

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Ercall Magna Parish Council held on Tuesday, 20th May 2025 in High Ercall Village Hall immediately after the Annual Meeting.

PRESENT:

Cllr K Connor	Cllr S Noyes-Thomas
Cllr S Taylor	Cllr S Bentley
Cllr L Hughes	Cllr C Purves
Cllr R Higgins	Cllr E Aston
Cllr R Hartshorn	Cllr R Wickson

In Attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)
Cllr G Thomas (TWC)

030/05/25.C Welcome & Introductions

Councillor Connor opened the meeting, welcoming everyone and thanked them for attending. He thanked Members for their support and said that we should be looking forward to a productive year.

Public Session

There were no members of the public in attendance.

West Mercia Police

Members acknowledge the loss of Ivan Collumbell as our Rural Support Officer. Unfortunately, Josh who has taken on the role, has not yet been able to attend a meeting. The agenda had been revised to enable the police team to attend early on the agenda as the PCSOs only now work until 8pm. This matter will be raised with Inspector M Sanders at the next meeting.

031/05/25.C Apologies for Absence

Councillor Bruckshaw	Family Commitments
Councillor Grant	Work Commitments
Councillor Walker	Holiday

It was proposed by Councillor Hughes, seconded by Councillor Noyes-Thomas, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the apologies, as listed, be accepted.

032/05/25.C Declarations of Interest (for items on the agenda) or Dispensations

The following declarations of interest were recorded:

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 Bentley	TW Planning Committee and Finance & Governance

033/05/25.C Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th May 2025

Councillor E Aston was in attendance – the Minutes were amended.

It was proposed by Councillor Bentley 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 20th May 2025 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

034/05/25.C Finance & Governance

a) Financial Report

The total balance, across the three accounts, is £142,179.61.

b) Payments

A list of payments had been circulated to all Members, it was proposed by Councillor Hartshorn, seconded by Councillor Hughes, all were in favour and thus the following payments were authorized.

Clerk's Salary May		LGA 1972 s112	£688.00
PAYE – May		LGA 1972 s112	£172.00
St Michael's PCC	Grant	PCA 1957 s2	£532.00
TW Crucial Crew	Grant	LGA 1972 s137	£300.00
Nobridge Nurseries	Grass Cutting	LGA 1972 s214	£1301.46

All expenditure, over £100, is listed on the website, in accordance with the Transparency Code.

c) Risk Management

Members confirmed that the Risk Management Policy remains current. The risk assessments are up to date and in accordance with the Insurance Policy. The insurance is due for renewal on 1st June 2025.

d) Register of Gifts & Hospitality

Members were reminded that they are required to declare any gifts or hospitality (£25.00 or over) received or offered.

e) TW Community Governance Review

Members were surprised to read in the document from TW that the Boundary Review Committee (BRC) is recommending that Ercall Magna and Waters Upton Parish Councils should merge. It had been confirmed that this was not a proposal of either council so it was not known who had put forward this proposal.

Members were concerned that Ercall Magna would lose its identity and the proposal was not in accordance with TWCs own principles behind a Community Governance Review.

This second period of consultation ends on 14th July and the BRC had confirmed that it would make its decision based on community feedback.

Members agreed it is vitally important that all residents are aware of the proposal and that they are encouraged to respond – this can be by email to reviews@telford.gov.uk or by completing the online survey. Hard copies of the survey can be requested.

In addition to the proposed boundary change, it is also proposed to Ward Roden / Poynton, High Ercall and Waters Upton – this would result in a reduction in the number of elected members for the parish which would be huge and sparsely populated in the countryside.

RESOLVED that a newsletter be produced to explain to residents the importance of responding to the consultation and pointing out the concerns of the Parish Council with regards to both the process of the review as well as the recommendation.

All Members will assist in the distribution of the newsletter and will also include the information on social media.

This is a very emotive topic. A special Wrekin Area Committee meeting is to take place on 12th June, at 7pm via zoom with this as the topic, in order for SALC to gather the views of local councillors and clerks – which will be included in the SALC response to the consultation.

A query also remains in that the members of the BRC at TW have been changed part way through the process. The new members will not have the background knowledge and information which had been put forward during the first consultation period.

Planning**a) Report**

The Chairman of the Planning Committee updated Members on the issue around the removal of a sandstone wall within the Conservation Area. This is still being investigated, however the Enforcement Officer at TWC had confirmed that this was allowed under permitted development even in a Conservation Area.

Conservation Area Management Plan

The CAMP is due to be reviewed in the Autumn of 2025 and it will be important to review it and look to strengthen the position with regards to historic walls. Details will be discussed with the Conservation Officer. At this time, the preservation of such structures in the CA can only be enforced when a planning application has been submitted.

b) New Planning Applications for consideration

- a) TWC/2025/0307 1, Church Road, High Ercall
Erection of part two-storey and part single storey side and rear extensions

Members considered the proposed extensions and believed that they would result in over development of the site which is an important location in the centre of the village, within the Conservation Area and close to the church and school. It would result in an unbalanced development and the access will need consent due to its proximity to the highway.

RESOLVED to object to this proposal and also to question the installation of a recent Freedom Fibre Pole which is currently sited in the entrance.

- TWC/2025/0319 Ellerdine Free Range Unit, Cold Hatton
Erection of an agricultural worker's dwelling.

RESOLVED to support this application.

- TWC/2025/0320 Osbaston Poultry Farm
Erection of an agricultural worker's dwelling

RESOLVED to support this application.

c) Other Planning Matters**i) Housing Needs Survey**

Members agreed that an updated Housing Needs Survey would be very useful and that we should invite Craig Bethell, Community Resource, to a meeting of the Planning Committee to hear about the process and timescale for the project.
The date and time will be confirmed as soon as possible.

Environmental Matters**a) Updates**

None

b) STW Sinkhole

STW have kept in touch and confirmed that they are in contact with the landowner to discuss the necessary work.

c) New Issues

None

038/05/25.C Highways, Transport & Street Lighting Matters

a) Reports and Updates

None

b) Roden Traffic Scheme

The Clerk will question the position of the new SIDs as they are not in the positions identified on her site visit with Andrew Kurta-Carlidge from TWC. The question will also be asked to ascertain if they are 'recording' data – this is required for the police monitoring.

An update regarding the remainder of the scheme will also be requested.

The information is the recommendation remains questionable as discussions with local residents have taken place and there was little support for the current scheme.

c) Parish Gateway Signs

Once again, no reply has been received from TWC.

d) Silver Hill

The SID socket has been installed and we await information from TWC regarding the SID and Solar Panel. The remainder of the work to install the signage and road markings has been delayed. A serious pothole near the SID location has been reported.

e) New Matters

Bus Shelter Maintenance & Cleaning

The shelters in Roden and High Ercall have been cleaned – the front screen at High Ercall needs replacing.

Shrewsbury Road, Phase II

A meeting with the Highways Team is to be arranged to discuss the proposals and timescale for the work, especially relating to the diversions and the routes they will use. This will be an opportunity to discuss the crossing of the B5062 by Shirlowe residents. Details are required as it is likely that the work will take place during the harvest and all local landowners will require access.

Concerns remain that vehicles overtake the stationary school bus, on the other side of the central refuge – this needs to be taken into consideration with the crossing.

Shrewsbury Road (B5062)

The path near to the crossing needs urgent attention, along with paths on either side of the Shrewsbury Road to the junction for Shirlowe.

Highway – The Royal Oak

The road surface outside of the Royal Oak PH needs urgent attention as it is in a poor state and is now a well-used route with an increase in the number of vehicles using the road from the A442.

Street Lighting

Trees and shrubs need cutting back to enable the lights in Shrewsbury Road to be effective.

Overgrown Hedges

There are many paths which are not usable due to overgrown hedges – the Clerk was instructed to write to the owners to ask for their assistance in ensuring that their hedges are cut back.

039/05/25.C Play Areas

Thanks were, once again, extended for the help with the regards to the weekly inspections.

a) High Ercall

None

b) Roden

None

c) Ellerdine Outdoor Gym

This will be included in a future agenda for consideration.

040/05/25.C Matters from Telford & Wrekin Council

- a) Wrockwardine Ward – Councillor G Thomas
The Community Governance Review is a great concern, especially regarding the extended boundary and loss of Councillors. Gareth was on the BRC, but was replaced at the recent TW AGM, but will still support the Parish Council in its objection to the merger with Waters Upton Parish Council.
- b) Ercall Magna – Councillor S Bentley
As well as the CGR, discussions have taken place regarding planning and enforcement matters. When more details are available, this will be reported to the Parish Council.
Councillor Bentley asked that a letter of thanks be forwarded to the Village Hall Committee and helpers for their work to provide a very enjoyable VE Day Celebration.

041/05/25.C Shropshire Association of Local Councils

Members are reminded to check the regular bulletins for up to date information and guidance.
The Chairman of SALC, Ray Wickson, confirmed that SALC is discussing the CGR and Local Plan with TWC.
The meetings with TW Leader have re-started, which is a positive move forward.

There is a special WAC meeting at 7pm on 12th June, on Zoom.

Councillor Wickson agreed to contact SALC / NALC to ascertain what advice they can offer and if information is available on other associated matters.

042/05/25.C Correspondence

- a) All correspondence is shared with Members at the earliest opportunity.
- b) Telford Climate Change Community Forum
TW has disbanded the Community Forum, but the partner groups and organizations will continue – Councillor Purves remains the Parish Council's contact.

043/05/25.C Reports

Councillors' Reports

Councillor Hartshorn reported that Roden had hosted a 'Meet Your Neighbours' Day and £750 was raised for Hope House.

Clerk's Report

A meeting will be arranged for the Emergency Planning & Resource Working Group.
We can add Rights of Way to the Planning Agenda to agree a process for surveying the rights of way in the parish.
A quotation for a new noticeboard (near to the Gospel Oak) will be obtained for consideration.

044/05/25.C Next Meeting

17 th June 2025	7.00pm	Full Council	HEVH
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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