

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Ercall Magna Parish Council held on Tuesday, 18th November 2025 in High Ercall Village Hall at 7pm.

PRESENT:

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

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

109/11/25.C Welcome & Introductions

Councillor Connor opened the meeting, welcoming everyone and thanked them for attending.

Public Session

There were no members of the public in attendance.

West Mercia Police

Members confirmed that the priorities continue to be

Speeding / Traffic concerns Thefts from outbuildings

It was noted that the residents are noting a lack of police presence during both the day and evenings – they miss seeing a local police officer or the vehicle. It was agreed that this concern be passed to the Safer Neighbourhood Team and to request better engagement with the Parish Council.

110/11/25.C Apologies for Absence

Cllr R Higgins	Alternative Engagement
Cllr C Grant	Family Commitments
Cllr S Bentley	Will arrive late

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

RESOLVED that the apologies be accepted.

111/11/25.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 Noyes-Thomas	High Ercall Village Hall (with dispensation)
Councillor Wickson	High Ercall Village Hall (with dispensation) and Royal British Legion
Councillor Bentley	Planning Applications

112/11/25.C Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st October 2025

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

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 21st October 2025 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

113/11/25.C Chairman's Communications and Report

Community Governance Review

The Chairman updated Members on the outcome of the third consultation which had taken place prior to the final meeting of the Boundary Review Committee on 4th November. It was pleasing to know that the Committee had taken notice of the views of the residents and that there is no change to the boundary of the Ercall Magna Parish. However, there will be a reduction in Parish Councillors to 12 and the parish will be

‘warded’ meaning that there will be 6 Parish Councillors from High Ercall / Walton, 4 from Ellerdine / Rowton and 2 from Roden / Poynton. This will take effect from the May 2027 elections, provided it gets the support of TWC Cabinet and Government.

Remembrance 2025

The Chairman thanked everyone who had helped with the decorations around the Parish – these are always appreciated by the residents. The four services on Remembrance Sunday and 11th November were well supported and the local British Legion branch had re-introduced the lunch in High Ercall Village Hall after the Sunday service which was most enjoyable.

Thank You Letter

A thank you letter had been received from All Hallows PCC for the grant towards the churchyard maintenance. It also mentions that the community has had successful fund-raising events which will assist with the repairs that are needed in church.

A conversation continued regarding the grass cutting regime arranged by the PCC. A recent email had confirmed that they have put up posters in the churchyard explaining that the long grass will be cut twice per year in accordance with the Eco-Church project which they have signed up to.

114/11/25.C Finance & Governance

a) Finance & Governance Meeting

Councillor Hughes presented the Minutes of the meeting held on 13th November, for information.

b) Recommendation

Consideration had been given to having a maintenance contract for the street lights. However, when evaluating the scheme, it was agreed that the Parish Council could enhance the Street Light Maintenance Budget by £1500 and undertake the tree maintenance when required. The maintenance contract would be £1600. It was proposed by Councillor Hartshorn, seconded by Councillor Taylor, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the £1500 be included in the draft budget for street light maintenance for consideration.

It has also been agreed that £800 be included in the budget towards the next election costs.

The discussion continued regarding the Caring for God’s Acre and Eco-Church projects. It was confirmed that any decisions regarding the maintenance of churchyards remains with the relevant Parochial Church Council, however, the Parish Council would like to discuss the options with the PCCs as this is also relevant to our work with the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Members were reminded that the Parish Council has a duty to maintain closed churchyards, but additional maintenance is at the discretion of the members.

Civility & Respect Pledge

Members were aware that the Parish Council had signed up to the Pledge some time ago. SALC is now promoting that all Councillors, individually, sign a Statement Of Assurance. Whilst some Members thought that this was unnecessary ‘as it goes without saying’ that all Councillors should be committed to the principles of public life, it was agreed that all Councillors will sign their Statements of Assurance.

c) Financial Report

The current balance, as per the Bank Reconciliation, is £155,120.09 at the end of October 2025.

d) Payments

The payments had been agreed at the Finance & Governance Meeting.

e) Risk Management

The model policy is now available and the Parish Council documents will be updated.

f) Register of Gifts & Hospitality

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

g) Donation to Lingen Davies Sunflower Appeal

Lingen Davies have launched an appeal to raise £5m to fund a new cancer treatment centre at Princess Royal Hospital. This centre will double the capacity for Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and Mid Wales and whilst providing the facility locally for 47% of their patients in Telford, it will also increase the capacity for the rest of Shropshire & Mid Wales.

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

RESOLVED that £500 be transferred from General Reserves into the Grants Budget to enable a grant of £500 to be forwarded to Lingen Davies Cancer Support. This will be recognized by the appeal and Ercall Magna Parish Council will become a Founder Member.

115/11/25C Planning

a) Report

The Chairman, Councillor Wickson, gave a brief report.

b) New Planning Applications for consideration

TWC/2025/0782 Ivy House Farm, Cold Hatton
Erection of a replacement dwelling

RESOLVED that the Parish Council will support this application as it has been necessary following a fire some years ago. It is in keeping with the locality.

c) Other Planning Matters

i) Planning & Development Training and Information Sessions

There are two more sessions – Members that have been able to attend have appreciated the information available. The sessions that have been interactive and included examples have been more effective, rather than just powerpoint presentations.

ii) Housing Needs Survey

The Finance & Governance meeting had received an update from Craig Bethell, from Community Resource, who is drafting a suitable questionnaire for all residents, who believe that they (or a family member) may have a housing need in the next 5 years. It was agreed that this would best be launched in the New Year and drop in events will be arranged at Ellerdine, High Ercall and Roden. Craig will analyse the results and provide a summary document for consideration by the Parish Council. It is anticipated that this will be completed in 2026 and can be used as we monitor and review the Ercall Magan Neighbourhood Plan and this should be undertaken by the Council, following the 2027 elections.

iii) Boundary Hedges and Trees

Thanks were recorded for the work involved to cut back the boundary hedge on the bowling green at The Cleveland Arms. However, the tree at the bottom of the site still requires attention to avoid it encroaching on the path and neighbouring land. Thanks were also extended to local residents who have undertaken maintenance work on their trees so that they do not overhang the highway. However, it is noted that TWC have not undertaken the work required for those on their land, particular near Coppice Drive to The Chapel and at the Tollhouse.

116/11/25.C Environmental Matters

a) Updates

Idverde will be informing the Parish Council in the near future when they will be visiting Roden and High Ercall to undertake the road sweeping of the kerbed highways.

117/11/25.C Highways, Transport & Street Lighting Matters

a) Reports and Updates

The police had confirmed that it is an offence to 'flash lights' at oncoming vehicles to warn of approaching speed cameras. They are aware of particular areas of concern.

b) Roden Traffic Scheme

TWC replied to confirm that they are committed to providing this long-awaited scheme in Roden, which is to be funded with Section 106 allocations – TWC will have to bridge any funding gap which is now evident due to the long delays in completing the scheme.

c) Shrewsbury Road – Crossing Lights

The shades installed are not big enough to be effective in that location and local residents are requesting that they be upgraded to the bigger size (as per the crossing near to The Cleveland Arms).

d) Speed Indicator Devices

The Parish Council believes that the data collected from the SIDs in the Parish, and the positive effect they have on driver behaviour and speed, is useful and effective. It was proposed by Councillor Connor, seconded by Councillor Bentley, with one against and two abstentions, it was

RESOLVED that £6200 be transferred from Reserves into the Project Budget to enable another SID, with battery and fixing kit to be added for Ercall Magna Parish.

Members from Roden requested that funds be included in the budget to upgrade the two SIDS provided by TWC to those which can monitor and record the data.

e) Parking Enforcement

TWC Parking Enforcement Team have visited High Ercall on a couple of occasions and spoken to a number of drivers, pedestrians and residents. Unfortunately, there are now some vehicles parking on pavements – this has been seen in Shop Lane. Parking is a problem at school time outside of most primary schools – safety is very important.

f) New Issues

Road drain opposite the entrance to Roden Nursery
Significant potholes and poor road surfaces on the B5062 (Shrewsbury to Roden) and B5063 (High Ercall to Shawbury)

g) Village Signs

There had been no update from TWC.

118/11/25.C Play Areas

Thanks were, once again, extended for the help with regards to the weekly inspections at both locations. The annual RoSPA inspections will take place in the Autumn – arrangements are being made by TWC who will forward the invoice to the Parish Council for payment.

a) High Ercall

There are no current issues.

b) Roden

No Issues have been reported.

119/11/25.C Matters from Telford & Wrekin Council

a) Wrockwardine Ward – Councillor G Thomas

It has been quiet in recent weeks. The bridge at Longden Upon Tern is now temporarily open. There have been complaints about the traffic lights, as they cause disturbance to local residents.

- b) Ercall Magna – Councillor S Bentley
Steve reminded colleagues that TWC has a major deficit and there are likely to be considerable cuts in services as they aim to make significant savings – this may result in PTCs being asked to fund / contribute to service provision. This needs to be considered as part of the budget proposals. The area most likely to be affected is Environmental Services.
Councillor Bentley also thanked Councillor Taylor for laying the wreath at the Rowton Act of Remembrance, on his behalf.

120/11/25.C Village Halls

a) Ellerdine

The AGM took place on 7th November and was followed by the RBL Quiz – both were successful.

b) High Ercall

Bookings remain healthy – there have been over 50 new bookings in the last year. The contract has been awarded for the toilet refurbishment which will take place in the New Year.

121/11/25.C Shropshire Association of Local Councils

a) Members are reminded to check the regular bulletins for up to date information and guidance.

b) The Chairman of SALC, Ray Wickson, confirmed that the SALC Executive AGM takes place on 25th November.

c) Wrekin Area Committee

It was proposed by Councillor Wickson, seconded by Councillor Bentley, all were in favour that the response included in the Finance & Governance Minutes will be forwarded to Wrekin Area Committee as the view of Ercall Magna Parish Council.

122/11/25.C Correspondence

a) All correspondence is shared with Members at the earliest opportunity. There had been no requests to include any item on this agenda.

123/11/25.C Clerk or Councillor Reports

Councillor Purves had attended the Climate Action Conference at Woodside, it was well organized and there was a lot of good information available. The presentations were useful (and it is hoped that they will be received so that they can be shared with Members) and gave a lot of food for thought.

It was interesting to hear that Telford Woodland is all of the similar age (60/70 years) and this puts pressure on planning to ensure that the trees are replaced as the trees begin to fail. There is a wish to create a new CIC (community interest company) to lead on this issue for the County – more information should be available in the near future.

124/11/25.C Parish Matters

- Consideration of additional streetlight in Park Lane, near to the Village Hall entrance – maybe this could be a solar light?

125/11/25.C Next Meeting

16th December 2025

7.00pm

Full Council

HEVH

Everyone is invited to join the Councillors for light refreshments after the meeting.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their important contributions to a successful meeting and closed the meeting at 8.20pm. E & O E. The Minutes remain draft until confirmed at the next meeting.

SignedDate