

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ON 3.7.19

Public participation: seven members of the public were present

Present: Cllrs. Gilbert (Chair), Brown-Bullivant (Vice chair), Bennett, Brindley, Rogers and Wilkinson

19/158 To receive apologies: Apologies were received by County Councillor Cllr Francis

19/159 To receive Declarations of Interest: Cllr Bennett Declared an Interest in item 19/176

19/160 To consider requests for Dispensations under the Localism Act 2011: Cllr Bennett received a Dispensation to speak about item 19/176 but not to vote if the item went to a vote.

19/161 To consider and agree the minutes of the ordinary council meeting on 5.6.19, the extraordinary council meeting on 12.6.19 and the Annual Meeting of the Parish on 12.6.19:
It was unanimously RESOLVED to accept all minutes as follows:

Date and type of meeting	Proposer	Seconder
5.6.19 ordinary	Cllr Rogers	Cllr Brown-Bullivant
12.6.19 extraordinary	Cllr Brown-Bullivant	Cllr Rogers
12.6.19 Annual Parish Mtg	Cllr Gilbert	Cllr Bennett

19/162 To note the Clerk's report: the Clerk's report was noted, following the order of the agenda

19/163 Borough Councillors' update: There were no Borough Councillors present

19/164 County Councillor's update: there was no County Councillor present

19/165 To receive an update on previous council resolutions / decisions:

19/80 To consider progress on the situation whereby a van, a caravan and a trailer have been dumped in a field on Within Lane: Stafford Borough Council Enforcement Team will go to view the site as soon as two Enforcement Officers are available

19/145 To consider progress with the HS2 Petition to the House of Lords. The petition is now ready and the Clerk is working on the exhibits that are going to be presented.

19/166 To receive an update from the Chairman of the Village Hall: No changes will be made to the electrical arrangements. The Chairman has been in touch with Fradswell Village Hall.

19/167 To consider if some of the content which the Clerk has written in the Annual Report would be suitable for inclusion in Compass: The HS2 content was read out and approved

19/168 Does Hopton Parish Council wish to use the services of Colwich Parish Council Lengthsmen to cut the grass next year? The Clerk explained how this offer from Colwich had come about. It was made at a recent Trent Valley Collaboration Group which was attended by many local Clerks and Chairmen. This group was set up for councils to help each other, particularly when it comes to any shortfall in highways services offered to parishes e.g. pot hole repairs or gully-emptying. Colwich Parish Council has the capacity to offer a grass cutting service and would not charge VAT or commercial rates. Therefore, the cost of grass cutting would be relatively low. However, there had been a bit of an outcry about this, in the

community, which two Councillors reported and so it was decided that, in any case, Hopton Parish Council was NOT prepared to give an Expression of Interest in this idea.

19/169 To consider taking the following resolutions in order to allow Hopton Parish Council to petition in the House of Lords: The Clerk explained why these resolutions had to be taken. The following Resolutions were UNANIMOUSLY AGREED. In each case, after the actual resolution, the names of the PROPOSER and SECONDER are mentioned, in that order:

- Hopton and Coton Parish Council resolves to petition against the HS2 Bill: Cllr Gilbert and Cllr Rogers
- Hopton and Coton Parish Council resolves to petition against the HS2 Bill in the House of Lords: Cllr Brindley and Cllr Bennett
- Hopton and Coton Parish Council resolves to appoint Jeremy Lefroy M.P. to represent the parish in the Select Committee Hearings: Cllr Brown-Bullivant and Cllr Gilbert
- Hopton and Coton Parish Council resolves to reserve the right to appoint another person to represent the parish council in the House of Lords if Jeremy Lefroy is not available: Cllr Gilbert and Cllr Rogers

19/170 To consider a resolution that Hopton and Coton Parish Council wishes to form a committee to look after the needs of new residents in Coton: It was agreed to form the committee and that the Clerk should be in attendance alongside Cllrs Gilbert and Rogers plus local co-optees.

19/171 To consider obtaining business cards for Councillors: It was RESOLVED to have business cards for both the Councillors and the Clerk. PROPOSED by Cllr Gilbert. SECONDED by Cllr Brown-Bullivant. One Councillor was against the proposal and has asked for a named vote: Cllr Bennett

19/172 To consider progress on obtaining permission to place a notice board on the new estates by Stafford Crematorium: The Chairman explained what he had done about this. It mainly consists of working alongside David Wilson Homes to achieve this.

19/173 To consider what to do about the fact that a house-owner has moved his garden wall forwards and also that one resident wants two trees removing from the village hall grounds: The Clerk will pass a photo of the wall to the Enforcement Team. It was decided to fell the trees.

19/174 To note the correspondence which has come in: the correspondence was noted.

19/175 To discuss Highways issues: current Highways issues concern concealed road signs. The Clerk has been told that Highways should be able to do something about these problems by October

Items 19/176 and 19/177 were confidential and involved the authorisation of payments and the noting of Financial Statements: The payments were authorised. The Statements were noted.

19/178 To confirm the dates of future meetings:

Village Hall meeting 7	Fradswell Village Hall at 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday 7 th August
Ordinary council meeting	Hopton Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 4 th September

THERE WAS THEN AN ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW THE POTENTIAL CO-OPTees TO FILL THE CO-OPTION FORMS IN. AFTER THE ADJOURNMENT SALLY WOOD WAS CO-OPTED ONTO THE COUNCIL. OUR CONGRATULATIONS GO TO SALLY.