

Cressage, Harley & Sheinton Parish Council

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Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held at Harley Village Hall on Tuesday 10th March 2026 at 7pm

In attendance: Cllrs Rob Davies, Victoria Todd, Matthew Murray, Shaun Bott, Roger Beardsmore, John Esp, Shropshire Councillor Dan Thomas, two members of the public and the Parish Clerk (V.Voysey)

124.25 Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The last one to be held in Harley until later in the year. The next meeting will be in Cressage Village Hall.

125.25 To note Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Colin Campbell and Shropshire Councillor Susan Coleman

126.25 To note Declarations of Pecuniary Interest or consider dispensation requests

Cllr Shaun Bott is the owner of SLB Ground Care
Cllr Roger Beardsmore is the organiser of the annual Tug of War contest

127.25 Public session

A member of the public in attendance at the meeting said that he had been intending to comment on the drain cover that needs replacing by the Old Bakery, but it had been mended on the afternoon of the meeting. The Parish Clerk said that she had been contacted by another resident about the same issue, with the request that the Parish Council supports efforts to get the job done. She asked that she be contacted again if the repairs were unsatisfactory or if there were any other issue to follow up.

A resident from Cressage raised a concern about the amount of rubbish up Wood Lane. It was questioned why there are no police at the Parish Council meetings and commented that it would be nice to see them out. He hasn't seen one on patrol.

A resident from Cressage had contacted the Parish Clerk asking that the Parish Council considers his proposal to install a pump track within the community. Councillors agreed that it was worth looking into and bringing back as an agenda item at the next meeting.

128.25 Shropshire Councillor's Report

Cllr Dan Thomas reported that Shropshire Council's 2026/27 budget had been agreed. The Council is under tough financial pressure. An EFS (Exceptional Financial Support) has been received from the Government. This is loaned money to help balance the budget and avoid a Section 114 notice. Council tax will go up by 8.99%.

Highways will be coming to look around roads in Much Wenlock and the Severn Valley area. Cllr Thomas will be holding an advice surgery on Saturday 14th March where the police will be present.

The Plume of Feathers has the same license as it has before when under different management. The owner has explored using the hotel for homelessness needs, Cllr Thomas has not supported this as he does not think it is a suitable location for it.

129.25 Council to consider and agree the Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th March 2026

It was resolved to agree the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th March 2026 as a true record

130.25 Planning matters:

The following was noted:

i. **Decisions:**

26/00146/TPO: Saint Marys Church, Harley

Proposal: Reduce by 25% 1no. Yew and reduce by 20% each 2no. Sycamore trees (as per schedule) protected by the Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council (Harley) Tree Preservation Order 1991 (SA/225)

Decision: Grant Permission

ii. **Determine response to any new Planning Applications:**

Reference: 26/00809/TPO (validated: 27/02/2026)

Address: 3 Harley, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 6LP

Proposal: Reduce by approx. 20% 1no Yew protected by the Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council (Harley) Tree Preservation Order 1991 (Ref: SA/225)

no comment to file

131.25 Highways matters

It was noted that Cheltenham Motor Club has consulted with the Parish Council regarding the Hills Ford car rally due to take place on 19th and 20th September. Parish Councillors said that they considered that there had been plenty of notice given. It was agreed to write back to say the Parish Council has no objection.

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132.25 Financial matters:

- i. Council agree to payment of invoices and charges

Payee	Item	Amount	Date of Invoice
Clerk	Salary month 11	£tbc	18/3/2026
HMRC	Tax month 11	£tbc	18/3/2026
Clerk	Travel March	£16.78	11/23/2026
PWLB	Streetlights Loan (direct debit)	£273.46	15/1/2026
Shropshire Council	Streetlights – Q4	£560.38	11/2/2026
Lloyds Bank (direct charge)	Service Charges	£4.75	12/1/2026
British Gas	Service Charges (estimated)	£26.46	15/2/2026
Water Plus (direct debit)	Pavillion water	£tbc	March
SALC	Chairmanship training	£95	9/3/2026

- ii. Council agreed to payment of monthly environmental maintenance charge

SLB Groundcare	Monthly maintenance – March	£760.79	1/3/2026
SLB Groundcare	Additional works – as requested	£620	1/3/2026

Cllr Shaun Bott did not vote on this item

- iii. Council agreed to note receipts and expenditure to end February
- iv. Council agreed to note Bank Reconciliation to end February
- v. Council agreed to note Spend Against Budget to end February
- vi. Council agreed to note the updated Asset Register
- vii. Council considered updates regarding energy and water supplies. The Parish Clerk said that she had consulted with the energy broker who had set up the previous supply, and had been advised that there was not a better deal on offer than the current ones with British Gas and Water Plus. It was agreed to continue with these suppliers. The current British Gas bills are estimates. A meter reading has been sent.
- viii. Council noted: Non-domestic rates demand notice for the Pavilion as received Small Business Relief and is set at zero

It was requested that the details of when the PWLB (Public Works Loan Board) loan is finished be reported back to the Parish Council next month.

Cllr Victoria Todd had attended Chairmanship Training with SALC, this included guidance on checking internal controls. It was agreed that the paperwork and details be passed onto Cllrs Matt Murray and Rob Davies to follow up and report back at the next meeting.

132.25 Other Parish Matters – to include report back from meetings/training courses attended

- i. Defibrillator: the annual service has been postponed due to Numbers Plus transferring to a new organisation. The Circuit registers defibrillators in use and has requested an

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update on if it is emergency ready. It was asked if more information can be provided on how to conduct a check.

- ii. Recreation and Play Areas: Cllr Shaun Bott noted that everything on the annual inspection report was either Low Risk or Very Low Risk. A programme of works is not necessary at this time unless there is something that the Parish Council would like to invest in. There will be another inspection report in June.
- iii. Footpaths: Cllr Rob Davies reporting on repairs to the missing bridge. A group of volunteers have measured materials and sought permission to carry out the repairs. He asked that the Parish Clerk reinforce this request to the Outdoors Partnership Team at Shropshire Council.
- iv. Double yellow lines: any actions regarding double yellow lines in Cressage will take place in the next financial year.
- v. Looking after our lanes: Councillors considered how to progress a similar scheme to the pilot in Church Preen in Cressage, Harley and Sheinton. It was agreed to ask for residents with an interest in it to contact the Parish Clerk. This should go in both Village Life and on social media channels.

Cllr Roger Beardsmore left the meeting room

- vi. Tug of War: the Tug of War competition is due to take place on 24th May. It was agreed to keep the price the same as last year at £75. A formal plan will be needed for reinstating the ground.

Cllr Roger Beardsmore returned to the meeting room

Cllr Roger Beardsmore was advised of the decision made by the Parish Council. He said that the area being re-seeded might need netting or another solution to allow the soil to repair.

- vii. Hedges: the Parish Clerk said that a resident had been in touch to say that their hedges would be cut but that wet weather was delaying it being carried out.
- viii. Verge in Harley: Cllr Victoria Todd said that she had spoken to a resident about repairing damage at the verges he has parked his lorry and he agreed to re-instate it.
- ix. Police: it was requested that the Clerk invite the police to attend a future meeting
- x. 30mph signs: this had been reported on Fix My Street and reply sent back that it was on a scheduled programme of works.

133.25 Items for consideration at next Council meeting, not for debate or decision

- Additional gateway signage
- Maintenance of gateways
- Internal control checks
- Volunteers litter pick follow up
- Pump track

134.25 Date & time of next Council meeting 14th April 2026, at Cressage Village Hall