

## **HOPTON CUM KNETTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**THE VILLAGE HALL, HOPTON**

**13<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2025 at 7PM**

**(Draft until approved and signed)**

#### **PRESENT:**

Councillor Andrea Hanks (Chair) (AH)

Councillor Robert Capon (RC)

Councillor David Faiers (DF)

Councillor Ben Shotbolt (BS)

#### **ABSENT:**

Councillor Su Delve (Vice Chair) (SD)

Councillor Peter Cox (PC)

Councillor Jo Hassan (JH)

Councillor Julian Thompson (JT)

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Nicholas Spring, Clerk (NS)

County Councillor Joanna Spicer (JS)

District Councillor Carol Bull (CB)

4 members of the public were present.

### **AGENDA**

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

JS offered to fund a speed survey at the north end of the village. Actions that could then be considered would include renewing the rumble strips, dragons' teeth and roundels. These would be funded by the Parish Council.

JS also noted that the bridge from Olive's Throat to Sarsons Meadow would be completed when the development was completed.

There was some discussion about whether a new boardwalk was actually needed. JS to get an update.

JS also reported that on the A143 approaching Ixworth from Stanton. When the work was undertaken there was torrential rain in the night which was not forecast and affected the resurfacing. The contractors will be responsible for remedying.

CB drew attention to the DC's Housing Needs Survey and Energy Efficiency initiatives.

4. To receive an update from the Clerk on SCC's Local Government Reorganisation plans

NS drew attention to the County Council's offer which was to be the subject of an online meeting with Parish Councils. JS noted that elections for the Suffolk/Norfolk Mayor would be held in May 2026. By the end of the year there should be some idea of what the Government's plans for Suffolk might be, with shadow unitary authority or authorities set up in 2026. Business plans could change.

5. To consider any matters relating to highways, pavements, footpaths and trees not already considered, including next steps regarding speed indicator devices  
- none in addition to those already considered.

6. Public participation session – an update was received from the RBL

7. Council approved as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025

8. On behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee, two councillors (AH and DF) to sign the lease between the Parish Council and Elvedon Schools Trust regarding accessway to the Primary School – AH and DF signed the lease.

9. To consider any issues to put forward to the District Council's Community Governance Review – Council noted the dates of the review, but it was not felt that there were any issues to discuss.

10. Council considered and approved an updated Risk Assessment

11. Council considered and approved a new IT Policy

12. Planning

- a. To consider the Parish Council's responses to any planning consultations received since the last meeting - none
- b. Sarsons Meadow development update, if any - none

13. Finances

- a. Council received the monthly Budget Report
- b. Council approved the Payments Schedule
- c. Council agreed the sum of £40,000 to be transferred from the Barclays savings account to the new savings account with Redwood Bank

14. Information updates from Councillors

Council discussed: the idea of creating a sensory garden on the old swimming pool site; issues at the cemetery; installing another dog waste bin.

15. To review any action points raised at previous meetings and not already considered - none

16. Date of the next meeting: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025