

Minutes of Hopesay Parish Council

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Parish Council Meeting, Monday 31st March 2025, held in Aston on Clun Village Hall, 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs. R Hartas, J Bowers, I Alebon, T Record. L Johnson, B Day.

In attendance: 1 member of the public

Absent: Cllr L Bradley Vigor, Unitary Councillors

Clerk: Mrs M Gwilliam.

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllr L Bradley Vigor.

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

3. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting 24th February 2025: The minutes were approved as an accurate record, and the Chair was authorised to sign them. **Resolved.**

4. Public Participation: It was agreed to bring forward part of agenda item 11 – to consider the Easter Craft Market organiser’s request to use Aston Green for a children’s egg hunt. The organiser was in attendance and explained how the egg hunt would work. Council **resolved** to approve the use of Aston Green on this occasion.

5. Unitary Councillor Report: No Unitary Councillors were present.

6. Planning: No new applications.

Granted: 25/00360/FUL, The Granary, Hopesay, replacement garage doors and change of use.

7. Correspondence: Including a consultation on BT’s proposals to remove certain phone boxes (agenda item 8), various bulletins, newsletters, and information sheets etc.

Temporary parish road closures: Hopesay road resurfacing, 31st March – 4th April, capital resurfacing scheme.

8. Public Phone Box Removals: Council discussed and **resolved** to object to the removal of 3 phone boxes within the parish.

9. Policing Priorities: Council **resolved** to add Theft of Farm Equipment, and Theft of Livestock to its Parish Policing Priorities. Speeding within the parish remains the top priority.

10. Chair’s Report: The Chair gave a report on various issues and reminded councillors that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Thursday 10th April 2025. Households had been leafleted.

Planning of the parish event marking VE Day Anniversary 2025 was well underway. The Council was working with the Village Hall and Community Shop.

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11. Aston Green: Council **resolved** to approve a budget of £100 towards the VE Day Anniversary event. The funds would come out of the forthcoming VAT repayment.

12. Play equipment Working Group: This would be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting. Council hoped for a clear decision to be made.

13. Policy Reviews: Council reviewed its Planning Protocol and Guidelines and its High Consequence Infectious Disease Policies. The clerk had checked that all links still worked and that the list of diseases was up to date/in line with HM Government website. **Resolved.**

14. Mandatory Annual Reviews: Council reviewed its Assets Register and approved the addition of an audit value column as this was required for Internal and External Audit. **Resolved.**

15. Finance: Bank reconciliation: A Bank Reconciliation had been circulated and was tabled. There were no unexplained variances. Council **accepted** the Bank Reconciliation.

A VAT reclaim for £2,255.56p had been submitted to HMRC. Payment was anticipated in April.

An interim Budget Monitoring Report to 31st March had been circulated. No budget was overspent.

Council was advised to vire certain underspends including the combined underspends on Aston Green grass cutting and management to the Aston Green Earmarked Reserve, and in April to add it to the Aston Green 2025 2026 budget to help with the paths clearing work which was previously authorised but would be invoiced in the new financial year.

Council **resolved** to vire £509 from the 2024 2025 Aston Green & Management budgets to the Aston Green Earmarked Reserve.

Council **resolved** to vire £200 from Arbor Tree and Area budget to the Arbor Tree & Enclosure Earmarked Reserve.

Council **resolved** to vire £116 from IT support & website budget to the IT Earmarked Reserve.

INVOICES TO PAY: (including 2 late invoices not on agenda, vouchers 80, 81)

Voucher	Name	for	Budget (from)	£amount	Method
72, 73	Staff costs	March 2025	Salary, tax, homeworking costs	702.34	SO, BACS
74	Ditton Services	Grass cutting, March instalment	Aston Green 277.83 VAT 55.57	333.40	SO
75	Clerk	Distribution of leaflets	Publicity	20.00	BACS
76	J H Morris & Son	Hedgecutting at Aston Green	AG 120 VAT 24	144.00	BACS
77	Absalute Games	Clerk laptop update/repair	IT	45.00	BACS
78	John Campion	Replacement barrow	AG 66.66 VAT 13.33	79.99	BACS
79	SALC	Training Internal Audit	Training	20.00	BACS
80	Village Hall	Room hire to end March 2025	Room hire 30 VAT 6	36.00	BACS
81	T P Jones & Co	Payroll Jan – March 2025	Admin 48.75 VAT 9.75	58.50	BACS
82	Unity Trust Bank	monthly service charge 31/3/25	admin	6.00	fee
Total				£1,445.23p	

Council accepted the Finance Report, and approved all payments as listed. Resolved.

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16. CIL Neighbourhood Fund Parish Project: No updates.

17. Risk Register rolling review: Council reviewed risks 2 (loss of financial resources), 3 (poor financial planning), and 11 (infectious disease outbreak). Current measures for all risks were deemed adequate. **Resolved.**

18. Meetings Attended: None.

19. Reports of Parishioners Issues, Future Agenda Items: None.

20. Next Meetings: Mondays 28th April, 19th May (**Annual Meeting of the Parish Council**) 2025.

The Chair closed the Meeting at 8.40pm.

Chair Signed:

Date: