

**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Ercall Magna Parish Council held on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026 in High Ercall Village Hall at 7pm.**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Cllr K Connor	Cllr S Noyes-Thomas
	Cllr S Bentley	Cllr L Hughes
	Cllr R Wickson	Cllr R Buckshaw
	Cllr R Hartshorn	Cllr R Higgins

**In Attendance:** Katrina Baker (Clerk)

**143/1/26.C      Welcome & Introductions**

Councillor Connor opened the meeting, welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending and wished them all a Happy New Year.

**Public Session**

None

**West Mercia Police**

Unfortunately, no one was available to attend the meeting tonight and no report had been received.

**144/1/26.C      Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Taylor	Previous Engagement
Cllr Walker	Holiday
Cllr Aston	Health

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

**RESOLVED that the apologies be accepted.**

**145/1/26.C      Vacancy**

Following the resignation of Chris Grant, the position will be advertised and anyone interested must contact Telford & Wrekin Council to call an election. The closing date is 10<sup>th</sup> February. If no election is called, the Parish Council will advertise the vacancy and can co-op. Applicants must live within 3 miles of the village boundary to be eligible. Applications will be considered at the meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March.

Members recorded their thanks to Chris for his work since joining the council, it has been much appreciated.

**146/1/26.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

The Clerk confirmed that all Members, resident within the Parish, have a dispensation to take part in the budget discussions and to vote on the proposed precept.

**147/1/26.C      Minutes of the Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

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

**RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.**

**148/1/26.C Chairman's Communications and Report**

None

**149/1/26.C Finance & Governance****a) Financial Report**

The current balance, as per the Bank Reconciliation, is £126,082.30 at the end of December 2025.

**b) Payments**

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

Street Light Energy	NPower	PCA 1957 ss 3 & 1	£2052.24
Street Light Call Out	Eon	PCA 1957 ss3 & 1	£117.60
Salary	Clerk	LGA 1972 s 112 (2)	£688.00
PAYE	HMRC	LGA 1972 s 112 (2)	£238.45

**c) 2026/27 Budget and Precept Request**

Members had considered the draft budget which had been circulated following the Finance & Governance Meeting. Members were aware of the possible need that funding will be required for additional services following the announcement regarding the TW Budget.

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

**RESOLVED that the budget be set at £113,930. This will enable the precept to remain at £49,900 for one more year.**

Members discussed the need to future-proof and it was agreed that members should have the opportunity next year to consider alternatives, such as leaving the Band D cost as 2026/27 and increasing the precept. This will be kept in mind, throughout the next financial year, as it is important to remember that this is residents' money.

**d) Risk Management**

Copies of the new documents will be presented to the next Full Council meeting.

**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.

**150/1/26C Planning****a) Report**

None

**b) New Planning Applications for consideration**

TWC/2026/011 Oak Cottage, Walton  
Erection of a double garage with store above

**RESOLVED that the Parish Council supports the application.**

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

The latest correspondence from Community Resource confirms that the consultation will take place from 16<sup>th</sup> February until 7<sup>th</sup> March 2026. A QR code will be provided to enable direct access from mobile devices and this can also be included in posters and on leaflets, the website and social media. Paper copies will also be available on request. An article has been included in the village newsletter and a further update will be in the February edition. It was confirmed that the survey is open to any resident or anyone wishing to

have an opportunity to have a property in the parish, especially if their need is to be within the next five years.

It is important to note that the revisions to the NPPF (under consultation at this time) include that Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans will need to include land identified as potential development sites in the future.

## **151/1/26.C Environmental Matters**

### **a) Updates**

The recent Storm Gorretti resulted in changes to waste collection regimes across the Borough and particularly in the rural areas. Members recorded their thanks to the teams who continued to provide good service in difficult conditions. Thanks would also be extended to TWC for the information flow, which was much appreciated.

### **b) Kissing Gate**

The gate at the bottom of Church Walk has been repaired – it was only the hinges and other furniture that caused the problem. It has still not been established who owns the gate and therefore has responsibility for maintenance. The Parish Council was pleased to assist but does not accept responsibility for any future repairs or replacements.

## **152/1/26.C Highways, Transport & Street Lighting Matters**

### **a) Roden Traffic Scheme**

The long-awaited scheme is yet to be completed. There are spelling errors, the left turn sign opposite Roden Nursing Home is missing, the countdown markers from High Ercall are still to be installed and the road markings need to be clear and accurate.

It was pleasing to hear that local residents do believe that the overall speed of traffic travelling through the village has slowed down since the installation of the scheme.

### **b) Additional Grit Bins**

A number of requests for additional grit bins had been received during the recent period of snow and ice. TWC had confirmed that they had no further resources for additional bins, although they would be continuing to fill all existing bins. They also have a strict criteria for considering new bin locations.

Councillor Bentley has offered the use of his Pride Funding to provide four additional bins:

Junction to Ellerdine Lakes, on Royal Oak to Hilbrae Road

Ellerdine Village

Rowton Village

Cotwall Bank

TWC will be providing and installing the bins when they are available – the locations will be checked to ensure that they meet highway regulations.

### **c) Potholes**

Following a drive-around the Parish, numerous potholes and areas of concern had been identified and reported. TWC have put white paint around most of the areas. Temporary repairs will be carried out before a full repair is possible.

### **d) Walton to Shawbury Road**

A highway engineer has visited and confirmed that re-surfacing is necessary. This will be included as part of the capital programme. In the meantime, the dangerous areas will be repaired.

### **e) Village Namesigns**

It remains disappointing that no response had been received from TWC regarding the project to replace village namesigns. The Clerk will follow this up with Chris Pearson.

## **153/1/26.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 and will be considered before the next meeting.

**a) High Ercall**

There are no current issues.

**b) Roden**

No issues have been reported on the play area, but concern was raised in that the 'hole' in the adjacent grass has re-appeared. The Clerk will investigate further.

**154/1/26.C Matters from Telford & Wrekin Council**

**a) Wrockwardine Ward – Councillor G Thomas**

No report had been received.

**b) Ercall Magna – Councillor S Bentley**

The draft amendments to the NPPF were published in December and whilst open for consultation, could have an impact on the TW Local Plan Examination and the inclusion of green belt land and greyland. It remains disappointing that there is no requirements regarding infrastructure including Drs, Education etc.

**155/1/26.C Village Halls**

**a) Ellerdine**

It was good to receive an update in that the roof repairs are starting and that project management is key for such projects.

**b) High Ercall**

There has been a number of events over Christmas and New Year and bookings are healthy for 2026. The toilet upgrade should be completed at the beginning of February. A request has been received for raised planters for a community garden project on the field, which is under consideration.

**156/1/26.C Shropshire Association of Local Councils**

**a) Members**

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

The Chairman's Meeting was well attended with useful information shared.

A date for the next WAC is awaited when The Leader / Deputy Leader of TWC can attend.

**157/1/26.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**

Details of the project are coming together – the event is planned for April 2026. The plaque will be displayed at the side of the entrance adjacent to the field and will include information about the meteorite.

**c) TW Consultation Budget**

This was considered within the Parish budget discussions. There may be a meeting with TWC arranged for Parish Councillors to attend.

**158/1/26.C Clerk or Councillor Reports**

**a) Roden Water**

The recent ban was lifted before Christmas. Thanks were extended to everyone who helped to make this possible.

**b) SID Company**

Following the closure of Morelock, we have opened an account with CMT Group.

**c) Street Lighting**

There are many areas around the parish where lights are ineffective due to overgrown trees and hedges. A local contractor will be contacted to discuss a quotation for the work. When these are on private land, it is the responsibility of the landowner.

**159/1/26.C Parish Matters**

- a) Churchyard Trees – Health Check – to be arranged
- b) Trees at The Vicarage have been reported
- c) An update on fibre broadband will be requested
- d) Concern regarding bicycles ridden in the dark without lights.

**160/1/26.C Next Meeting**

17<sup>th</sup> February 2026

7.00pm

Full Council

HEVH

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.

Signed ..... Date .....