

Minutes from the Extraordinary Council meeting on 26.4.19

Present: Cllr Brown-Bullivant (Vice Chair), Cllr Bennett, Cllr Brindley and Cllr Rogers

Apologies: Cllr Gilbert

19/91 To accept apologies The apology was unanimously accepted.

19/92 To receive Declarations of Interest. There were no Declarations of Interest

19/93 To consider any Requests for Dispensations under the Localism Act 2011. There were no Requests for Dispensations under the Localism Act 2011

19/94 To consider the following motion: "To withdraw the Hopton and Coton Parish Council Petition to HS2, presented during the second round of Petitions, in view of advice received".

It was unanimously agreed to accept the above motion. (Explanation below)

Explanation

In the above-mentioned petition, Hopton and Coton Parish Council, in common with all other petitioners, was only allowed to petition against the recent changes introduced by HS2 as they affected Hopton. These changes are known as the AP2 changes."

The AP2 changes:

1. HS2 has planned to include a stock-piling area in Hopton which is for the stock-piling of top soil
2. There are minor utility changes in Hopton over 7 sites scattered around the village and major gas works planned for further along the line towards Yarnfield.
3. It is planned to have temporary traffic lights and a temporary roundabout at the junction between the Sandon Road and Beaconside.

What did Hopton Parish Council Ask for?

1. With reference to the stock-piling area the council asked for this not to be located in Hopton since it would occasion extra vehicle movements
2. With reference to the minor utility changes etc. the council asked that the possibility of providing access to mains gas for ALL Hopton residents be investigated
3. With reference to the temporary traffic lights and the temporary roundabout, the council asked for a permanent roundabout and immediate liaison with Maximus Developments which has outline planning permission to build at least 2,000 near to that junction

What was the HS2 response to the above requests/ objections?

In spite of being encouraged to place these items in the petition by HS2 personnel who visited the parish council, both the Promoter (HS2) and the SAME personnel came back to the council, after the petition had been submitted, to say the following:

1. The location of a stock-piling area in Hopton would NOT increase vehicle movements
2. The major gas works towards Yarnfield are for commercial gas and so to increase the provision of mains gas (domestic provision) would be "beyond the remit of HS2"
3. The provision of a permanent roundabout would be "beyond the remit of HS2". Instead, local developers will have to make contributions to ensure that there is a permanent roundabout and this is estimated to take four years.