

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

HOPTON AND COTON PARISH COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 9th January 2019

Public Participation: one member of the public was present

Present: Cllr Bennett, Cllr Brindley, Cllr Evans, Cllr Hilton and Borough Councillor Cllr Beatty

- 19/1 To receive apologies:** There were apologies from Cllr Gilbert (Chair), Cllr Brown-Bullivant (Vice-Chair), Cllr Rogers, Borough Councillor Cllr Harp
- 19/2 To receive Declarations of Interest:** There were no Declarations of Interest
- 19/3 To consider requests for Dispensations:** There were no requests for Dispensations
- 19/4 To consider and agree the minutes of the ordinary council meeting on 5.12.18.** It was RESOLVED to accept the minutes: PROPOSED by Cllr Hilton. SECONDED by Cllr Evans
- 19/5 To consider and agree the minutes if the in-house HS2 meeting on 12.12.18.** It was RESOLVED to accept the minutes: PROPOSED by Cllr Evans. SECONDED by Cllr Bennett
- 19/6 To note the Clerk's report.** There was no Clerk's report for this meeting
- 19/7 Borough Councillors' Update.** Cllr Beatty spoke about the new Local Plan, rough sleepers in Stafford and the fact that SBC has out-sourced the management of local sports facilities to Freedom Leisure
- 19/8 County Councillor's Update.** No County Councillor was present
- 19/9 To consider moving "Members' points for information" from the agenda (Cllr Gilbert to move).** This item will be deferred to February's meeting since Cllr Gilbert was absent.
- 19/10 To consider forming a working party to look at the possibility of extending / replacing the village hall.** It was decided to ask the Clerk to do some research to construct a jobs list / time line of exactly what stages we need to go through and THEN a committee will be formed. She will also put an appeal on both the web site and notice boards for people with appropriate skills and expertise to come forward to join such a committee as co-optees / Councillors. N.B. There has also got to be a similar notice concerning the procedures to adopt for anyone wanting to become a Councillor so that they can get their nomination forms in on time i.e. by 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday 3rd April 2019.

19/11 To consider what HPC would like to achieve during the meeting with HS2 on 30.1.19. HPC needs to find out when the next Environmental Statement will be published. The discussion then became more general with the council deciding that the main thrust of the petition to the House of Lords should be that Hopton requires a TUNNEL. HPC also needs to find out what the deadline dates are for both petitions – House of Lords and Select Committee.

19/12 To receive an update from the Village Hall Committee. The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee spoke about the CIO Constitution, the half year budget review, the playground inspection, the position of the waste bins, the idea of a Facebook page, health and safety concerns, a pre-payment meter, the drinks van and the fact that a request for an electricity supply to the portacabin was rejected due to cost

19/13 To consider the content of the Information Leaflet which is going to be posted through Hopton Residents' doors and arrangements for the taking of photos of each Councillor. It was agreed to accept the Information Leaflet which the Clerk has already composed – it will be “souped up” by the printer in Rugeley. The photo(s) will be taken during the February meeting when it is hoped that all Councillors will be in attendance.

19/14 To consider how to react to a resident's letter about dog mess. The Clerk took everyone through the content of the Email plus another one that came the following day. Since the meeting the Clerk has been informed that it is true that no street furniture e.g. dog mess bins, can be supplied to an estate full of unadopted roads. There is a possibility of asking a management company to look after such issues (There may already be one operating) In addition the Clerk has received details of what local residents can do to ensure that offenders are prosecuted. All details have now been forwarded to the two complainants and to Councillors. Our thanks go to Cllr Hilton's wife for the extra information

19/15 To note the correspondence which has come in. The Clerk took everyone through the correspondence.

Items 19/16 – 19/18 were confidential and concerned the first roofing contractor, the authorisation of payments and Financial Statements 32A and 32B. The Clerk had some news concerning the first roofing contractor. The payments were authorised and the Financial Statements were noted.

19/19 Members' points for information. Comments cannot feature as part of the minutes.

19/20 To confirm the dates of the next HS2 Meeting (30.1.19) the next council meeting (6.2.19) and the next village hall meeting (20.2.19)

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.