

## **HOPTON CUM KNETTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL**

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

**THE VILLAGE HALL, HOPTON**

**8<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 7 PM**

**(Draft until approved and signed)**

#### **PRESENT:**

Councillor Andrea Hanks (Chair) (AH)

Councillor Robert Capon (RC)

Councillor Peter Cox (PC)

Councillor David Faiers (DF)

Councillor Jo Hassan (JH)

Councillor Ben Shotbolt (BS)

Councillor Julian Thompson (JT)

#### **ABSENT:**

Councillor Su Delve (Vice Chair) (SD)

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Nicholas Spring, Clerk (NS)

County Councillor Joanna Spicer (JS)

District Councillor Carol Bull (CB)

6 members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for absence - SD
2. Members' declarations of interests & requests for dispensations if any - none
3. To consider any applications for the councillor vacancy – Peter Cox was co-opted to the Council and signed the Declaration of Office
4. Reports from the County and/or District Councillor

JS reported on the following:

- The A143 Ixworth to Stanton had been swept four times since its resurfacing and was due a fifth sweep before new road markings – there were problems with some of the resurfacing due to heavy rain at the time
- The proposed Bloor Homes development at Stanton would involve new traffic lights on the A143

- Drainage issues on Shotgrove Lane were on the Highways list but were not deemed a priority
- JS and Parish Council members had met with the Highways Engineer on site to look at speeding issues at the north end of the village heading towards Garboldisham. As far as extending the 30mph limit further out was concerned, the criteria was not met. However, there were opportunities for traffic calming to be explored including raising the rumble strips, slow signs, a village gateway and making the 30mph signs more visible. The next step required would be a speed survey which JS would be prepared to fund.

CB reported on the following:

- The 10 Nethergate Street planning application: the new application had been withdrawn but the previous one was extant.
- The Bloor Homes Stanton planning application had been resubmitted – as previously mentioned ‘on demand’ traffic lights on the A143 would be involved
- The Thelnetham chicken sheds application was likely to be considered in October

5. To consider any matters relating to highways, pavements, footpaths and trees not already considered, including next steps regarding speed indicator devices

It was mentioned that the village post-box had been removed and was due to be replaced by a new digital post-box which would take parcels.

The line of the footpath from Sarsons Meadow to the Village Hall had been signed off by AH and DF at a site meeting with Burgess Homes.

6. Public participation session including a representation from the RBL Poppy Appeal

A presentation was made by the local organiser for the RBL between items 3 and 4.

7. Council approved as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025

8. 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 – see item 5

9. Finances
  - a. Council received the monthly Budget Report
  - b. Council approved the renewal of the Council's annual insurance with Zurich Municipal (£264)
  - c. Council approved the Payments Schedule
  - d. Council agreed the initial sum to be transferred from the Barclays savings account to the new savings account with Redwood Bank
10. Council approved the appointment of Heelis & Lodge as auditors for 2025/2026
11. The Clerk briefed the Council on the new Governance Statement for 2025/2026 – Assertion 10: Digital and data compliance
12. Information updates from Councillors  
  
DF and RC reported on the cemetery bins and yew trees
13. To review any action points raised at previous meetings and not already considered - none
14. Date of the next meeting: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2025