

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Ercall Magna Parish Council held on Tuesday, 19th November 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 C Purves
Cllr S Noyes-Thomas
Cllr S Bentley
Cllr C Grant
Cllr E Aston
Cllr S Taylor

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

135/11/24.C Welcome & Introductions

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

Residents from Rowton attended the meeting to share with the Parish Councillors their concern regarding the siting of a residential caravan on pasture land, accessed from a private lane. Members were made aware of damage to a hedge, tree and gatepost as the caravan was delivered. Councillor Bentley informed the meeting that an enquiry had been logged with Telford & Wrekin Council to ascertain if permission is required, especially as the adjacent property is a Grade II Listed Building.

136/11/24.C Apologies for Absence

Councillor Hartshorn	Work Commitments	Accepted
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It was proposed by Councillor Wickson, seconded by Councillor Hughes, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the apologies, as listed, be accepted.

Councillor R Bruckshaw	Received after the meeting
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137/11/24.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 Grant	High Ercall Village Hall (with dispensation)
Councillor Hughes	EM CAMP and Item 7a Planning
Councillor Noyes-Thomas	High Ercall Village Hall (with dispensation) and Item 7a Planning
Councillor S Bentley	TW Planning Committee, Clerk's Salary
Councillor R Higgins	TWC/2024/0781

138/11/24.C Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th October 2024

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

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 15th October 2024 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

139/11/24.C Chairman's Communications

Councillor Wickson reported that 36 local Councils across Shropshire & Telford & Wrekin attended the meeting and the Parish Agreement was discussed.

Remembrance 2024

Thanks were extended to the Airfields of Britain Conservation Trust for arranging the repair of the Memorial at Osbaston which was completed in time for Remembrance Sunday.

The Chairman thanked everyone who attended the services in the Parish, at High Ercall and Rowton.

Councillor Wickson reported that a War Grave has been identified at Rowton.

Thank You Letter

A letter had been received from Rowton Parochial Church Council acknowledging receipt of the financial contribution to the maintenance of Rowton Churchyard.

140/11/24.C Finance & Governance

a) Minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee

Councillor Hughes presented the Minutes of the meeting held on 25th October, for information.

b) Recommendations

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

RESOLVED that a further £25,000 from General Reserves be transferred to the CCLA Account.

The Clerk reported that TWC had not agreed to attend a Rural Forum to discuss the Parish Agreement, however, a meeting is to be arranged for TWC Cabinet Member and Officer to meet with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Wrekin Area Committee.

The review of the Agreement will also appear on the next WAC Agenda on 28th November 2024.

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

RESOLVED that Councillor Higgins be elected to be a member of the Finance & Governance Committee.

Financial Reports

The reconciled balance sheet at the end of September shows a total of £135,598.83 and had been circulated to all Members.

c) Payments

Councillor Bentley declared an interest and took no part in the discussion

It was proposed by Councillor Wickson and seconded by Councillor Hughes that the payments, as circulated, be agreed and paid by direct payment transfer. All were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the following payments be authorized:

K Baker	Salary – November	LGA 1972 s 112	£640.00
HMRC	PAYE – November	LGA 1972 s 112	£160.00
Nobridge Nurseries	Landscape Maintenance	LGA 1972 s 101	£3131.56

c) Risk Management

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

d) Register of Gifts & Hospitality

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

141/11/24.C Planning

a) Report

i) **APP/C3240/W/24/3344946 Land to the East of The Glebelands and South of Park Lane**

Following the hearing held by the Planning Inspectorate in Telford, the Appeal has been dismissed.

The Chairman thanked everyone who had attend the hearing – the number of interested residents sent a positive message to the Inspector.

ii) **Applications Determined**

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

iii) **Application determined under delegated authority**

Application TWC/2024/0768 Greenhouse Village Removal of Condition

The Chairman and Vice Chairman had confirmed that they noted the contents of the GIS report and that there would be no further comment on the proposal, which related to a technical issue due to the wording of the planning condition and timing of the remediation work.

Councillor Bentley left the meeting

b) **New Planning Applications for consideration**

i) TWC/2024/0781 Land south of Greenhouse
Addition of a further egg production unit
Councillor Higgins declared a non-pecuniary interest
RESOLVED to support the application.

ii) TWC/2024/0789 2 Crabtree Lane
Installation of a sewage treatment plant
RESOLVED to support the application.

iii) TWC/2024/0801 Land adjacent to 5 and 6 Moortown
Erection of one dwelling and detached garage following the demolition of two semi-detached cottages
RESOLVED to support in principle the application.

iv) TWC/2024/0802 Land adjacent to Sketts Barn, Walton
Outline application for two self-build dwellings, access and all other matters reserved

Members discussed this application in detail. It was confirmed that whilst there is support for self-build dwellings on suitable sites, members questioned whether this proposal conforms to the policy in the Local Plan? Other matters raised included

- Protection of the wall
- Visibility
- Appropriate / safe access
- Definition of affordable
- Existence of great crested newts

RESOLVED to object to the application.

Councillor Bentley returned to the meeting

c) **Other Planning Matters**

i) **Emergency & Resilience Planning**

This topic had been the main focus of the recent newsletter which will be distributed to all households in the parish and the information obtained will start to complete the Parish Resources Register – members are asked to encourage neighbours to forward information to the Clerk.

- ii) **Ercall Magna Neighbourhood Development Plan Review**
Councillor Connor updated Members on details that were included in the recent Appeal Hearing for land adjacent to Park Lane, where the decision to refuse permission for 5 self-build homes was upheld. Policy EG3 of the Parish NDP was mentioned and having discussed this with the Local Planning Authority, it was proposed that **‘Proposed development of a Local Green Space must comply with National Planning Policies for the Green Belt’** should be added. This was seconded by Councillor Wickson and all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the additional wording, as outlined above, be forwarded to TWC to be added to Policy EG3.

- iii) **Static Caravan, Rowton**
Further to the discussion which took place in the public session, the access and any alleged damage to hedge, trees or gates will be a civil matter. The ownership of the lane may be established by contacting Land Registry.
Any proposed development on the land, now known as The Hedges, will require a planning application and the Parish Council will be consulted in the normal way.
With reference to the siting of the residential caravan – it is understood that this is being investigated by Telford & Wrekin Council.

142/11/24.C Environmental Matters

a) Updates and New Issues

It is the time of year when leaves, on footpaths in particular, are a cause for concern as paths can be slippery and dangerous. The Parish is due a roadsweep and a request will be submitted for this to include the footpaths.

A quotation has been received for an additional path / road sweep if this is felt to be necessary in the coming weeks as more leaves fall.

Work has been requested on the footpaths in Roden, which are in a poor condition and subject of severe detritus which causes them to be slippery.

In Shrewsbury Road, many of the road drains are blocked due to leaves – a visit by the gulley-cleaner will be requested.

143/11/24.C Highways & Transport Matters

a) Reports and Updates

Silver Hill, High Ercall

The condition of the repairs to potholes appears to be poor and may have to be re-reported.

The quotation for the solar SID and post is still awaited. Discussions have taken place with Phil Lorenz who has confirmed that a detailed quotation will be available in two weeks following his holiday.

b) Crudgington Roundabout

The long-awaited roundabout at Crudgington has now opened and is a great improvement. Some additional landscaping and signage work is still required.

Thanks were extended to Councillor Bentley, as Ward Member, as the process to gain the agreement for the roundabout has been lengthy.

There were some concerns regarding the ‘camber’ around the roundabout, but those concerns have not been brought forward by the authorities.

c) Speed Indicator Devices

Councillor Wickson agreed to check and re-programme SID to ensure that the settings are correct for each location as it is moved around the Parish.

d) New Matters

The use of minor roads, especially through Rowton, to access Greenhouse is cause for concern and this will be reported to Greenhouse Management.

144/11/24.C West Mercia Police

No-one was available to attend tonight's meeting. Whilst members understand that sometimes this is unavoidable, concerns were raised that the commitment of the Police & Crime Commissioner for officers to be available in rural areas may no longer be a priority in Telford & Wrekin.

Members also questioned when the rural vehicle would be completed and available 24 / 7 in the rural areas. It was noted that the rural contributions have not yet been requested and that this project should be brought to a conclusion as soon as possible.

145/11/24.C Telford & Wrekin Council

a) Wrockwardine Ward

Councillor Thomas had attended a Scrutiny Meeting and sat at a table with senior officials and had an opportunity to question some delays in highway projects in the rural areas. The SIDs in Roden are due to be installed by 29th November. Apparently, there has been a delay in obtaining SID sockets. Additional signage has been promised at Long Lane, in the Ercall Magna Ward. Gareth suggested that High Ercall School may like to invite Kelly Pearson (TW School Liaison Officer) to visit and speak with the children.

b) Ercall Magna Ward

Councillor Bentley reported that TWC has announced that £100 will be available for all pensioners in lieu of the loss of heating allowance – further details are awaiting. There are a number of outstanding planning matters – The Cleveland Arms, the Mill, the Boundary Review, the Local Plan etc. – all of which are not being brought forward by TWC to a conclusion which is disappointing. The latest financial monitoring reports include the £22m black hole, but no information was available as to how this will be addressed.

146/11/24.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.

The RoSPA reports for both sites will be available shortly.

147/11/24.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) SALC has a new Chief Officer, Chris Mellings. Dianne Dorrell will retire at the end of the year. IT was agreed to send a thank you letter, for her years of outstanding service and support.
- c) The recent News In Brief explains that remote meetings will be available in the future – which may be useful during period of bad weather, for example.
- d) The Local Nature Recovery Strategy takes place on 6th December – Councillor Hughes and Councillor Noyes-Thomas will represent the Parish Council.

148/11/24.C Correspondence

- a) All correspondence is shared with Members at the earliest opportunity.
- b) The Parish Council will continue to support the TW Dog Fouling Campaign – new signs will be erected in Church Walk and the alley adjacent to the shop
- c) The Rural Bus Survey has launched, it is important that people respond either on line or on the paper copies which are available.
- d) The Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire is inviting all PTCs to nominate someone to attend her Garden Party in June 2025 – this will appear on a future agenda for consideration.

149/11/24.C Reports

Councillors' Reports

Councillors Hughes and Noyes-Thomas attended the SALC AGM at The Shirehall and gave a short report.

Councillor Purves confirmed that he would be attending the Climate Change Community Forum on 3rd December.

Councillor Bentley thanked Councillor Taylor for representing him and laying the TW Remembrance Wreath at Rowton.

Clerk's Report

LED Light Bulbs

Light bulbs are available at The Ridgeway.

Newsletter

The newsletter has been printed and is ready for distribution.

150/11/24.C Village Halls

a) Ellerdine Village Hall

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

Councillor Connor reported that the Annual Meeting had taken place on 8th November. The Committee is in dialogue with HEVH regarding re-valuations of buildings and insurance requirements.

b) High Ercall Village Hall

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

Councillor Noyes-Thomas reported that work on the Title Registration with Land Registry has been returned and they expect an answer by 15 April 2026.

Ercall Colts and Girls have continued to use the field.

The toilet refurbishment is still on the wish-list, however, increasing costs are a concern. They do have £50,000 of reserves and could be accessing other grant funding.

They are considering a weekly drop-in coffee morning – somewhere for local residents to meet.

151/11/24.C Parish Matters

None

152/11/24.C Next Meeting

17th December 2024

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 8.50pm.

SignedDate

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