

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

PRESENT: Cllr K Connor
Cllr R Wickson
Cllr L Hughes
Cllr C Purves
Cllr E Aston
Cllr R Bruckshaw
Cllr C Grant
Cllr R Higgins (from 100/09/24)

In Attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)
Cllr G Thomas (Wrockwardine Ward Member, TWC)
R Higgins (until 099/09/24C)

098/09/24.C Welcome & Introductions

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

099/09/24.C Apologies for Absence

Councillor Bentley	Holiday
Councillor Hartshorn	Alternative Meeting
Councillor Noyes-Thomas	Work
Councillor Taylor	Work

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 S Walker	Work	Received after the meeting
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100/09/24.C Vacancy

One application had been received from R Higgins.

- a) Copies of the application had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting
- b) Mr Higgins provided no further information to his application
- c) There were no questions for the applicant
- d) There were no questions for the Councillors

Mr Higgins left the room

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

RESOLVED that Mr Roger Higgins be co-opted to join Ercall Magna Parish Council.

Mr Higgins read and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which was witnessed by the Clerk.

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Higgins. There will be a series of 'New Councillor Training' – the dates will be provided when available.

Members took the opportunity to confirm the Committee Members and Bank Signatories

RESOLVED that Councillor Grant would join the Planning Committee and Councillor Connor would take up the role to represent the Parish Council on the Helicopter Liaison Group.

The vacancy on the Finance & Governance Committee and the position of Snow Warden for Roden would be added to a future agenda. A notice will be created asking if there is a local resident in Roden willing to be a Snow Warden.

RESOLVED that Councillor Purves would apply to be a bank signatory (to join Councillor Wickson and Councillor Connor).

101/09/24.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 (with dispensation) and 8 d) drone photography

102/09/24.C Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th July 2024

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

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

103/09/24.C Chairman’s Communications

Invitations

The Chairman is invited to a variety of events and attends to represent the Parish Council whenever possible.

Local Access Forum – the Clerk will represent the Parish Council on 18th September

TWC Charity Afternoon Tea

Shropshire ACF Trust – RAF Shawbury – The Chairman and Mrs Connor will attend.

104/09/24.C Finance & Governance

a) Financial Reports

The reconciled balance sheet at the end of August shows a total of £112,304.22 and has been circulated to all Members.

The balance in the CCLA Investment accounts has increased to £25,357.93

The Chairman and Vice Chairman have received a full copy of all income & expenditure for information.

A question was raised regarding the balance in the current account – it is possible to transfer between accounts, and also to invest more in the CCLA Account – this can be discussed at the next Finance & Governance Meeting.

b) Payments

K Baker	Salary – August	LGA 1972 s112	£640.00
HMRC	PAYE – August	LGA 1972 s112	£160.00
K Baker	Salary – September	LGA 1972 s 112	£640.00
HMRC	PAYE – September	LGA 1972 s 112	£160.00
Vision ICT	Hosted Email	LGA 1972 s111	£24.00
PKF Littlejohn	Audit Vee	LGA 1972 s111	£378.00

Invoices are due for landscape maintenance.

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.

- e) **External Audit Report**
PKF Littlejohn had completed the External Audit and there were no comments or actions required. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for her work to produce a clear audit. The invoice had been received. The Conclusion of Audit notices should be displayed in noticeboards and will appear on the website.
- f) **Website and Email Updates**
Members were thanked for their patience as the transfer to the new website provider took some time to complete. The new server, with .gov.uk domain will be more efficient and cost-effective.

105/09/24.C Planning

a) Report

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

b) New Planning Applications for consideration

- i) TWC/2024/0637 The Lilacs, Ellerdine
Alteration to existing access and installation of 2.2m high gates and 2.5m high brick pillars

Members had no objections to the alteration to the access or the provision of new gates. However, the height is a concern as they will be out of character.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council would respond to confirm support, but to request that the gates be no higher than 1.8m with appropriately scaled pillars.

c) Other Planning Matters

Emergency & Resilience Planning

Councillor Hughes declared an interest

Members considered the use of a drone, both for the planning and for the website. An offer to produce 6 images for £70 was thought to be good value for money and it was agreed to make this available in the budget, for further consideration.

Concerns were expressed that TWC does not appear to be 'up to speed' with Emergency Planning and the necessary joint working with other stakeholders such as Parish & Town Councils – this will be raised at the next Wrekin Area Committee meeting.

It was agreed that a Working Group meeting should be convened to discuss the next steps – the Members are L Hughes; S Noyes-Thomas; R Wickson; C Purves and K Connor – this will take place on 2nd October at 2pm.

Appeal Hearings

Mill Bend, High Ercall

Councillor Connor, Councillor Wickson and the Clerk had met with officers to discuss the process of the Appeal Hearing which had taken place today. It was well organized and TWC had put forward a strong case for the refusal. The hearing had been followed by a site visit and we will wait for the Inspector's Decision.

In the meantime, for confirmation, the Enforcement Order remains valid for the removal of the unauthorized building.

Land Rear of Stackstones (known as Piddock's Paddock)

It is likely that a further meeting with officers will take place prior to the Appeal which is scheduled for 16th October – Councillors are welcome to register and attend. Councillor Connor will speak on behalf of the Parish Council to support the TWC decision to refuse the application for 5 self-build properties. The decision was based on a range of policies including the Neighbourhood Plan, Local Plan, Conservation Area, Historical and Archeological matters, Ecological data and no previous development. The site is designated as a Local Green Space (LGS) in the Neighbourhood Plan – any development will be detrimental to the character of the village in this locality.

106/09/24.C Environmental Matters

a) Updates and New Issues

The Clerk continues to press TWC for action on numerous outstanding 'requests for action'. TWC has confirmed that the grass cutting schedules have commenced, but are at least two weeks behind.

b) Tree Branch

Thanks were extended to local residents who had reported the falling tree branch on Sherlowe Bend. Arrangements are in hand for the necessary work on trees in this location.

107/09/24.C Highways & Transport Matters

a) Reports and Updates

Shrewsbury Road, High Ercall

The recent resurfacing work on the B5062 / 5063 near to the Cleveland junction has been much appreciated by local residents and road users. Thanks had been conveyed to the contractors and officers for their efficient work. There had been some delays and confusion regarding the road closure, but overall the work had been completed within the time frame and the standard of work is good. We look forward to Phase Two, including the pedestrian crossing, in the Summer of next year.

Silver Hill, High Ercall

A resident in Silver Hill continues to raise concerns with TWC and the Parish Council regarding the speed of traffic using the Lane. We are awaiting the quotation for the provision and installation of a SID and signage – we will then be in a position to discuss with possible funding partners this provision. In the meantime, residents are advised not to reverse into Silver Hill but to reverse into their drives. Parking In the Lane must also be avoided.

b) Ercall Magna Traffic Schemes

TWC has produced a report, with schemes listed, for the next financial year. However, this does not reflect the requests submitted by the Parish Council on behalf of residents. It was agreed that the Clerk should challenge the list, and provide an updated version in accordance with our Minutes.

c) New Issues

i) A442 Cold Hatton – removal of centra refuges

Whilst this is not a new issue, the Parish Council has heard nothing more since PCSO Bevan reported the concerns regarding overtaking following a previous meeting. Members recalled that she had visited and taken photographs to send to PC Rod Lake (Traffic Police) but no communication has been received.

ii) Roden Traffic Scheme

Once again, this is not a new issue, but remains frustrating that after a number of consultations, a recent email from TWC states that they are ready 'to go out to consultation' with residents with a view to complete the work in the New Year of 2025. The Clerk was asked to respond to ascertain exactly what they are consulting on now and what will happen following receipt of the responses? It is important that the 30mph zone includes the nursery entrance.

iii) Shawbury to Walton

Confirmation of the TW Boundary is needed, along with relevant signage. The condition of this road is not acceptable and is dangerous, particularly for bicycles.

108/09/24.C West Mercia Police

a) Report

Apologies had been received for having no one to attend this meeting and also for no one attending the recent police surgery that was advertised. This was a breakdown in communication within the police station.

b) Newsletter

The recent edition has been circulated.

c) Charter Priorities

- i. ASB Driving
- ii. Speeding
- iii. Rural and Wildlife Crime

Members wished to ask why the 'Speed Gun vehicles are often in Longden on Tern and Roden, but not seen in High Ercall'?

Residents are encouraged to report concerns direct to the police at the earliest opportunity.

109/09/24.C Telford & Wrekin Council

a) Ercall Magna Ward

Councillor Bentley had sent his apologies but has continued to work with TWC regarding the use of Ellerdine VH Car Park by the ChaseRider buses without permission. All applications for the Pride Funding have been submitted, but needs the location for the Walton Defibrillator – Councillor Wickson is to seek permission.

b) Wrockwardine Ward

Councillor Thomas had attended the recent meeting of the Community Governance Review and will continue to represent the views of the Parish Council and residents.

Work on the Local Plan should restart in the near future.

110/09/24.C Play Areas

Roden & High Ercall

A minor repair had been necessary at High Ercall.

TWC has confirmed that they will continue to empty the bin at Roden Play Area.

111/09/24.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 26th September at 7pm on Zoom.
- c) The AGM and Awards Celebration will take place on 30th October – booking is necessary.
- d) Local Nature Recovery Strategy – individual responses are encouraged. There is a conference on 6th December, one place per Parish – if anyone wishes to attend, please let the Clerk know. The Agenda will be circulated soon.
- e) The Local Access Forum is at Rodington Village Hall on 18th September – all welcome.
- f) Councillor Wickson confirmed that the Affiliation Fees will be set at the AGM. It was proposed by Councillor Hughes, seconded by Councillor Purves and all were in favour that EMPC proposes Katrina Baker for President for the upcoming year. 'Care Leavers Covenant' should be included on a future agenda.

112/09/24.C Correspondence

- a) All correspondence is shared with Members at the earliest opportunity.
- b) There will be no charge for Green Bin Collections in TW (at least until 2027)
- c) Members are encouraged to use the new My Telford APP – which includes map layers.
- d) The new 'Ask Tom' automated system has been introduced at TWC – there are some teething problems currently.
- e) Details relating to Sherlowe Airfield have been shared with Rodington Parish Council.

113/09/24.C Reports
Councillors' Reports
None

Clerk's Report

Poynton and Poynton Green

Residents have suffered as a result of the road closure on the A53 at Shawbury. The SID will return to this location on its next site change.

Grit Bins

TWC has confirmed that we have one grit bin refill credit to start the new season. A Snow Liaison Officer for Roden is required.

Councillor Wickson requested that the grit bins in Silver Hill be checked for 'new' grit.

114/09/24.C Village Halls
a) Ellerdine Village Hall
None

b) High Ercall Village Hall

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

Councillor Noyes-Thomas had provided a report which had been circulated to all Members, for information. Councillor Grant informed the Parish Council that Ercall Colts will be using the three football pitches and as part of their contract they will also be maintaining the field. The September maintenance invoice will be the last. Members will consider reallocation of this budget at the next Finance Meeting.

115/09/24.C Parish Matters

The SATH AGM will take place on 30th September.

The footpath from Park Lane to the shop needs maintenance urgently.

116/09/24.C Next Meeting

15th October 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 October 2024.