

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Ercall Magna Parish Council held on Tuesday, 21st May 2024 in High Ercall Village Hall, immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting.

PRESENT: Cllr K Connor Cllr E Aston
Cllr R Wickson Cllr S Bentley (and TWC)
Cllr L Hughes Cllr C Grant
Cllr S Noyes-Thomas Cllr C Purves
Cllr S Walker

In Attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)
Cllr G Thomas (Wrockwardine Ward Member, TWC)
3 representatives from West Mercia Police

043/05/24.C Welcome & Introductions

The Chairman opened the meeting, welcoming representatives of the police and thanking them for attending.

044/05/24.C Apologies for Absence

Councillor Hartshorn	Attending an alternative meeting
Councillor Taylor	Holiday
Councillor Barrow	Health
Councillor Bruckshaw	Work Commitments

It was proposed by Councillor Bentley, seconded by Councillor Aston, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the apologies, as listed, be accepted.

045/05/24.C Declarations of Interest (for items on the Agenda) or Dispensations

The following declarations of interests were recorded:

Councillor Wickson	High Ercall Village Hall (with dispensation), SALC and Royal British Legion
Councillor Connor	Ellerdine Village Hall and Royal British Legion (with dispensations)
Councillor Noyes-Thomas	High Ercall Village Hall (with dispensation)
Councillor Bentley	Member of TW Planning Committee and Clerk's Salary
Councillor Grant	High Ercall Village Hall (with dispensation)
Councillor Hughes	EM CAMP (with dispensation)

046/05/24.C Minutes of the Meetings held on 16th April 2024

It was proposed by Councillor Wickson and seconded by Councillor Noyes-Thomas, with one abstention, all were in favour and thus it was:

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 16th April 2024 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

Members confirmed the accuracy of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting – these will be signed at the APM in 2025.

047/05/24.C West Mercia Police

The Chairman welcomed our PCSO and two colleagues from Hadley & Leegomery. Unfortunately, they had not been provided with a report or any updates for the meeting. They had, however, brought along the rural support vehicle for Members to see.

They would ask PC McNally to provide a report.

The Chairman thanked them for attending, stating that they are always welcome. They left the meeting to attend other duties.

048/05/24.C Chairman's Communications

None

049/05/24.C Finance & Governance

a) Financial Reports

The reconciled balance sheet shows a total of £105,247.42 at the end of March 2024. £25,000 has been transferred to the CCLA High Interest Account.

b) Payments

A list of payments had been circulated, and it was proposed by Councillor L Hughes, seconded by Councillor Wickson (with one abstention), all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the following payments had been made on 28th April 2024.

K Baker	Reimburse Zoom Fee	LGA 1972 s112	£18.00
TWC	Litter and Dog Waste Bin	Litter Act 1983 ss5.6	£640.00
K Baker	Reimburse refreshments – Memorial Event	Chairman's Fund	£25.00

RESOLVED that the following payments be made.

K Baker	Salary May 2024	LGA 1972 s112	£640.00
HMRC	PAYE May 2024	LGA 1972 s112	£160.00
SALC	Subscription	LGA 1972 s111	£810.63
AC Maintenance	Roadman – April	LGA 1972 s101	£227.00
AC Maintenance	Roadman - May	LGA 1972 s101	£191.00

c) End of Year Accounts

Internal Audit

Copies of the Internal Audit Report & Letter had been circulated. Members thanked the Clerk for a good report which had no matters to be brought to the attention of the council and no recommendations.

Explanation of Variances, Bank Reconciliation, Reserves and Notes to the Accounts had all been circulated to Members for information.

Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2023/24 Form 3

Copies of the Form had been circulated to Members.

Section One – Annual Governance Statement

Members confirmed that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements and confirmed the eight statements.

It was proposed by Councillor Wickson, seconded by Councillor Hughes, all were in favour and thus it was RESOLVED that the Chairman signed Section One on behalf of the Members.

Section Two – Accounting Statements

It was proposed by Councillor Wickson, seconded by Councillor Hughes, all were in favour and thus it was RESOLVED that the Chairman should sign Section Two on behalf of the Members.

- d) **Risk Management**
An updated Risk Management Policy is available and the Management Plan was up to date and available on the website. This is used to ensure that the Council has adequate and appropriate insurance. The fidelity guarantee has been increased due to the additional balances held.
- e) **Register of Gifts & Hospitality**
Members were reminded that they are required to declare any gifts or hospitality received or offered.

050/05/24.C Planning

- a) **Report**
The Chairman, Councillor Wickson, presented the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 17th May 2024, for information.
- b) **New Planning Applications for consideration**
None
- c) **Other Planning Matters**
None

051/05/24.C Environmental Matters

- a) **Updates and New Issues**
The Clerk continues to press TWC for action on numerous outstanding 'requests for action'.
- b) **New Matters**
 - i) The right of way path from the Church to Shirlowe Lane is overgrown – details of ownership and responsibility will be required.
 - ii) Overgrown verges
There are a number of areas around the parish where visibility is poor due to the overgrown verges, and in particular cow parsley.
Whilst there is a TW policy regarding reduced mowing, safety issues should override such a policy. The areas will be reported to TWC for action.
 - iii) Thanks should be extended to Nobridge for their work in the churchyard and to AC Maintenance for other work and grass cutting around the parish.

Councillor G Thomas arrived

052/05/24.C Highways & Transport Matters

- a) **Reports and Updates**
The Clerk continues to press TWC for action on numerous outstanding 'requests for action'. However, potholes from Cotwall Bank to High Ercall have been repaired and it appears they are to a good standard.

Councillor Thomas had not received any further updates on the outstanding matters in Roden.

- b) **Heath Lane Works**
Notification had been received that work is to take place in Heath Lane following the serious flooding. This will replace drain covers to improve highway drainage. Unfortunately, the advance warning signs have been positioned on the wrong road, but this has been reported. We are still waiting for a date from TWC for the meeting with landowners.
- c) **SIDs**
There has been no response from TWC regarding the incorrect amount charged on the invoice for the SID project.
- c) **Broken Inspection Cover, B5062 at junction with Silver Hill**
This was (eventually) repaired by STW, but is being monitored.

d) Other Issues

- Street Light number 2, Shrewsbury Road, hidden by foliage
- Potholes near New Farm on route to Shrewsbury
- Cotwall roundabout sign needs to be repositioned (from Longden on Tern) and a new sign (from Crudgington)
- Tarmac cracking in Park Lane – outside the Village Hall Car Park
- The central refuges at Cold Hatton remain missing.

Councillor Thomas agreed to chase up the repair needed in Roden outside of Nursery Gardens which has already been reported by the Parish Council. This is an area where utilities were installed in the road.

053/05/24.C Telford & Wrekin Council

a) Ercall Magna Ward

Councillor Bentley had attended the funeral of Jack Beard from Ellerdine – it was a special tribute to a special man who had given years of help and support to the village community of Ellerdine and the Village Hall.

b) Wrockwardine

The Annual Meeting takes place on 23rd May and the Mayor Making.

The Pride Funds are available – anyone with suggested projects is encouraged to speak to the Ward Members as soon as possible.

054/05/24.C Play Areas

Roden & High Ercall

Work continues to ensure that the play areas are in accordance with RoSPA regulations. Thanks are extended to Sandie and Elaine for undertaking the weekly inspections. The quarterly inspections have been completed and there are no issues to report.

055/05/24.C Shropshire Association of Local Councils

- Regular updates are provided to all members and contain useful information. News In Brief publications contain important information. Members are reminded that the links included go straight to important information. The Annual Meeting will take place on 30th October at The Shirehall. SALC continues to work with NALC on unfair funding for PTCs.
- The WAC Minutes have been circulated.

056/05/24.C Correspondence

- All correspondence is shared with Members at the earliest opportunity. There are no subjects for discussion.
- Thanks were extended to the teams of volunteers who have been planting up the parish planters in Roden, High Ercall and Ellerdine. Thanks were also recorded to Nobridge Nurseries and Roden Nurseries for their support.

057/05/24.C Reports

Councillors' Reports

Councillor Wickson updated members on the Gigabite Project. Concerns remain regarding some of the pole locations – local residents are encouraged to contact the company and open up a discussion about alternative sites.

Clerk's Report

All included on the Agenda.

058/05/24.C Village Halls

a) Ellerdine Village Hall

Councillor Connor declared an interest, but has a dispensation in place.

Concerns remain that the service buses are using the Village Hall car park. TWC has confirmed that the drivers have been informed? Details of the new bus stop location will need to be added to the new timetables.

The Village Hall Committee are registering the ownership of the land.

b) High Ercall Village Hall

Councillors Wickson, Noyes-Thomas and Grant declared an interest but have dispensations in place

Councillor Noyes-Thomas reported that the AGM had taken place – there are vacancies on the Committee. The Committee will be looking at hire charges, especially for private hire due to the increased costs of the utilities.

Pride & Joy has re-started and it appears to have run smoothly.

059/05/24.C Parish Matters

There appear to be increases in speed through Roden when events, such as the motorcross, are taking place. The police will be asked to ‘be around’ for the next events.

060/05/24.C Next Meeting

18 th June 2024	7.00pm	Full Council Meeting	High Ercall Village Hall
----------------------------	--------	----------------------	--------------------------

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their important contributions to a successful meeting and closed the meeting at 8.15pm.

SignedDate

These minutes remain draft (E & OE) until confirmed as accurate at the next Full Council meeting in June 2024.