

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Ercall Magna Parish Council held on Tuesday, 17th December 2024 in High Ercall Village Hall at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Cllr K Connor
Cllr R Wickson
Cllr L Hughes
Cllr R Higgins
Cllr S Walker
Cllr R Bruckshaw
Cllr S Noyes-Thomas
Cllr S Bentley
Cllr R Hartshorn
Cllr E Aston
Cllr S Taylor

In Attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)
Cllr G Thomas (Wrockwardine Ward Member, TWC)
2 Members of the public

153/12/24.C Welcome & Introductions

The Chairman opened the meeting, welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending.

Residents from Roden were in attendance, regarding the letter sent to the Parish Council regarding the TWC Notice to Boil'. Details were made available regarding the issue which occurred initially in August. The landowner and water provider has been working to identify the cause of the issue and has confirmed that all actions have been taken in accordance with the instructions received.

The Chairman thanked residents for providing the clear explanation.

Members agreed to add Planning Application TWC/2024/0915 – Tennis Club – to the Agenda under item 159/12/24.C

154/12/24.C Apologies for Absence

Councillor Grant	Work Commitments	Accepted
Councillor Purves	Work Commitments	Accepted

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

RESOLVED that the apologies, as listed, be accepted.

155/12/24.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 Hughes	EM CAMP
Councillor Noyes-Thomas	High Ercall Village Hall (with dispensation)
Councillor S Bentley	TW Planning Committee and Finance & Governance
Councillor S Walker	Roden residents
Councillor E Aston	Roden residents
Councillor R Hartshorn	Roden residents

All Councillors, resident in the Parish, have a dispensation to consider the budget and set the precept for 2025/26.

156/12/24.C Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th November 2024

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

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2024 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

157/12/24.C Chairman's Communications

None

158/12/24.C Finance & Governance

a) Minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee

Councillor Hughes presented the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th December, for information.

b) Recommendations

The Clerk and Councillor Bentley left the meeting

Councillor Hughes presented the three recommendations:

It was proposed by Councillor Wickson, seconded by Councillor Connor, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Clerk's Salary be increased in accordance with the NALC recommendations and that one additional SCP be awarded.

RESOLVED that the budget for 2025/26 be agreed, as per the draft circulated to all Members and that the precept remains at £49,900.

RESOLVED that the Emergency & Resilience Working Group (LH, KC, RW, CP) continue to work towards an appropriate document for the Parish and to invite others with relevant knowledge and expertise, as available.

Members noted that there was a significant increase included for street lighting – this is as a precaution as increases are expected, but we are not aware of the level. Also, Members agreed to reconsider the grants available to the two village halls within the year.

The Clerk & Councillor Bentley returned to the meeting.

c) Financial Reports

The reconciled balance sheet at the end of November shows a total of £129,038.68 and had been circulated to all Members.

d) Payments

There had been one payment since the last meeting, £147.54 had been paid for replacement defibrillator pads.

e) Risk Management

The Risk Management Policy remains current. The risk assessments are up to date and in accordance with the Insurance Policy.

f) Register of Gifts & Hospitality

Members were reminded that they are required to declare any gifts or hospitality received or offered.

159/12/24.C Planning

a) Report

Councillor Connor updated Members on the Planning Committee Meeting at TWC which determined the TWC/2024/0148 application for the poultry units at Grange Farm, Ellerdine. TWC had worked with the applicant on the revised submission and all the technical consultees were satisfied. A thorough report had been produced by the Planning Officer, which included details relating to passing places and signage.

Councillor Connor represented the Parish Council by speaking against the application expressing continued concerns regarding the drainage and potential risk of pollution – especially from flooding or leaks. However, the meeting was informed that the wash-down facility will be 'dry' and therefore the application was approved.

We will await the publication of the decision notice, to view the conditions attached. This will enable future monitoring.

Applications Determined

Copies of all decision notices are forwarded to Members, for information

Councillor Bentley left the meeting

b) New Planning Applications for consideration

i) TWC/2024/0867 The Grove, Cold Hatton

Ancillary Accommodation (retrospective)

RESOLVED to have no objections.

ii) TWC/2024/0906 Land East of Seedlands, Ellerdine

Change of Use from Agricultural to Equestrian use, plus the erection of a 1.2m stock fence

RESOLVED to support the application

iii) TWC/2024/0907 Woodside, Green Lane, Ellerdine

2 Storey rear extension

RESOLVED to have no objections to the proposed extension

iv) TWC/2024/0915 High Ercall Tennis Club

Councillor Wickson declared an interest, as a neighbour to the site

Replacement Tennis Club Building

Members confirmed this to be a community asset. The replacement building will be slightly smaller than the existing which will be demolished. The design will be ecologically designed and sustainability friendly.

RESOLVED to fully support the application.

Councillor Bentley returned to the meeting

c) Other Planning Matters

i) Sandstone Wall, Church Road, High Ercall

The unauthorized removal of this wall, in the Conservation Area, is being dealt with by the Enforcement Officers at TWC. A planning application should have been submitted and all details relating to this can be found in the Conservation Area Management Plan, section 3.2.

ii) Static Caravan, Land adjacent to Baxter House, Rowton

The TW Enforcement Officer has contacted the owner and visited the site. It has been confirmed that caravan is not for residential use.

A report will be provided on conclusion of the investigation.

160/12/24.C Environmental Matters

a) Updates and New Issues

The roadsweeper will visit High Ercall on 18th December and the paths and highway will be cleared of leaves and debris. It will also return to Roden, to complete the work from its last visit, two weeks ago. This is our scheduled clean, funded by TWC.

b) Rights of Way

We will be working with the TW Rights of Way officers to address the issues and concerns relating to routes in the Parish, and in particular Ellerdine and Ellerdine Heath. We will be supported by The Ramblers Association.

161/12/24.C Highways & Transport Matters

a) Reports and Updates

Blocked Drains and Debris

Roden is still awaiting the return of the roadsweeper to clean the rubble and debris left on the highway.

b) New Matters

i) Shrewsbury Road

We will request details of the proposals for Phase II and discuss the crossing for pedestrians from Talbot Fields.

The SID will remain in its location in order to highlight any speed concerns at this location on the B5062 for traffic travelling in both directions. This appears to be working well as there are very few vehicles now travelling in excess of the speed limit.

ii) Bus Shelter / Bus Stop, Ellerdine

The new shelter is now being used especially by the children for the school buses. There is no longer a requirement for the bus company to use the village hall car park. Bus passengers are requested to respect the nearby verges when waiting for or leaving the bus.

iii) Roden SIDs

It was noted that the two SIDs, promised by TWC by end of November, are still not in place. Councillor Thomas agreed to follow this up and notify the Clerk so that the information regarding the delay can be shared with all Members as soon as possible.

iv) Arriva bus to Shrewsbury

The Clerk will contact Arriva to enquire if and when funding will be available to provide a bus for this route, which is needed for commuters and shoppers.

162/12/24.C West Mercia Police

No-one was available to attend tonight's meeting.

Members agreed that the rural crime and theft from outbuildings should be the number one priority and speeding should remain as number two – this is for the period of January to March 2025.

163/12/24.C Telford & Wrekin Council

a) Wrockwardine Ward

Councillor Thomas would continue to ask when the Roden scheme will be in place. He also reminded residents of the option to nominate Green Guarantee Sites, but these have to be Council Land.

b) Ercall Magna Ward

Councillor Bentley reported that the funding for the defibrillator for Walton has been agreed and that the Parish Council can now order / install the new equipment. He also reminded residents about Green Guarantee Sites in the Ward. The consultation for the review of the Local Plan is to be deferred until January 2025.

164/12/24.C Play Areas

Roden

Details relating to the 'hole' which has appeared in the adjacent grass are awaited. Councillor Walker will assess and report back to the Clerk. In the meantime, the hole has been fenced off to avoid accidents.

High Ercall

Councillor Noyes-Thomas continues the weekly inspections. One bolt had been replaced.

The RoSPA reports for both sites have been completed. These will be assessed and any necessary work completed.

165/12/24.C Shropshire Association of Local Councils

- a) Regular updates are provided to all members and contain useful information. News In Brief publications contain important information.
- b) The Chairman of SALC, Councillor Wickson reminded Members of the importance of reading the Weekly Bulletins.
Minutes of the recent Wrekin Area Committee meeting will be circulated, for information.

166/12/24.C Correspondence

- a) All correspondence is shared with Members at the earliest opportunity.
- b) The Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire is inviting all PTCs to nominate someone to attend her Garden Party in June 2025 – this will appear on the January agenda for decision.
- c) With regards to the Roden Water Supply, as highlighted in the public session, it was agreed that the Parish Council will liaise with TWC and Councillor Bentley will contact Severn Trent Water.

167/12/24.C Reports

Councillors’ Reports

Councillors Hughes and Noyes-Thomas attended the SALC Conference on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. A copy of the notes of the event will be circulated to all Councillors. Copies of the presentations from the event will appear on the SALC website in the New Year. This will be an agenda item for further consideration in January.

Councillor Purves had confirmed that he would be attending the Climate Change Community Forum on 3rd December – a report will be available at the next meeting.

Clerk’s Report

None

168/12/24.C Village Halls

a) Ellerdine Village Hall

Councillor Connor declared an interest, and had a dispensation in place

Councillor Connor reported that the Village Hall had had a ‘good year’ which ended with the Christmas Fayre on 8th December.

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 insurance has been renewed and an application has been submitted for warm space funding to continue to regular coffee morning / gatherings. Bookings remain healthy, there will be no committee meeting in December. Carols by Tractor Light will end at the Village Hall.

169/12/24.C Parish Matters

Shropshire Community Foundation – help is available, when needed, to ascertain information regarding dormant trust funds.

Large potholes evident in the B5062 opposite the Dog Trust entrance.

Work has stopped on the Old Hospital site at Cotwall as planners are unhappy with the demolition that has taken place.

170/12/24.C Next Meeting

21st January 2025 7.00pm Full Council 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 9.05pm, wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year – light refreshments were available.

SignedDate

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