

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Ercall Magna Parish Council held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.00p.m. via Zoom**

**PRESENT:** Cllr K Connor (Chairman of Ercall Magna Parish Council)

**In Attendance:** Katrina Baker (Clerk) Cllr E Aston  
Cllr S Bentley (TWC and EMPC) Cllr L Hughes  
Cllr G Barrow Cllr S Walker  
Cllr R Wickson Cllr Hartshorn  
Cllr S Noyes-Thomas Cllr S Taylor  
Gareth and Zoe – West Mercia Police PCSOs  
Mr R Laing (from 005/04/23.C)

**001/04/23.C Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman, Councillor Connor, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. Special thanks were extended to Gareth & Zoe, our two PCSOs. However, it was disappointing that there were no members of the public in attendance. It had been thought that a zoom meeting may encourage more people to log-in.

**002/04/23.C Apologies for Absence**

Cllr A Price  
PC Rob McNally

**003/04/23.C Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022.**

The Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting had been circulated and had appeared on the website, it was proposed by Councillor Wickson and seconded by Councillor Hartshorn that they were an accurate record of the meeting, and would be signed by the Chairman.

It was pleasing to be reminded that matters raised at the last Annual Parish Meeting have been successfully addressed throughout the year, albeit they have taken some time and some are still on-going.

**004/04/23.C Chairman's Report 2022 / 2023**

The Chairman read his report which referred to information included in the Parish reports which have been made available and will appear on the website.

A copy of the report is attached to the Minutes and will appear on the website.

The report included a resume of the activities of the Parish Council and highlighted some ongoing issues and included:

The Monarchy	Highways (particularly Roden and Cotwall)
Neighbourhood Plan	Cleveland Arms
Play Areas at Roden and High Ercall	Rural Bus Service
Elections (boundary changes, Parish Wards and photo ID)	

Thanks were extended to all the Members and to the local community for their continued support. Special thanks were extended to Sandy Walker, Chris Purves, Angela Price and Mel Ward who had not stood for re-election. Anyone interested in being considered for co-option to the Parish Council can contact the Clerk for more information.

Please see the full report which is available on the Parish Council website or you can request a copy direct to your inbox from the Clerk.

**005/04/23.C Financial Report**

Ercall Magna Parish Council started the financial year with a balance of £60,652.37, although a significant amount of the money was set aside as Earmarked Reserves. Due to circumstances outside of the control of the Parish Council, some of the planned projects had not yet been possible – especially those relating to working with Telford & Wrekin Council. This has been very frustrating. However, as we move forward it is hoped that site visits will be possible and that some of our outstanding projects, such as the continuation of the Speed Indicator Device project, will come forward to completion.

The total income received throughout the financial year, to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 was £55,975.60 and the total expenditure was £27,220.04.

Your Parish Council has worked within budget throughout the year and has made significant savings in some budget areas. However, with the uncertainty regarding utility costs, funds will be set aside in case of increases in the cost of Street Lighting Energy.

The Balance at the end of the financial year is £89,407.93

When considering the budget for 2023/24, the Parish Councillors were very aware of the difficult period that many residents had experienced, including the current worries relating to the Cost of Living Crisis, and therefore, the Members unanimously resolved to set the precept at £49,900 – with, again, no increase for this financial year. Following completion of the Audit, Members will ensure that their budget reflects the needs of the Parish without an increase payable by the residents towards the services it provides.

It should also be noted that no Parish Councillors have claimed their allowance or expenses throughout the year.

### **006/04/23.C West Mercia Police**

PC Rob MCNally had not been able to attend this meeting but had sent a report with two PCSOs. Ercall Magna remains a low crime area, although there had been one burglary of a shed at Ellerdine and diesel stolen from a building site at Crudginton. The team have undertaken a number of early-hour operations targeting specific issues which have resulted in successful arrests. These offenders are not local and they have been responsible for business and rural crime across the area and Shrewsbury. This may have resulted in reduced crime in the rural areas.

More patrols have been introduced recently to target other areas of concern.

Gareth and Zoe had undertaken three speed surveys today and offered goodies to local cyclists as part of a West Mercia campaign to make cycling safer for all.

Results: B5062 Shrewsbury Road (school zone) at 3pm – lowest speed 17mph, highest speed 36mph – average of 24.5mph.  
B5063 Earls Way at 3.30pm – lowest speed 18mph, highest speed 40mph – average of 26.6mph  
B5063 Ridgeway at 5pm – lowest speed 17mph, highest speed 36mph – average of 27.7mph.

More speed surveys will be undertaken.

It is hoped that further information regarding the Parish funded rural police vehicle will be available soon.

### **007/04/23.C Other Reports**

#### **a) Ellerdine Village Hall**

A written report will be added to the website.

#### **b) High Ercall Village Hall**

A report had been received and circulated and would be added to the website.

#### **c) High Ercall Primary School**

A report had been received and circulated and would be added to the website.

#### **d) St Michael's and All Hallows Churches**

It is hoped that a report will be received from both churches after the Easter period and will they will then appear on the website.

#### **e) Ercall Magna Education Endowment Fund**

The annual meeting of the above was held on September 6th 2022.

Officers were elected and accounts presented which were signed as correct by the Chairperson.

Four applications for grants were received and all were considered to be worthy of support. Therefore a total of £560.00 was awarded.

**008/04/23.C Parish Matters**

**a) Matters Received in writing prior to the meeting**

None

**b) The following matters were raised at the meeting**

- i) Residents are asked to ensure that refuse bins are removed from the highway and footpaths following collection.
- ii) Concerns regarding alleged rough sleeper

**009/04/23.C Date of the next meeting**

16<sup>th</sup> May 2023

7pm

Annual General Meeting  
Followed by May monthly meeting

These meetings will take place in High Ercall Village Hall

Signed .....Date .....

Please note that these minutes remain draft until agreed at the next meeting of the Parish Council on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023, but will not be signed until the APM in 2024.