

## **HOPTON CUM KNETTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL**

### MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

THE VILLAGE HALL, HOPTON

MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2024 AT 7 PM

(Draft until approved and signed)

#### PRESENT:

Councillor Loreen Macklin Horsfall (Chair) (LMH)

Councillor Andrea Hanks (Vice Chair) (AH)

Councillor Robert Capon (RC)

Councillor Su Delve (SD)

Councillor David Faiers (DF)

Councillor Ben Shotbolt (BS)

#### NOT PRESENT:

Councillor Jo Hassan (JH)

Councillor Julian Thompson (JT)

#### IN ATTENDANCE:

Nicholas Spring, Clerk (NS)

County Councillor Joanna Spicer (JS)

District Councillor Carol Bull (CB)

5 members of the public were present.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

1. Apologies for absence were received from JH and JT
2. Members' declarations of interests & requests for dispensations - none
3. Reports from the County and/or District Councillor

JS reported that the bid for the funding of the 73/73A bus route for two years had been successful. To be viable in the long term the route must be well-supported, and the next step would be to encourage usage. JS also reported that the rebuilding of the Stowlangtoft bridge was experiencing further delay due to the river diversion not surviving the recent storm. Following on from the November meeting, JS noted that Olive's Throat was due to be cleared again. There was some discussion of whether the 'Do not use' signs were needed at either end of the boardwalk following the work there as the path was walkable. The hope was still to replace with recycled plastic when funds permitted.

CB reported on the District Council's Warm Spaces initiative for this winter which included The White Horse Thelnetham. She also noted that free parking was available in the Greene King car park BSE on Saturdays and Sundays before Christmas. CB highlighted that the District Council's Net Zero work had received national recognition.

4. To consider any matters relating to highways, pavements, footpaths and trees not already considered

In response to queries, LM would follow up on sites for the remaining dog bins and AH would provide some 'Clean up after your dog' signs for Angles Way.

5. Public participation session

In response to a query, AH said that the Parish Council was proposing to hold a tea party in the Village Hall on VE Day 2025 (Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May).

6. The Council approved as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024

7. Planning

- a. To consider the Parish Council's responses to any planning application consultations - none
- b. Sarsons Meadow development update if any – it was noted that the signed Deed of Easement for the footpath through the Village Hall car park had been returned to Burgess Homes' solicitors

8. Finances

- a. The Council received the monthly Budget Report and noted the bank reconciliation to the latest bank statement.
- b. The Council approved the Payments Schedule
- c. The Council received an update on the Council's banking arrangements and would consider the providers put forward by the Clerk at the next meeting.
- d. The Council considered the draft budget for 2025/2026. A decision would be taken at the January meeting.

10. Information updates from Councillors

AH drew attention to the latest newsletter.

SD reported that as Perfitt was now closed, she would be looking at other options for the cleaning of the War Memorial.

RC would report back on the pruning of the cemetery yew trees at the next meeting. He also reported on the Hopton Charities.

DF reported the Village Hall as proposing to hold a fete on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

The Clerk read out JT's report on Social Housing and also reported that he had asked 4Grants for an update on the likelihood of receiving grants for playground equipment.

11. To review any action points raised at previous meetings and not already considered - none
12. Date of next meeting: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025