

Minutes of Hopesay Parish Council

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Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting, Monday 20th July 2026, held in Aston on Clun Village Hall, 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs. R Hartas, J Bowers, B Day, J Champion, T Record (from mid-way item 7); Cllr Gripton from item 2.

Absent:

Apologies:

In attendance: 4 members of the public

Clerk: Mrs M Gwilliam.

1. Apologies for Absence: None.

2. Co-option of new councillors: Council had received a suitable application from a resident applying to become a councillor, and Council unanimously **resolved** to co-opt Mrs Kim Gripton as parish councillor. Cllr Gripton signed her Acceptance of Office which was witnessed and signed by the Clerk. Councillors congratulated Cllr Gripton on her co-option and welcomed her to the Council.

3. Declarations of i) Disclosable Pecuniary and ii) Personal Interests, and written requests for dispensations: None.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting 22nd June 2026: The minutes were approved as an accurate record, and the Chair was authorised to sign them. **Resolved.**

5. Public Participation: The Chair of the Community Shop thanked Council for organising the recent consultation on parish funding of the Community Shop building.

6. Unitary Councillor Report: Cllr Dickin gave his report and informed the meeting that the 745 bus was being 'saved', albeit with a different format. It would be a 16 seater, press release shortly.

7. Parish Consultation re Community Shop: Cllr Hartas as Chair of the Council summarised the process and results. Overall, 97 forms were returned, which was a 35% response rate. Of these 97, 84 responses were in favour of applying for a PWLB loan to help fund a new shop building, while 13 were against. This meant a clear majority of 86.6% supported applying for a parish loan.

Council considered the results and discussed possible future safeguards in the event of being given the loan, and **resolved to apply for a PWLB loan of £50,000 to fund a grant towards the Community Shop new build, on condition that the tender process, and other procedures and safeguards, would be jointly agreed on in advance by Council and the Community Shop.**

Cllr Record joined the meeting during the discussion.

8. Planning: No new applications.

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9. Chair/Clerk Reports: The Chair advised Council that the P3 group was working towards its next project with Shropshire Council's assistance. The Engine and Tender site had finally been tidied and secured. The car that had been left at Broome Green had been removed. The Chair had had a useful meeting with Unitary Cllr Dickin and had met Stuart Anderson MP and discussed parish concerns with him during his recent visit to Aston on Clun.

Chair/Clerk reports relating to agenda items are minuted under those agenda items.

10. Correspondence: Including various bulletins, newsletters, and information sheets.

Temporary parish road closures: Unnamed Road by Aston on Clun (to Clunbury) 3rd – 28th August for bridge repairs; Twitchen Rd Clunbury 11th August, BT poles.

11. Closure Threat of the 745 bus: Due to the update from Cllr Dickin this item was not discussed.

12. Finance:

Online Banking Authorised Signatory: The form authorising the addition of Cllr Campion to the list of authorised signatories had been submitted and Council was now awaiting a response.

Council **noted** a **Bank Reconciliation** that had been previously circulated. There were no variances. The Chair signed the Bank Reconciliation. As at 30th June, Council had £34,793.30p in the bank.

INVOICES TO PAY:

Voucher	Name	for	Budget (from)	£amount	Method
22, 23	Staff costs/HMRC	July 2026 Salary, PAYE tax, NIC, homeworking costs	Salary, tax, admin, Employer NIC	766.22	SO, BACS
24	Ditton Services	Grass cutting, July instalment	292.33 Aston Green, 58.47 VAT	350.80	SO
25	T P Jones	Payroll expenses April- June	48.75 Admin, 9.75 VAT	58.50	BACS
26	AoC Village Hall	Room hire January - June	75Room Hire, 15 VAT	90.00	BACS
27	J Campion	Heavy rolling Aston Green & refilling water tank	100 Aston Green, 20 VAT	120.00	BACS
28	Clerk expenses	mileage	Office admin	5.60	BACS
29	Unity Trust Bank	Monthly service fee 31/7/26	admin	7.00	fee
Total				£1,398.12p	

Council accepted the Finance Report and authorised all payments as listed. Resolved.

13. Aston Green: Dogs: Dog fouling had not diminished and was ongoing. This was unacceptable. The Shropshire Council Dog Warden had now visited Aston Green, and had suggested that Council put forward any individual volunteers (councillors and/or members of the public/residents) prepared to be trained by Shropshire Council in enforcement of PSPO orders relating to Aston Green. They would be trained, and issued with Environmental Crime Report books and pocket notebooks, and would act as a 'witness' for Shropshire Council.

Councillors discussed the cost and use of various cameras. Cllr Campion had researched various models, and suggested that £185 was an average cost, and that Council should consider allowing

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up to £300 for the purchase and installation. Council could get just one to start with, trialling it to see if it was effective in identifying offenders. Anecdotal reports had implied that some irresponsible owners arriving by car had been observed letting their dogs out of the vehicles to run free on Aston Green without closely accompanying them.

Council's options for action as owner of the Green were discussed; including the banning of dogs from Aston Green entirely or restricting dogs to lead only walks whilst on Aston Green (Council could allow exceptions for dogs in authorised shows, demonstrations, or training events).

It was agreed that the options of installing cameras, and of restricting dogs to lead only walks whilst on Aston Green, would be considered at the August meeting. Cameras and the requirement for all Dogs to be kept on Leads would be an August agenda item.

Silt Trap: Council discussed the next stages towards repairs. A specification was needed in order to obtain competitive quotes from contractors. Unfortunately, nothing had been heard from the Shropshire Council Officer, so Cllr Campion kindly undertook to produce a specification, aiming for consideration at the October meeting.

14. Risk Register Rolling Review: Council reviewed Risk 6, and **agreed** that its current measures were adequate, as illustrated by the recent consultations it had carried out. **Resolved.**

15. CIL Local Fund: The Chair summarised the position, and suggested that Council look into applying for Local Fund CIL monies for certain infrastructure projects. Council **agreed** further investigation.

16. Policies reviews: Council reviewed the revised Planning Protocol and Procedures Policy and **approved** it. **Resolved.** The Remote Meetings Protocol was **deferred** to the August meeting.

17. Meetings Attended: Cllr Bowers had attended a Village Hall Committee meeting.

18. Reports of Parishioners Issues, Future Agenda Items: none.

19. Next Meetings: Mondays 24th August, 5th October, and 9th November 2026.

The Chair closed the Meeting at 9.30pm.

Chair Signed:

Date: