

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Ercall Magna Parish Council held on Tuesday, 17th March 2026 in High Ercall Village Hall at 7pm.

PRESENT:

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

In Attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)
4 Member of the public

179/3/26.C Welcome & Introductions

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

Public Session

The Cleveland Arms

Concerns were raised regarding a break-in at The Cleveland Arms. The police had attended.

High Ercall Tennis Club

The HETC Chairman updated Members on their work to provide a replacement club house and other work that will be required regarding landscaping and court maintenance. The Tennis Club will be submitting a grant application for consideration in the future.

Councillor Steve Bentley, Ward Member, pledged £1000 in 2026/27.

West Mercia Police

Unfortunately, no one was available to attend the meeting tonight, however a brief report had been received and circulated to all Members.

It is pleasing that the police continue to attend Pride & Joy events.

180/3/26.C Apologies for Absence

None

181/3/26.C Vacancy

Two applications had been received. However, unfortunately, one applicant did not live within the 3mile distance of the Parish as is required.

- The personal statement had been circulated to all Members, prior to the meeting.
- There was an opportunity for the applicant to offer further information in support of the applications
- Members had an opportunity to ask questions of the applicant
- The applicant could ask questions of the councillors.
The applicant left the meeting room
- It was proposed by Councillor Wickson, seconded by Councillor Purves, with two abstentions, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that Mr Adrian Priest be co-opted as a Parish Councillor for the Ercall Magna Ward on Ercall Magna Parish Council.

- Councillor Priest read and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office. He also completed his DPI and Civility & Respect Pledge.

182/3/26.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

183/3/26.C Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th February 2026

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

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th February 2026 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

184/3/26.C Chairman's Communications and Report

None

185/3/26.C Finance & Governance

a) Financial Report

The current balance, as per the Bank Reconciliation, is £118,592.12 at today's date..

b) Payments

It was proposed by Councillor Hartshorn, seconded by Councillor Wickson, all were in favour that the following payments be authorized

High Ercall Churchyard Maintenance and Strimming	Nobridge Nursery	LGA 1972 s 215	£1301.46
Defibrillator Pads	A Deptford	LA 2011 s1	£81.54
Salary	K Baker	LGA 1972 s 112 (2)	£688.00
PAYE	HMRC	LGA 1972 s 112 (2)	£238.45
Speed Indicator Device Project	Edgmond Parish Council	LA 2011 s1	£480.00
Bus Shelter Cleaning	Reimburse K Baker	LG (MP) A 1953 s4	£225.00

c) Risk Management

There were no matters to report.

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.

d) Grant Applications

Councillor Connor declared an interest and had a dispensation.

Details of an application from Ellerdine Village Hall had been circulated. The request was for £500 towards a replacement external door to the former house.

It was proposed by Councillor Hartshorn, seconded by Councillor Higgins, with one abstention, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that a grant of £500.00 be paid to Ellerdine Village Hall in accordance with LG (MP)A 1976 s 19 (3).

186/3/26C Planning

a) Report

The Chairman of the Planning Committee updated members on decisions since the last meeting.

b) New Planning Applications for consideration

- i) TWC/2026/0089 Land NW of South Acre, Cold Hatton
Change of Use from agricultural to equestrian with erection of stable block and creation of a menage

RESOLVED that Ercall Magna Parish Council would have no objections.

- ii) TWC/2026/0097 Barn Cottage, Heath Lane, Ellerdine
Single storey rear extension with roof lights and single storey extension to the existing outbuilding with roof light

RESOLVED that Ercall Magna Parish Council would support this application, which Members considered to be a 'nice addition' and in keeping.

- iii) TWC/2026/0137 Former RAF Quarters, Cotwall
Councillor Bruckshaw declared a personal and prejudicial interest and left the meeting

RESOLVED that Ercall Magna Parish Council would support this application to retain the character within the site.

c) Other Planning Matters

i) Housing Needs Survey

Over 30 responses had been received. Craig Bethell, Community Resource, will be analysing the results and creating a report for the Parish Council. The information can be used for the review of the Neighbourhood Plan.

ii) Planning Committee Vacancy

Councillor Priest was invited to join the Planning Committee – he would have a conversation with Councillor Wickson before making a decision.
The Parish Council is a statutory consultee in the planning process and we work closely with the Planning Officer Team at TWC.

187/3/26.C

Environmental Matters

a) Updates

The Clerk continues to put pressure on TWC Highways regarding the need for footpath sweeping. Maintenance is also required at the entrance to The Ridgeway.

b) Dog Poo Dispenser and Dog Poo Bag Bin

The Clerk will ascertain the cost of an additional litter and dog waste bin to be sited at the end of the shop alley in Park Lane. This will be included on the next agenda, in the new financial year, for consideration.

c) Other Matters

A tree surgeon has agreed to visit the Parish to assess work required on trees where street lights are hidden and also to assess the trees within the Churchyard.

188/3/26.C

Highways, Transport & Street Lighting Matters

a) Roden Traffic Scheme

Some minor works have continued at Roden, although the scheme is still not completed. The Clerk will ask TWC for an update.

b) Walton to Shawbury Road

Details of a road closure from 8th April 2026 have been circulated informing the residents that Balfour Beatty will be undertaking road surface repairs on behalf of TWC. This could take up to 11 days.

c) Crab Tree Lane

Highways Officers will be surveying this route as part of the works included in b) above.

d) Arriva Bus Service

Some local concerns have been shared with Arriva due to scheduled buses not arriving on time, or at all. Residents are asked to inform the Clerk of dates and times so that Arriva can investigate this with the drivers.

e) Back Lane – Rowton to Osbaston

The Clerk has reported the poor condition of this road on a number of occasions and recently sent photos to show the state of the potholes and surface.

f) Village Namesigns

It remains disappointing that no response had been received from TWC regarding the project to replace village namesigns. The Clerk had followed this up with Chris Pearson, but still no response. Members find it difficult to understand why no responses are received – this will be raised with Dean Sargeant.

g) New Issues

It had been noticed that some potholes in the Parish have now been repaired to a higher standard and it is hoped that future works will also be done in this way. Residents are encouraged to use My Telford to continue to report areas of concern, and to include photographs whenever possible.

189/2e/26.C Play Areas

Thanks were, once again, extended for the help with regards to the weekly inspections at both locations. The RoSPA reports are available on request.

a) High Ercall

There are no current issues.

b) Roden

No Issues have been reported.

190/3/26.C Matters from Telford & Wrekin Council

a) Wrockwardine Ward – Councillor G Thomas

Councillor Thomas reported that it has been ‘strangely quiet’ in communication from TWC and some bizarre responses had been received. He continues to represent the community.

b) Ercall Magna – Councillor S Bentley

It is pleasing to know that work on the B5063 Walton towards Shawbury has been scheduled and Councillor Bentley thanked the Parish Council for the support and for continuing to put pressure on TWC to bring this work forward in a timely manner.

Concerns remain regarding proposed changes to the West Mercia Policing Area – the reduction in the number of police areas can only (in his opinion) result in less officers available to cover the rural areas. He encourages all residents to respond to the current consultation organized by the Police & Crime Commissioner.

The TW Local Plan has been scrutinized recently as part of the Inspector’s Review of the proposed Plan. Concerns remain that the Plan will not reflect the needs of the Borough and protect the rural areas from unnecessary development. Policies from within the NPPF need to be strengthened, in his opinion, to protect and enhance the provision and to ensure that new development is fit for a sustainable future.

191/3/26.C Village Halls

a) Ellerdine

The work to replace and repair the roof has been completed – thanks were recorded for the support of the Parish Council.

b) High Ercall

The entrance hall has been completed. It is anticipated that the refurbishment of the kitchen will be next.

Everyone is invited to the Village Hall on 29th March for Ruby’s Coffee Morning, for the RBL.

An Armed Forces Day event will take place on 4th July with the Royal British Legion working with the Village Hall. A TWC Grant has been applied for and thanks were recorded for the grant provided by Councillor Bentley to the RBL to support the event.

192/3/26.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 has been invited to the next Chair’s Liaison meeting.

193/3/26.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.
- b) Rowton Meteorite Memorial
The plaque will be delivered direct to Mr Taylor and arrangements are in hand for it to be installed before the event on 20th April. The Lord Lieutenant is attending and other invitations have been extended. All Councillors are invited. Light refreshments will be available on the site.
- c) Woodland Management Plan – Home Farm, Astley
Councillor Taylor declared an interest
The information has been received and the Parish Council resolved to have no comments.

194/3/26.C Clerk and Councillor Reports

- a) The Cleveland Arms
The Clerk had informed the site owner of local concerns regarding trespass and possible unauthorized access to the building through the roof. This has been reported to the police and a crime number has been issued.
TWC had confirmed that arrangements were in hand to remove the noticeboard, which is to be relocated to the Village Hall grounds.
An email from the owner had been received and circulated to all Members, as requested.
- b) Noticeboards
Members considered the replacement of the noticeboards in High Ercall – one at the shop and the second near the Gospel Oak. The Clerk was asked to get ideas and quotations for consideration at the next meeting.
- c) Walton Defibrillator
Councillor Wickson is discussing the location and electrical connection for the additional defibrillator which will be in Walton, and to be funded from the grant provided by Councillor Bentley. The Parish Council agreed to fund the installation and electrical connection.
- d) Endowment Fund
Councillor Wickson remains a Trustee – a report will be provided for the Annual Parish Meeting in April.

195/3/26.C Parish Matters

None

196/3/26.C Next Meeting

21 st April 2026	7.00pm 8pm	Annual Parish Meeting Full Council	Ellerdine Village Hall
19 th May 2026	7.00pm 7.30pm	Annual Council Meeting 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 8.25pm. E & O E. The Minutes remain draft until confirmed at the next meeting.

SignedDate