

HOPTON AND COTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY April 3rd 2019

Present: Cllr Gilbert (Chair), Cllr Brown-Bullivant (Vice Chair), Cllr Bennett,

Public participation: There were no members of the public present.

There was a presentation by Mike Deegan, consultant, from Gnosall concerning gaining funding and writing bids

19/71 To receive apologies: Apologies were received from Cllrs Hilton, Brindley and Rogers

19/72 To receive Declarations of Interest: There were no Declarations of Interest

19/73 To consider requests for Dispensations under the Localism Act 2011: There were no requests for Dispensations

19/74 To consider and agree the minutes of the ordinary council meeting on 6.3.19 and the extraordinary council meeting on 20.3.19 It was RESOLVED to accept the 6.3.19 minutes. PROPOSED - Cllr Brown-Bullivant. SECONDED - Cllr Gilbert. It was RESOLVED to accept the 20.3.19 minutes. PROPOSED by Cllr Brown-Bullivant and SECONDED by Cllr Gilbert

19/75 To note the Clerk's report: the Clerk's report was noted following the order of the agenda

19/76 Borough Councillors' update: There were no Borough Councillors present.

19/77 County Councillor's update: There was no County Councillor present

19/78 To consider taking a resolution to the effect that "one councillor may represent the council on another body / liaise with an outside body e.g. HS2, but the council must not act solely on the word of that one Councillor". Councillor Gilbert explained the rationale behind this proposal but a final decision as to whether to adopt it was deferred until a future meeting when everyone is happy with the exact wording of the proposal.

19/79 To consider two requests by Margaret Walls on behalf of Salt Burial ground and Compass Magazine. It was RESOLVED to grant £275 to Salt Burial Ground and £100 to Compass Magazine. PROPOSED by Cllr Brown-Bullivant. SECONDED by Cllr Gilbert. The cheque for Salt Burial Ground was prepared and signed but it was decided to wait until we had further instructions from Compass Magazine as to whether HPC should pay £10 per issue or £100 all in one go. The reason behind such a large contribution to Compass was the fact that there was a desire to submit an article about what HPC is doing, every issue.

19/80 To consider progress on the situation whereby a car and a caravan have been dumped on a field on Within Lane. The Clerk confirmed that she had reported the problem to SBC who said that they would send out enforcement officers to investigate within three weeks. At the time of writing these minutes, the Clerk has heard nothing concerning their visit.

19/81 To look at the Clerk's list of potential invitees to the Annual Meeting of the Parish. The list was circulated. Councillors approved all names put forward and suggested additional ones

19/82 To receive an update about gully-emptying in the parish. The Clerk had at last received a reply from Trevor Mellor who seems to be Shane Latham's replacement, enumerating all the gullies in the parish and the frequency of emptying them. All of this was noted but it is not known, at the moment, whether the proposed emptying schedule will be sufficient

19/83 To decide if Hopton Parish Council wishes to use the services of Mike Deegan. It was decided to employ Mike for two days at a cost of £500 so that he could develop a funding strategy to obtain an extension to the village hall or a new build.

19/84a To agree a list of possible dates to invite Mark Dauncy of Pegasus Planning (Maximus) to come and talk to the parish council. (excluding the week beginning 3.6.19) It was agreed that Mark Dauncy should be offered a choice of dates as to when to meet the council. These dates are: the 19th or 26th June, in the afternoon.

19/84b To agree a couple of dates in April when Omar Deedat and his team can talk to HPC about our HS2 Petition. It was agreed to offer Omar Deedat a choice of dates: 17/24.4.19

19/85 To note the correspondence which has come in. There was a great deal of correspondence but the only ones that required action were:

- An invitation to take part in a public consultation concerning the planning system – the Clerk to send the consultation document to the Chairman
- A resident of Battle Ridge who has asked the council for help concerning her application to HS2 to have her house sold. HS2 has asked her to define the word “blighted” concerning Hopton as a village. Councillors put forward many examples of the blighting effect of HS2.
- Communication from HS2 saying that council representatives are required to attend the Select Committee on 1.5.19. HPC decided to accept the invitation and discussed who to send

19/86 To get an update on the impact of the parish council information leaflet. The Clerk went through the content of the replies that she had received concerning HS2 and the village hall.

19/87 To agree how HPC should respond to a consultation document sent out by Stafford Borough Council Planning Department. N.B. this is a different consultation document from the one mentioned under “Correspondence”. It was decided to circulate to document and get individual Councillor responses which the clerk would then coordinate.

N.B. Items 19/88 – 19/90 were confidential and concerned the first roofing contractor, the authorisation of payments and the latest Financial Statements. The chairman gave an update on the first roofing contractor and this item is now closed. The payments were authorised and the Financial Statements were noted.

19/91 To confirm the dates of future meetings:

15.5.19 The Annual Meeting of the Council followed by an ordinary council meeting

5.6.19 An Ordinary Meeting of the Council

12.6.19 The Annual Meeting of the Parish