

Minutes of Hopesay Parish Council

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Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting, Monday 26th January 2026, held in Aston on Clun Village Hall, 7.30pm.

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

Absent: Shropshire Cllr J Dickin.

In Attendance: 3 Members of the Public.

Clerk: Mrs M Gwilliam.

1. Apologies for Absence: Shropshire Cllr J Dickin.

2. Co-option of New Councillors: Having received a satisfactory application, Council unanimously **resolved** to co-opt Mr John Campion as parish councillor. Cllr Campion signed his Acceptance of Office which was witnessed and signed by the Clerk. Councillors congratulated Cllr Campion on his co-option.

3. Declarations of i) Disclosable Pecuniary and ii) Personal Interests, and written requests for dispensations: Cllr L Johnson possible personal interest, re item 7.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting 15th December 2025: The minutes were approved as an accurate record, and the Chair was authorised to sign them. **Resolved.**

5. Public Participation: Two members of the public briefly spoke to identify themselves and give details of a planning application.

6. Unitary Councillor Report: Cllr Dickin had sent a report to Council which would be circulated to councillors.

7. Planning: New applications: 25/04761/FUL, 1 Brook Cottage, School Bank, Aston; erection of detached domestic outbuilding. Council **resolved** to support the application (Cllr Johnson took no part in the discussion or vote).

8. Play Equipment Consultation: The Chair briefly summarised progress. Responses were coming in. Consultation results should be announced at the 23rd February meeting.

9. Chair and Clerk Reports: The Chair reported that the Engine and Tender site had become more dilapidated with the collapse of the barn. He would attend a Shropshire Council 'partnership workshop' in Ludlow on 27th January. The data from the speed indicator devices has been downloaded and analysed. The Chair presented the results to the meeting.

The Clerk reported that road resurfacing along the Hopesay to Aston road from Fairmead to below Hesterworth had been scheduled for the end of March. Residents had raised various concerns about gullies etc which had been reported to the Shropshire Council team.

10. Correspondence: Including various bulletins, newsletters, and information sheets.

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Temporary parish road closures: Hopesay – Basford 29th January, Openreach replacing BT poles; Hopesay – Aston, 26th February, replacing BT pole. Long Lane, 19th January – 1st March, Severn Trent.

11. Big Clean Up Day 15th February 2026: The Chair informed the meeting that notices advertising the event had been posted in noticeboards and flyers were being delivered to households.

12. Aston Green: The Chair reported that he had discussed surface damage by vehicles resulting from parking on the orchard field with the Chair of the Village Hall. The condition of the field and whether any remedial work would be needed, would be reviewed in the Spring.

The Shop Committee had asked permission to use Aston Green for two fundraising events, a 'Doggy Day Out' on Saturday 5th September 2026, and a 'Christmas Celebration' over the weekend of 5th & 6th December but including the 4th and 7th for setting up and taking down. Entry to Aston Green would remain free of charge but activities would require tickets / payment. This is in line with the restrictions and conditions of use of Aston Green that Council and users must adhere to. Council considered the request and was pleased to grant permission in principle and waive any donation, on condition that the Shop Committee / organisers of the events studied the documents 'Use of Aston Green' and 'Booking Form', and confirmed acceptance of all conditions, and also that the Shop Committee / organisers of the events kept Council informed of all details. **Resolved.**

Standing Agenda item: There had been no reports of anti social behaviour at Aston Green or in the Village Hall car park.

13. Finance: Bank reconciliation: A bank reconciliation had been circulated. There were no unexplained variances and Council **accepted** the reconciliation.

INVOICES TO PAY:

Council had approved a grant of £110 to the Friends of Broome Station at the December meeting, Voucher 68.

Voucher	Name	for	Budget (from)	£amount	Method
65, 66	Staff costs	January Salary, tax, NIC, homeworking costs	Salary, tax, admin	767.55	SO, BACS
67	Ditton Services	Grass cutting, January instalment	284.16 Aston Green 56.83 VAT	340.99	SO
68	Shropshire Council	Election re-charge		125.00	BACS
69	Friends of Broome Station	Grant towards volunteer planting expenses	Grants	110.00	BACS
70	AoC Village Hall	Meeting room hire	Room hire	36.00	BACS
71	T P Jones LLP	Payroll services Oct - Dec	Admin	58.50	BACS
72	SALC	training	Training	40.00	BACS
73	Unity Trust Bank	Monthly service fee	admin	6.00	fee
Total				£1,484.04p	

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

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14. Future Meeting Dates: Council **resolved** to approve the following dates: 27th April, 1st June, 29th June, 27th July, 24th August, 5th October, 9th November, 14th December 2026.

15. Shropshire Council Environmental Maintenance Grant: Deferred to 23rd February meeting.

16. Risk Register, rolling review: Risk 9, Not Enough Councillors to be Effective, was reviewed. Council co-opted Cllr Campion at the beginning of the meeting, and would continue to look for more new councillors. No further measures required.

17. Meetings Attended: None.

18. Reports of Parishioners Issues, Future Agenda Items: General dog fouling is a nuisance. The Chair had been thanked by a resident for publicising the recent fibre broadband installation. It was this that had made the resident sign up.

It was noted that the Reed Bed dam or weir at Aston Green was working as it should be, and that overflow in heavy rainfall was deliberate and intended.

19. Next Meetings: Mondays 23rd February, and 30th March 2026.

The Chair closed the Meeting at 9.00pm.

Chair Signed:

Date: