

HOPTON AND COTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM THE NEW-BUILD WORKING GROUP

MEETING 1 ON THURSDAY 1st APRIL 2021 AT 6.30 P.M.

Present: Cllr Gilbert, Cllr Rogers, Brian Edgecombe and Rob Walker

21/1 Everyone to introduce themselves: this happened as follows:

Cllr Gilbert is the Chair of the parish council

Cllr Rogers is a parish councillor and the Chair of Hopton Village Hall CIO

Brian Edgecombe is a local resident and an architect

Rob Walker is a local businessman and works at Perkins in Stafford, on the managerial and maintenance side

21/2 To accept apologies: no apologies had been received

21/3 To Declare Interests in agenda items: no-one declared an interest

21/4 To elect a Chairman and a Vice-chairman:

The Clerk informed everyone that if this is a working group set up by the parish council, which it is, and the chair of the parish council is on the working group, then he must automatically become the Chairman of the Working Group. There was an election for the vice-chairmanship of the group. It was RESOLVED to elect Cllr Rogers as Vice-Chair. NOMINATED by Cllr Gilbert. SECONDED by Brian Edgecombe

21/5 To agree the draft Terms of Reference for the New-Build Working group ready for presentation to the parish council: The Clerk went through the Terms of Reference, saying that they were based on the Terms of Reference for the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group plus:

- Hopton and Coton Parish Council's Standing Orders
- Hopton and Coton Parish Council's Financial Regulations
- Government Procurement Rules

21/6 To have a preliminary discussion about possible facilities in the new

build: The Chairman said what facilities the new build should have particularly the outside facilities and all of those would require 12 acres of land. Brian Edgecombe referred to the Local Needs Survey but the Chair said that this survey did not have a full enough response. He went on to talk about the poor state of the current village hall and about the fact that it is not big enough to cater for the expanded population. It was thought that if the parish council was to purchase 12 acres of land that would take up a large chunk of what HS2 is offering the council to build a new community facility so there would be little left over to have a new building. In any case, if the parish council approached a landowner, they would have to have a scheme in place for them to look at. The Chairman pressed for a second survey to be completed. However, the Mr Edgecombe said that we already have data concerning what people in the parish want. We should go on to construct a plan and then go back to the community to ask whether the proposed plan is what they want. These plans can then be refined according to public opinion.

The Chairman said that we need to put something together before thinking about the site and everyone else agreed. The possibility of acquiring land from another source was discussed but this must remain confidential at this stage. Mr Edgecombe said that if you take the result of the Local Needs Survey, you can begin to get an idea of what features the building must have and then you can start thinking about the size of the hall and how many people you want to accommodate.

21/7 To have a preliminary discussion about possible sites for the location of the new build: it was decided that this was premature

21/8 To consider the next steps: It was agreed that everyone should go away and look at the data and come up with a drawing, thus interpreting the results of the survey. The Clerk to provide extra resources, namely the Sport England booklet on Village and Community Halls and a copy of the plans for Fradswell Village Hall that the parish council visited last year.

21/9 To decide on the date and time of the next meeting: Tuesday 4th May at 6.30 p.m.