

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Ercall Magna Parish Council held on Tuesday, 16th July 2024 in High Ercall Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Cllr K Connor	Cllr R Hartshorn
Cllr R Wickson	Cllr S Bentley (and TWC)
Cllr L Hughes	Cllr C Grant
Cllr S Noyes-Thomas	Cllr R Bruckshaw
Cllr S Walker	Cllr S Taylor
Cllr C Purves	

In Attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)
Cllr G Thomas (Wrockwardine Ward Member, TWC)
PCSO Zoe Bevan

079/07/24.C Welcome & Introductions

The Chairman opened the meeting, welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending. It was with sadness that we had heard of the passing of Councillor Graham Barrow. Members stood for a minutes' silence in his memory. The funeral will take place at Shrewsbury Crematorium on Tuesday, 23rd July at 1.15pm.

080/07/24.C Apologies for Absence

Councillor Aston Family

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

RESOLVED that the apology, as listed, be accepted.

081/07/24.C Vacancy

A notice of vacancy had been advertised and confirmed with TWC. No-one had called an election. The Parish Council can now advertise the vacancy for co-option and this will appear on a future agenda. The notices will be available from 24th July 2024.

082/07/24.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) and Shrewsbury Road
Councillor Bentley	Member of TW Planning Committee
Councillor Grant	High Ercall Village Hall (with dispensation)
Councillor Hughes	EM CAMP (with dispensation)
Councillor Walker	Planning Application
Councillor Bruckshaw	Planning Application

083/07/24.C West Mercia Police

The Chairman welcomed PCSO Zoe who had no report but was keen to hear of any local matters that West Mercia Police may be able to assist with. Councillor Purves raised the issue of the A442 at Cold Hatton. Zoe contacted PC Rod Lake (Traffic Police) and a site visit will take place to understand the concerns. Councillor Bruckshaw raised awareness of recent thefts on a development site. The rural policing team will patrol the area.

084/07/24.C Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th June 2024

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

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2024 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

085/07/24.C Chairman's Communications

The Royal Oak, Ellerdine

The Chairman informed members that he had been approached by a local resident requesting that the Parish Council considers nominating The Royal Oak PH as an Asset of Community Value, under the terms of The Localism Act 2011.

A copy of a communication from Berry's had been circulated to Members for information.

Members considered the subject but felt that this would be a premature option.

Councillor Connor proposed that the Parish Council considers the application for an ACV, but there was no seconder. All were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that this would not be considered at this time, however, the Parish Council reserves the right to consider this, if circumstances change, in the future.

Maintenance of Rowton Churchyard

The Chairman had received a request for financial assistance for the maintenance of Rowton Churchyard and wished this to be considered due to the urgency of the request in order to assist the PCC.

The Clerk confirmed that £800 is available in the budget.

The request includes amounts from 2023/24 which have already been paid to the PCC.

It was therefore proposed by Councillor Hartshorn, seconded by Councillor Grant, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the allocated £800 be granted to the PCC and that this subject be added to a future agenda for further consideration.

086/07/24.C Finance & Governance

a) Financial Reports

Councillor Hughes presented the minutes of the Finance & Governance meeting held on 27th June, for information.

The new website is under construction and will be live during July to replace our existing site.

The reconciled balance sheet at the end of June shows a total of £122,238.70.

The balance in the CCLA Investment accounts has increased to £25,139.43.

b) Payments

There are no payments for authorization at this meeting.

c) Register of Gifts & Hospitality

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

087/07/24.C Planning

a) Report

The Chairman, Councillor Wickson, update members on applications recently determined by TWC – details have been sent to all members.

There is currently no update on The Grange application.

b) New Planning Applications for consideration

Councillors S Walker, R Bruckshaw and S Bentley declared an interest.

- i) TWC/2024/0493 Somerwood Stud Farm
Side extension to existing building

RESOLVED that the Parish Council fully supports this application

c) Other Planning Matters

TWC/2024/0356 25 Talbot Fields Application withdrawn

088/07/24.C Environmental Matters

a) Updates and New Issues

The Clerk continues to press TWC for action on numerous outstanding 'requests for action'.

b) Rights of Way

Plans have been requested from TWC.

Thanks were extended for the work to the route from the church to Talbot Fields.

c) Overgrown Hedges

Residents and landowners are asked to ensure that hedges are cut back to ensure that they do not cause visibility issues or obstruct access and footpaths.

TWC will be asked to follow up some addresses where action has not been taken – TWC can instruct that the work is undertaken and if not they can instruct that the hedge is cut and the invoice sent to the relevant owner.

089/07/24.C Highways & Transport Matters

a) Reports and Updates

The Clerk continues to press TWC for action on numerous outstanding 'requests for action'.

b) Shrewsbury Road, High Ercall

The Chairman updated members on a successful meeting which had taken place with highways officers. As previously reported, with the support of Councillor Bentley as Ward Member, TWC had identified Shrewsbury Road for maintenance and resurfacing in the 2024/25 financial year. This had been welcomed and a plan to undertake this extensive work had been produced. This work can only be undertaken during school holiday period and it is accepted that there will be extensive diversions necessary and access to properties difficult at times. Some of the works would be deferred until completion of the Crudgington Roundabout, due to the four-way traffic lights and delays.

We had also been pressing for work to be carried out on the B5062 from Silver Hill and past The Cleveland Arms and to make the crossing safer.

Keeping this in mind, following a previous Parish Council meeting, members had confirmed their support for a crossing to be created to assist parents and residents in crossing the road safely near to the Gospel Oak. Members recalled that £10,000 had been allocated for additional works on Shrewsbury Road, but that this could not fund the resurfacing.

The Plan was to include the section of B5062 from Shirlowe Junction to the Cleveland Arms and the 'T' section including the crossing.

Members were also aware of a significant project needed on the road from Mill Bridge to Roden, which is a priority.

The proposal is to incorporate all the elements as listed. It is important that the complexity of the proposed scheme is understood as there will be a need for drainage, services and kerbing in order to ensure that the completed work carries the longest guarantee. To add any aspect at a later date makes the joins vulnerable and the guarantee period reduces.

It is possible, however, to undertake the entire project two phases. The second phase would be completed by the end of Summer 2025.

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

RESOLVED that the £10,000 included in the Earmarked Reserves Budget be confirmed to enable the crossing to be included in the proposal. Members will add this to the September Agenda to consider up to £5000 as additional funding and a further £10,000 be included in the 2025/26 budget to ensure that all the aspects of the scheme, as identified and supported by the community can be included and that the entire project is guaranteed to be completed.

Councillor Bentley requested that the highway engineers consider the option of 24hr / nighttime works. Whilst this appears to be more expensive, when significant diversions are included this can become more cost-effective and less disruptive, especially on a well-used B road through a residential area, as the timescale is significantly reduced.

Further discussions will take place regarding the proposals and in particular regarding the type of crossing that may be available.

090/07/24.C Telford & Wrekin Council

a) Ercall Magna Ward

Councillor Bentley informed members that he had a message from Mark Pritchard MP. Mark wished to thank everyone for taking time to vote, regardless of who they voted for. He is humbled to have been re-elected and is committed to representing the entire Wrekin Constituency.

Work continues on local issues especially relating to highways and environmental maintenance – both are under-resourced and this will be taken up with the relevant Cabinet Members, following the meeting on 19th July where a new Leader is to be elected and there will be changes to the Cabinet responsibilities.

b) Wrockwardine Ward

Councillor Thomas will continue to represent the residents in Roden and Poynton.

The work to repair the highway outside of Nursery Gardens appears to have been completed.

091/07/24.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. There are no issues to report.

092/07/24.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. Members are reminded that the links included go straight to important information. The Annual Meeting will take place on 30th October at The Shirehall.
- b) The next WAC meeting will be on 18th July at 7pm on Zoom.
- c) The Chairman's meeting will take place on Zoom on 24th July at 5.30pm
- d) Councillor Wickson reported that SALC is updating its constitution and SLA. There is still a vacancy for the County Secretary position.

093/07/24.C Correspondence

- a) All correspondence is shared with Members at the earliest opportunity.
- b) Safety of Electric Powered Micromobility Vehicle & Lithium Batteries Bill.
The report had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor Connor, seconded by Councillor Hughes, with one abstention, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that Ercall Magna Parish Council will support this Bill.

- c) TW Bus User Group
Kim Anderson, TWC, will be attending the meeting at 3.30pm on 17th July on zoom. Councillor Wickson will be representing the Parish Council.

- d) **Community Governance Review**
 The details of the Boundary Committee proposals have been published as part of the agenda for its meeting on Friday 19th July. There has been no consultation with PTCs or Communities since the end of the initial consultation period. Whilst there are no proposed changes to the Boundary of Ercall Magna Parish, this is not the case across the Borough and some of the significant changes will mean the dissolution of some parishes and creation of new. This will be raised at WAC as it is outside of the Parish Agreement.
 It is proposed, however, that Ercall Magna will have 13 Councillors and will be warded with High Ercall (7members), Ellerdine (4) and Roden (2).
- e) **Roden Highway Safety Scheme and Speed Review**
 A revised proposal has been received today. It is necessary for the Council to meet to discuss the proposals. A copy of the scheme will be forwarded to all members and meeting, including Cllr Thomas, will be arranged as soon as possible.
 It is important that the parish council responds and that when the public consultation takes place, residents are encouraged to take part.

094/07/24.C Reports

Councillors' Reports

None

Clerk's Report

The Memorial, Osbaston

Greenhous are aware of the condition and will be working with the monumental mason to re-site the memorial as soon as possible.

Defibrillator, Roden

Thanks were extended to Cllr Walker for assisting in making the arrangements to relocate the defibrillator to a new location on the external gate of Park Timber. This has now been connected and is available 24 hours for use by the public.

095/07/24.C Village Halls

a) Ellerdine Village Hall

The next meeting is on 17th July and there will be an update relating to the registration of ownership with Land Registry.

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 has continued on bank mandates, motorized blinds, bookings and the registration with Land Registry.

096/07/24.C Parish Matters

Councillor Hartshorn reported that £700 had been donated to Hope House Children's Hospice as the proceeds from the recent 'Meet Your Neighbours' event.

Councillor Wickson requested that 'defibrillators' be added to the next agenda.

097/07/24.C Next Meeting

17th September 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 8.40pm.

SignedDate

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