community Asset a new application must be made. Council **resolved** to apply to have the Kangaroo re listed as a Community Asset.

18. Training: Council **authorised** Cllrs Loynes' and Hingston's attendance at training on 22nd April at £30 per head, a cost of £60 total; and Cllr Fryer's attendance for Planning training on 2nd, 16th, and 30th June at a cost of £95 total. **Resolved.**

19. Annual Parish Meeting: Council agreed that in view of legal requirements to hold an Annual Parish Meeting by 1st June 2021, there was no option other than to hold it remotely via Zoom. Council agreed to hold a face-to-face 'parish meeting' in 2021 as soon as it was safe to do so and could be arranged. **Resolved.**

The Chairman to arrange a date.

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20. Meetings attended: No meetings attended.

21. Reports of Parishioners and parish issues: Confusion had been expressed over where exactly the public Right of Way up Taddymoor Lane ran. This would be raised with the P3 'group' who would be asked whether the RoW could be more clearly marked.

22 Next Meeting: Monday 26th April 2021. Cllrs Cole and Manifold would not be standing in the election, and the April meeting would be their last one. The Chairman expressed his personal thanks to Cllr Cole and Cllr Manifold for their hard work and service to the parish council and to the community.

The meeting closed at 8.53pm.

Chairman Signed:

Date: