

Minutes of Hopesay Parish Council

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Parish Council Meeting Monday 16th September 2019, Aston on Clun Village Hall, 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. J Bowers (Vice chair and acting Chairman), J Manifold, J Cole, I Alebon, T Record.

In attendance: 7 members of the public.

Clerk: Mrs M Gwilliam.

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllr R Loynes; Unitary Cllrs D Evans and L Chapman. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice chair Cllr Bowers chaired the meeting.

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

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 19th August 2019: The minutes were approved with a minor addition about councillor checks, and the Chairman signed them as an accurate record.
Resolved.

4. Unitary Councillor Report: None.

5. Public Participation: Two members of the public spoke in objection to a planning application on the agenda.

Items 9 and then 8 were taken out of turn:

9. Planning: New application (reconsultation) 19/00613/FUL, land south of Clun road Aston on Clun, erection of single dwelling house & garage. The application was discussed. The access issues remain unchanged and Council voted to maintain its objection. **Resolved.**

No further news on two enforcements: 18/06112/ENF, Tadymor Farm Hopesay; and 19/06687/ENF, 5 Round Oak Hopesay.

8. Arbor Tree & enclosure: Mr P Sweetland a new member of the Arbor Tree Festival Committee was introduced to Council, and he reported the committee's thoughts on the enclosure plans. The Arbor Tree Festival Committee would make a donation towards new seating but did not want recycled plastic. Mr Sweetland was co-opted onto the task & finish group and a meeting would be arranged in the near future. **Resolved.**

6. Updates on matters from previous minutes / Clerk's report: The Clerk reported that the *lower field / car park* would be topped before the next Craft Fair, Shropshire Council had been asked to supply costings for the regular emptying of a *waste bin* that could also take bagged dog waste at Aston Green, and Craven Arms Town Council had been asked for the contact details of its *adult exercise equipment* supplier. The clerk was researching *play equipment* for Council to consider.

The Clerk would be on two weeks leave at the end of September.

7. Aston Green: Council approved the wording and layout of the interpretation board for the reed bed. **Resolved.**

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10. Grant Applications: Council considered two applications, from Crane Quality Counselling for £75 to provide counselling for local people, and from the Arbor Tree Festival Committee for £80 for flags and other expenditure. Council approved both applications. **Resolved.**

The deadline for grant application submission would be waived and applications from local organisations would be accepted this year until the grant fund had been exhausted. **Resolved.**

11. W I plant a tree request: The W I had asked permission to plant a tree on Aston Green marking the W I centenary year, and to help combat climate change. Council approved the request agreeing that a suitable native tree should be planted on the lower field, in sight of Aston Green. **Resolved.**

12. Correspondence: items included Shropshire Council's consultation on its post 19 travel assistance policy, a forthcoming BT consultation on possible phone box removals (see item 13), and a temporary road closure at Fish Lane (Round Oak to Caudibrook House Hopesay) in November.

13. BT consultation: Shropshire Council had asked town & parish councils to discuss this in advance of the forthcoming BT consultation on possible phone box removals. It was agreed that the parish phone boxes were less used than previously but most councillors felt that at least some should remain.

14. Finance: The RFO informed the meeting that pre-meeting accounts checks had been carried out by Cllr Bowers who had found the accounts in order. Cllr Manifold would carry out the checks for the October meeting.

A bank reconciliation to 30th August was presented to Council. There were no unexplained variances.

In her report, the RFO clarified the funds available for the Arbor Tree enclosure improvements for the benefit of councillors.

INVOICES to PAY:

Voucher	Name	for	Budget (from)	£amount	Cheque
27	Meg Gwilliam	Net salary, & home working expenses allowance	Salary 411.72 Office admin 18.00	429.72	SO
28	HMRC	PAYE tax on salary	Salary tax	62.40	100612
29	Arbor Tree Festival Committee	Grant application for flags etc 2020 festival	Grants	80.00	100613
30	Crane Quality Counselling	Grant application for local counselling services	Grants	75.00	100614
31	Ditton Services	Grass cutting monthly instalment	Aston Green 203	243.60 inc VAT 40.60	SO

Council approved the Bank Reconciliation, accepted the Finance Report and authorised payment of invoices. Resolved.

15. To appoint an Internal Auditor: Council accepted the recommendation from Cllr Manifold and the Clerk to appoint Mr Bernard Townson as its Internal Auditor for a period of 5 years all being well. **Resolved.**

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16. New Financial Regulations: Council adopted the new NALC Financial Regulations. **Resolved.**

17. Risk Register rolling review: To identify any other risks: Council agreed that no other risks had been identified. **Resolved.**

18. Meetings attended: None.

19. Reports of Parishioners and parish issues: It was reported that the Mill Stream had now been cleared of overgrowth.

Cllr Record reported that the assets at Broome corner were in sound condition, the benches could do with a scrub up, and some Himalayan balsam needed removing.

20. Next Meetings: Mondays 21st October, 18th November 2019.

The meeting closed at 9 pm.

Chairman Signed:

Date: