

# HOPE WITH ASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Email: [clerk@hopewithastonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@hopewithastonparishcouncil.co.uk)

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Parish Clerk: Sheree Smallwood – 07803 776907

## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7.30pm at Hope Old School, School Lane, Hope

|                |                          |                 |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Cllrs present: | Chris Perkins (Chair)    |                 |
|                | Laura Vincent            | Gordon Hopewell |
|                | Jemma Lenton             | Martin Chapman  |
|                |                          | Richard Henson  |
| Others present | Sheree Smallwood (Clerk) | HPBC C Farrell  |
|                |                          |                 |
|                |                          |                 |

### Parish Council Meeting

**0424/01 Apologies for absence** – Cllr Ord, Cllr Price, Cllr Barr

**0424/02 Variation of Order of Business** – move communication to point 10

**0424/03 Declarations of Interests** – Cllr Lenton declared an interest, as it was her partners quote re the planters. Cllr Vincent declared interest as a resident of Bowden Lane.

**0424/04 Agenda items should be taken with the public excluded** - None.

**0424/05 Public participation** – None.

**0424/06 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Approved.

**0424/07 Chair's Update** – Any updates included in the agenda items

**0424/08 To consider communications received, not reported elsewhere on the agenda:**

- DALC newsletter – There is a useful article on biodiversity net gain and a list of training opportunities.

**0424/09 District and County Councillor reports.** – Cllr Farrell has been contacted by Breedon re the issue of dog poo bags hanging from the trees around the ponds, she is working with Alliance Environmental Services to look at possible solutions. Councillor's discussed a particular problem of dog poo bags and litter left at the end of Footpath 1 near the primary school. The Council discussed the possibility of having a litterbin near the gate, which could be emptied regularly. **Action:** Cllr Farrell will approach Alliance Services, to see what is possible.

**Banks:** Cllr Farrell has raised the point of lack of banks in the community. **Action:** Cllr Farrell is having discussions with the community select committee for possible solutions.

**Tourism** – Cllr Farrell and Cllr Collins are meeting with the head of tourism to look at the impact of tourism on the area. **Action:** Cllr Farrell will keep the Council updated.

**Water Fountain** – Cllr Henson stated that there were no objections to a water fountain been placed in the car park. Currently looking at funding opportunities. Cllr Farrell and Cllr Collins will be getting councillor funding for village initiatives in the next couple of months. **Actions:** Agenda funding opportunities for the June meeting where we can look at village initiatives for our community.

**0424/10 Communications:**

- **Newsletter and Questionnaire** – It was agreed that the next Newsletter will be ready for distribution before the weekend of the 26<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr Perkins will coordinate the content and Cllr Barr has put a framework together for the questionnaire We need to link it to the Parish Council Facebook page and other social media. There will be a drop off point for the questionnaire in Spar for residents who do not have electronic access. Cllr Lenton is contacting other organisations and collating upcoming events from Hope Sports Club, Wakes week committee and schools to enable residents to become involved. The newsletter will also include upcoming rail and road disruption. **Action:** Cllr Perkins will circulate a draft to all Councillor's for response

**0424/11 Assets**

- **Castleton Rd Planters** – Cllr Lenton talked through a proposal, costing materials for 5 planters clad in wood and has started discussions with the schools with the possibility of them becoming involved in

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decorating the front panels. The Panels can be taken out to redecorate, for village themes. If varnished the artwork can last up to a year. There would be five boards two for HVCC, One for primary school one for preschool.. The aim is to get the boards in place for Sept. **Action** – Due to the cost, the project will need to go out to tender. Cllr Lenton will put a spec together and it will be posted on the notice board and website for 28 days.

- Planting of the planters – Clerk to contact Shallcross nursery to see whether they could continue for another year.
- Aston Notice Board – Cllr Perkins has spoken to the farmer/ landowner who feels the board is in the right place. The issue is removing the old one and spending the appropriate sum on the new board. **Action:** Clerk to email the link for the Hope noticeboard to Cllr Henson who will look at what is possible for the sight in Aston.
- Bus Shelters – Cllr Henson has put together a proposal to spring clean the bus shelter outside the Old Bank. **Action:** Cllr Henson will email some dates and get together a group of volunteers.

## 0424/11 Planning

- NP/HPK/122/1550 – Discharge of condition 3 – Hill Croft, Parsons Lane, Hope
- Earls Sidings Planning Group – no update since the last meeting.
- Breedon Liaison meeting – Ed Cavaenagh has been promoted with other responsibilities and Steve Grove is now the works manager. They are working on implementing the alternative raw material planning application. There is likely to be two months of heavy lorry impact and it was agreed that the council would monitor the situation and impact during April/May
- Pop Up Camp Site – Thornhill Lane – just over the border with Thornhill, a pop up camp site is being established on a field below Win Hill. This kind of development is allowed for up to 60 days in a year providing sanitary facilities are provided, but at the end of the season any facilities must be removed from the site. It was noted that the Peak Park have so far received no application for the site and that their enforcement team have not been notified. HwAPC will continue to monitor the site given its visual prominence and proximity to our parish.

## 0424/12 Crime Report – None available.

## 0424/13 Discuss Highways and Rights of Way matters including –

- Update on Townhead Bridge/ Edale Rd discussions. – Cllr Barr has been writing to coach and lorry companies who have experienced problems, and he has had some positive responses from South Staffordshire Coach company, who have agreed to contact DCC highways about the issue, Members of the public along Edale Rd were thanked for their continuing monitoring work.
- Bowden Lane Condition and Bridge work – Network Rail have contracted the work on replacing the railway bridge to AMCOGiffen. It was agreed that work on the bridge was needed, but the Council was concerned at the initial poor communication with the residents involved and with the Parish Council. Cllr Vincent with other residents, are now having regular meetings on Teams with the contractor. Concerns reported to the contractor include a lack of 5mph speed limit signs on the temporary road and Green Drive and the lack of gravel yet on the wettest section of Green Drive. Hopefully these issues will be addressed soon. This weekend there will be an increase in noise because of tree work around the site. The main period of work will be the weekend of 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> April.
- Footpath Audit – Cllr Chapman has found an interactive map of footpaths in the Parish and is working on a definitive list of footpaths numbers along with indications of where each starts and ends. In the next newsletter we will be asking for a group of volunteers to walk the path network to record the conditions of paths, nature of stiles and gates, signage, access and drainage. Thank you to Cllr Chapman for all his work so far.

## 0424/14 Communications: - discussed under 0424/10

Planning for Annual Parishes meeting –

- Aston Parish meeting will be held on the 29<sup>th</sup> April at the Travelers Rest , Aston. Information will be on the noticeboard and Facebook Page.

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- Hope Parish meeting May 13<sup>th</sup> at the Old School.

## **0424/15 Village Initiatives**

- Mile post cleaning – **Action:** link the mile post initiative to the bus stops and gather a working party to clean them.
- Road Sign cleaning – thank you to Cllr Lenton for cleaning road signs, they are looking much better.
- Road verge improvement outside the Old Hall – Cllr Henson has spoken to High Peak, the verge possibly belongs to DCC, but the Parish Council could work on it. The proposal would be to dig up the grass, replace with a new surface, planters and a bench. **Action:** – Cllr Henson to put together a spec and get a quote for someone to sort out the groundwork and then look at benches and planters. The Parish Council to look at funding opportunities and possibly some sponsorship.

**0424/16 To receive a summary of the Councils current financial position - £11,079.60.**

## **0424/17 To Approve invoices for payment –**

- Hope Old School Room rental - £20.00.
- Clerk Salary – £212.60
- HMRC – £53.00
- DALC - £564.61
- Helpful Hands – £167.90
- Discuss Zurich insurance – This is due June 24 – Clerk to look at quotes.
- Others received after agenda set. – None

**0424/18 Consider appointment of auditor for 23/24 accounts.** – Update of appointment of auditor for 23/24 . David Turner will be the internal auditor for the 23/24 accounts. Pip Gilbert will support the clerk in putting the end of year accounts together, ready to file.

**0424/19 Agree the date for the next Parish Council meeting.** – 13<sup>th</sup> May 24

**0424/20 Any items for the next Parish Council**

**Meeting closed at 9.45**