

Hopton and Coton Parish Council Meeting 09/11/2022

Agenda and Minutes

AGENDA

1. Election of Chairman
2. Apologies for absence received - acceptance and recording of apologies
3. To receive declarations of Members' pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests
4. Public participation - A period not exceeding 20 minutes for members of the public to ask questions or submit comments
5. Receive reports from Staffordshire County Councillor and Stafford Borough Councillors
6. Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 12th October 2022
7. Discuss matters arising from the minutes not covered later in the Agenda
8. To discuss developments/updates relating to HS2
9. New councillor training
10. Agree meeting dates for 2023
11. Financial matters
 1. 11.1. To discuss budget preparation for 2023/24
 2. 11.2. Review and approval of payments
 3. 11.3. Receive and approve financial statement and bank reconciliation
12. Agree the date of the next Hopton and Coton Parish Meeting.

Meeting Minutes

	Minutes of meeting	Date 09/11/2022
Present	Cllr. Spennewyn (VC), Cllr. Rider, Cllr, Notman, Cllr. Cunningham, Cllr. Gilbert, Cllr. Elkin	
1.1	Election of Chairman	Cllr Spennewyn appointed to the role of Chairman vacating the VC role. The role of VC was offered to the wider councillors. No application was made at that time
1.2	To receive declarations of Members' pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests	Cllr. Cunningham indicated an interest
1.3	Apologies for absence received - acceptance and recording of apologies	Cllr. Harp, Cllr. Beatty were reported as absent
1.4	Public participation - A period not exceeding 20 minutes for members of the public to ask questions or submit comments	
1.5	Why has the Notice of Agenda been removed from the village hall notice board? It was on the board Saturday PM but not there Sunday AM.	Cllr Spennewyn reported that he was not aware of any such action . The agenda was posted on the boards by Zac Ali as appropriate
1.6	Within the HS2 funding for the Parish, is there a possibility that some of that funding could be allocated to improvements at St Peters Church, Hopton which is in need of repairs?	Cllr Spennewyn reported that as the contract was as yet unsigned such enquiries would be lodged only
1.7	In connection with the HS2 Funding for the parish of Hopton and Coton I propose that an architect be contracted to draw up suggestions and possible costs for improvements to Hopton Village Hall. There would need to be consultation with the Hopton Village Hall Committee.	Cllr Spennewyn reported that as the contract was as yet unsigned such enquiries would be lodged only
1.8	A resident has made a request under the Freedom of Information Act for the parish council to provide access to the full financial accounts for Hopton and Coton Parish Council and	Cllr Spennewyn acknowledged the request and made the chair of the village hall aware of the request also . Cllr Spennewyn made it clear that the parish accounts were not available as of that time but that he was working with the auditors to ensure the audited accounts were made available at some point

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	also Hopton Village Hall for the past 3 years.	
1.9	Questions from members of the public . A resident asked as to the status and availability of the village hall paying in book and cheques	Cllr Spennewyn stated that he had not been given access to the village hall accounts and that the banking material was being stored safely pending further discussions .
1.10	Receive reports from Staffordshire County Councillor and Stafford Borough Councillors	None were received
1.11	Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 12th October 2022	Approved by all councillors
1.12	Discuss matters arising from the minutes not covered later in the agenda	Cllr. Notman presented quotes for grass cutting in Hopton. A discussion took place regarding funding. Cllr. Notman stated that she would undertake a project to look at all public areas of grass not currently being cut by the Local Authority (LA) (grass verges etc) and take this to Cllr. Francis who has indicated there is funding available for this. Councillors to send Cllr. Notman areas of the parish that should be included in this project
1.13	To discuss developments/updates relating to HS2	The Chair advised that a meeting had taken place on 7 November between Councillors and representatives of HS2 and the LA. Councillors agreed they felt fully informed regarding the wording of the contract. The Chair reported that contact needs some minor adjustments, and we are awaiting the final draft. Proposals from the parish will be welcomed when the contact has been signed
1.14	New councillor training	The councillors were made aware that courses will be available as from 15 February and that bespoke courses may be available
1.15	Agree meeting dates for 2023	It was agreed that a parish meeting will not take place in December . The next parish meeting will be 11 January 2023 . No public meeting will take place during December. A meeting of councillors will take place to agree budgets (see 11.1)
1.16	To discuss budget preparation for 2023/24	A meeting of councillors will take place during December to agree budgets. A date yet to be agreed.
1.17	Review and approval of payments	Approved
1.18	Receive and approve financial statement and bank reconciliation	Approved
1.19	Agree the date of the next Hopton and Coton Parish Meeting	11 January 2023
1.20	Close the meeting	The meeting was closed by agreement of all councillors

END