

NEWS



June 2025

FROM ERCALL MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

Please visit our new website: www.ercallmagnaparishcouncil.gov.uk

SPECIAL EDITION

Chairman's Message

I was honoured to have been re-elected as the Chairman for 2025/26 and I express my thanks to my colleagues on the Parish Council, as well as the many volunteers from within the parish, for all the work undertaken to keep our communities tidy and well maintained.

Members of Ercall Magna Parish Council discussed the Community Governance Review at its Full Council meeting recently.

Had you heard that Telford & Wrekin Council is proposing to merge our Parish Council with Waters Upton?

This came as a shock, as it goes against our recommendations and against the wishes of residents who have shared their opinion with the Parish Council. In responding to the previous consultation round we were clear in our view that the current Ercall Magna Parish Council structure is viable and allows us to represent our residents effectively and efficiently. We also confirmed that Roden and Poynton should remain within Ercall Magna Parish.

I believe that Telford & Wrekin Council's proposal to merge Ercall Magna and Waters Upton Parish Councils, reducing the number of parish councillors by 37%, would result in less effective representation for residents and would be a mistake.

Please take a look at the further information which is now available as the final round of public consultation – we really need you to let T&WC know your views.

Councillor Kevin Connor OBE

T&WC IS RECOMMENDING A MERGER OF ERCALL MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL WITH WATERS UPTON

This section is taken directly from the consultation document:

"It is proposed that a single parish council for Waters Upton and Ercall Magna be created which will have an electorate of 2453 – the parish would be split into three wards and there would be a reduction of 7 councillors from the existing arrangements."

They say that this proposal would allow the [new] parish council to remain viable and capable of providing services to its residents whilst maintaining community identity; but, they do not explain how this may happen across a large / disparate rural area with dispersed communities and fewer councillors.

Under the new arrangement, High Ercall Ward would have 6 Councillors, Waters Upton Ward 5 Councillors and Roden Ward just one Councillor.

So what now?

You need you to let Telford & Wrekin Council know what you think of their proposal before 14 July 2025:

Please go to their website:

<https://online1.snapsurveys.com/j2fxtd> or

Email: Reviews@telford.gov.uk or

Write to them at: Electoral Services, Darby House,
Lawn Central, Telford TF3 4JA

If you have difficulty accessing the Community Governance Review information, please contact the

So what is a Community Governance Review?

It is a legal process where Telford & Wrekin Council will consult with those living in the area, and other interested parties, on the most suitable ways of representing the people in the parishes.

What can the review change, or not?

It can create, merge, alter or abolish parishes.
It can change the name or style or create a new parish.

It can group parishes (or de-group them).

It cannot change the amount of money that a parish council raises through your council tax.

Why are they having a review?

The Government recommends that principal councils should undertake a Review every 10 – 15 years. It offers TW an opportunity to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries and remove any anomalies that may exist. It should consider the most appropriate community identity and effective electoral administration.

What will the review focus on?

The Review is required to take into account

- the impact of community governance on community cohesion
- the size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish and it will
- reflect the identities and interests of the community in the area
- be effective and convenient

Parish & Town Councils are the most local form of Local Government – we are closest to the electorate. At the meeting of the T&W Boundary Review Committee on 12th May, they agreed a series of draft proposals for the future of town and parish councils in the Borough. The proposal for Ercall Magna Parish Council and Waters Upton Parish Council was announced within the second phase of consultation.

YOUR VIEWS MATTER

The TW Boundary Review Committee members confirmed, within the meeting, that they wanted to base their final decision on the views of the residents in their respective parishes.

It is important that you, and your neighbours, all write to or email Telford & Wrekin Council with your thoughts on their proposals.

Clerk to Ercall Magna Parish Council.

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

The overall size of the new parish, the reduction in number of councillors, the differing needs of each current parish, keeping community identity, the distance from Roden & Poynton to Great Bolas & Shray Hill (for example).

Fewer councillors to represent more residents, the importance of knowing their local areas; would you travel to another area to attend a Parish Council meeting if you wanted to raise an issue? Lack of transport between the communities, organising parish events, arranging parish council meetings, keeping communities informed.

IF YOU HAVE A VIEW ON THIS, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU TELL T&WC. EVERY COMMENT COUNTS!

Respond to T&WC before 14 July

We will be holding 2 drop-in sessions, where members of Ercall Magna Parish Council will be available to answer any questions you may have before responding to T&WC.

These sessions will be held at:

High Ercall Village Hall 24 June 6pm -7pm

Ellerdine Village Hall 26 June 6pm - 7pm

Your Local Parish Councillors

Elaine Aston	Stephen Bentley
Richard Bruckshaw	Kevin Connor OBE (Chair)
Christopher Grant	Richard Hartshorn
Roger Higgins	Louise Hughes
Chris Purves	Sandie Noyes-Thomas
Sam Taylor	Sandy Walker
Raymond Wickson (Vice-Chair)	

All members can be contacted by email using the format:
firstname.secondname@ercallmagnaparishcouncil.gov.uk

How to Contact your Parish Council

Website: www.ercallmagnaparishcouncil.gov.uk

email: clerk@ercallmagnaparishcouncil.gov.uk

'phone / text: 07813 788094

