**Hopton Annual Parish Meeting**

**Minutes of Hopton Annual Parish Meeting held on 10th April 2017**

1. Present: Cllrs Plackett, Filler, Taylor, Faiers, Capon, Cleveland, Mills, B Cllr Bull and six members of the public.
2. Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Crooke and C Cllr Spicer
3. The minutes of the meeting on 11th April 2016 were read and approved.
4. **Chairman's Report.** This past year has flown by. Most of 2016 was spent trying to retain GP services in the village but it all came to nothing. Patients who were assured services would remain in the village now have to travel to Stanton. We came within a cat’s whisker of the Ixworth Practice coming here but were disappointed by the lack of support given to their prescription delivery service and they felt setting up a surgery here would be too risky.

The Sarson’s Field development is still an ongoing saga.We have been assured our Section 106 is guaranteed but Pigeon are still negotiating with Anglian Water as to the costs of drainage from the site. Autumn 2017/Spring 2018 seems to be the proposed start dates for building but it still remains to be seen.

Despite the loss of the Doctor’s surgery the village is still well served, with a thriving community and I have been proud to be your Chair of the Parish Council and will, I hope, continue to work on your behalf.

1. **C Cllr's Report**. C Cllr Spicer did not submit a report as the meeting is being held in an election period.
2. **Borough Councillor's Report**. In 2016 Borough Councillor Bull had given Hopton’s Home from Home a grant. Home from Home is a very happy place but numbers are falling with only one person attending from Hopton. It is important to encourage more participants as it would be very sad to see it close. Stewart Turner had raised money for the defibrillator and there is now to be a new community first responder from Blo Norton; she will cover a number of villages as a second 1st responder. Additionally sB Cllr Bull had given money to the Queen’s birthday party from her locality budget. Highways are planning to start work on the flooding problem in Fen Street and Nethergate Street.

Stanton surgery have applied for a pharmacy which will affect patients in Stanton who attend the Ixworth surgery as they will not be able to pick up prescriptions in Ixworth.

The abandoned house opposite the village hall has been reported and enforcement are now looking at it.

The situation with Pigeon is ongoing. Another financial year is about to start and with a move to make parish councils go paperless she might be able to provide help for a projector for the village hall.

1. **Police Report**. There was a generic report for the whole of Suffolk. B Cllr Bull had complained to Tim Passmore that not much is happening in connection with the villages.
2. **Village Hall Management Committee.** The village hall has regular hirers and is well used. They are working closely with the Parish Council on the development. A new heating system has been installed and electrical works carried out. They are hoping to have a soup and roll fundraising event later this year.
3. **Hopton Combined Charities** had donated £2175.92 in total to Hopton PCC, East Anglian Air Ambulance, St Nicholas Hospice, East Anglian Children’s Hospices and with financial assistance to Hopton residents.
4. **Hopton PCC meet**s at least four times a year and manage the day to day running of the Church. Fundraising and social events continue with endeavours to build a kitchen being ongoing. It is hoped to appoint a new Church Warden at the APCM.
5. **High Street Chapel**. Myles Coulter, the Community Pastor gave a report on the Chapel. There are events taking place every day of the week. He supported B Cllr Bull’s remarks about the importance of Home from Home. They hold a Mums and Toddlers on a Thursday morning and events for teenagers on Fridays and Saturdays. The Holiday club last summer had 50+ children attend. There is growing usage of the Well Coffee Shop. Members of the Chapel are trying to visit people in the village who are lonely, sick or elderly and he requested that he is informed of anyone who might like a visit.
6. No school report had been received.
7. **Troupe** had had a great success with Dick Whittington and are always looking for adults to get involved.
8. **Any other business.** None.

Signed…………………………………………………………………………….. Date ……………………………………..