

# **Minutes of Hopesay Parish Council**

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**Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting, Monday 28<sup>th</sup> JULY 2025, held in Aston on Clun Village Hall, 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs. R Hartas, J Bowers, L Johnson.

**Absent:** Cllr B Day, Cllr T Record.

Apologies: Cllrs Day and Record, Unitary Cllr Dickin.

**In Attendance:** 1 member of the public.

**Clerk:** Mrs M Gwilliam.

**1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Day and Record, Unitary Cllr Dickin.

**2. Co-option of new councillors:** None.

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

**4. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025:** The minutes were approved as an accurate record, and the Chair was authorised to sign them. **Resolved.**

**5. Public Participation:** A member of the public addressed the Council regarding the Aston Green War Memorial.

**6. Unitary Councillor Report:** None.

**7. Planning:** New application: 25/02318/FUL, Radnor Villas Broome, erection of extension to existing outbuilding, for agricultural use. Council **resolved** to support the application.

**8. Correspondence:** Including various bulletins, newsletters, and information sheets incl. a Local Nature Recovery Strategy Briefing Paper 'Clustering for Implementation' (17 July), Shropshire Together Conference 25<sup>th</sup> July (9 July).

Temporary parish road closure: B4367 north of Broome to Longmeadow End, 8 – 12 Sept, Long Lane Craven Arms 8 – 10 Sept 2025.

**9. Shropshire Council Call for Information Survey:** Council agreed its responses and the Clerk would submit them. **Resolved.**

**10. Shropshire Hills National Landscape 5 Year Plan:** Council would not submit a response but interested individual councillors would.

**11. Mill Stream Flooding Risk/Maintenance:** The Chair informed the meeting that there was to be a site meeting on Wednesday with Shropshire Council to which councillors could attend. The Clerk would submit a request to Shropshire Council for drains and gullies in the parish to be emptied before the autumn / winter weather.

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**12. Aston Green:** The Chair summarised the recent repairs and rebuilding work carried out on the dam at Aston Green Reed Bed. New notices to dog owners about clearing up after their dogs had been erected. If the dog mess at Aston Green (and aggressive dogs running free) continued to get worse, Council would need to consider restrictions such as keeping dogs on leads.

The gate on the track to the Lower Field has dropped and requires repair.

No reports of anti social behaviour had been received.

**13. Verges, Japanese Knotwood, Himalayan Balsam:** Cllr Johnson offered to create an information poster about Japanese Knotwood and Himalayan Balsam.

**14. Finance: Bank reconciliation:** A bank reconciliation to the end of June had been circulated. There were no unexplained variances and Council **accepted** the reconciliation.

**Bank Signatories:** The Unity Trust Bank form appointing new signatories was re-signed by the Chair and the Clerk and would be re-submitted.

**CIL Neighbourhood Fund:** £4,318.48p had been received into Council's bank account on 26<sup>th</sup> June from Shropshire Council.

**Councillor checks on the accounts:** The Clerk had been unable to collate the required documents so checking invoices and bank statements etc would take place at the September meeting instead.

## **INVOICES TO PAY:**

Voucher	Name	for	Budget (from)	£amount	Method
23,24	Staff costs	July 2025	Salary, tax, NIC, homeworking costs	765.77	SO, BACS
25	Ditton Services	Grass cutting, July instalment	284.16 Aston Green 56.83 VAT	340.99	SO
26,27	SALC	Training (2 invoices £20 & £40)	60	60.00	BACS
28	J Champion	Aston Green reed bed repairs	121.44 + 24.28 VAT	145.72	BACS
29	TP Jones	Payroll services	admin	58.50	BACS
30	Unity Trust Bank	Monthly service fee	admin	6.00	fee
Total				<b>£1,376.98p</b>	

**Council accepted the Finance Report and authorised all payments as listed.**

**15. Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) Updates:** Council **noted** that the Certificate of Exemption was emailed to the External Auditor on 24<sup>th</sup> June, and that all required documentation including the notice of public rights was published on Council's website by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025. Relevant documentation had also been published on various noticeboards around the parish.

**16. Risk Register rolling review:** Council **reviewed** Risk 6. No revisions required. The format of the Register was considered fit for purpose. No revisions required. **Resolved.**

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**17. Policies:** Council **reviewed** Council's Complaints Policy, and its Bullying and Harassment Policy. No revisions required. **Resolved.**

**18. Shropshire Council Environmental Maintenance Grant:** Deferred to the October meeting.

**19. Meetings Attended:** Cllr Hartas had attended a SALC Area Committee meeting and spoke about Shropshire Council's 'new' Local Plan, which was in trouble as it had been rejected by the Inspectorate. It appeared that Shropshire could end up without a Plan at all, for two or three years; and the concern was that this might lead to a 'free for all'. There was also an issue with the increased need for housing and the current Government's instruction to Shropshire to increase housing development numbers for the county.

Aston on Clun Community Shop Committee was intending to present its plans for renewing the shop at the Parish Council's September meeting.

Cllr Bowers had attended a Village Hall Committee meeting. Improvements were being made to the Ladies Toilets.

**20. Reports of Parishioners Issues, Future Agenda Items:** None.

**21. Next Meetings:** Mondays 1<sup>st</sup> September, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

**The Chair closed the Meeting at 9.00pm.**

**Chair Signed:**

**Date:** .....