

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at Harley Village Hall on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7pm

In attendance: Cllrs Rob Davies, John Esp, Colin Campbell, Victoria Todd, Robert Davies, Matthew Murray, Roger Beardsmore, 2 members of the public, Shropshire Councillor Susan Coleman, and the Parish Clerk

**76.25 Chairman's welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

**77.25 To note Apologies**

An apology was accepted from Cllr Shaun Bott. An apology was sent prior to the meeting from Shropshire Councillor Dan Thomas

**78.25 To note Declarations of Pecuniary Interest or consider dispensation requests**

There were no declarations of interest at this time

**79.25 Public session**

A member of the public referred to the Annual Parish Meeting in May and asked if the Parish Council was going to respond to the comments raised about helping with the cost of repairing the surface of Cressage Village Hall car park. The Chairman, Cllr Victoria Todd, said that it could be put on the next Agenda.

**80.25 Shropshire Councillor's Report**

Cllr Susan Coleman provided an update on Shropshire Council matters on behalf of herself and Cllr Dan Thomas.

Shropshire Council is awaiting the result of a request for Exceptional Financial Support, in a loan of £60 m, hoping to avoid a section 114 notice – an official declaration that a council is unable to meet its spending requirements. Without government help, the council said it would need to consider its position and could not rule out the issue of a section 114 until it hears. This would result in commissioners being brought in to run Shropshire Council and could lead to service cuts to non-statutory services.

**81.25 Council to consider and agree the Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

It was resolved to accept the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2025 as a true record

**82.25 Planning matters:**

i. **Decisions:**

The following was noted:

Permission Granted 25/03434/TPO

3 Shrewsbury Road, Cressage: Reduce crown by 2m, lift crown approx. 1.5m, and shape for balance 1no. Yew (T1) protected by the SABC (Land at Shrewsbury Road, Shore Lane & Crown Lane, Cressage) Tree Preservation Order 2007 (SA/441)

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

25/04000/FUL: Development of 4No. residential dwellings, including access, internal roads, and associated landscaping.

Hardstanding Adjacent To The South Of The Former , Eagles Inn , Harley Road, Cressage, Shrewsbury.

Comment to file: support.

**iii. Other planning matters**

Raby Estates has indicated it would like to meet with the Parish Council regarding potential planning applications. It was agreed to invite them to attend a meeting prior to the scheduled Parish Council meetings due to be held in December and January.

**83.25 Highways matters**

- i) River bridge footpath: this item was deferred
- ii) Fix My Street updates: the response to the overgrown hedge is that the reported issue isn't the responsibility of Shropshire Council. However, if possible, Shropshire Council we will raise the issue with the appropriate organisation and ask them to contact the Parish Council.
- iii) Harley lay-bys: The Chairman has been contacted by a volunteer litter picker about encouraging Shropshire Council to put a bin in the lay-bys on the A458. He would be willing to replace the benches but would like to see a sign requesting that users of the picnic area take their rubbish home. It was agreed to put this request on the next agenda.
- iv) Village Gateways: it was agreed to ask JACS for the cost of two more 'Cressage: please drive carefully signs' to go on the Village Gateways

Thanks were noted to the member of the public who cleaned the War Memorial in advance of Remembrance Sunday.

**84.25 Financial matters:**

i. Council agreed to payment of the following invoices and charges

Payee	Item	Amount	Date of Invoice
Clerk	Salary month 8	£577.70	18/11/2025
HMRC	Tax month 8	£190.16	18/11/2025

Clerk	Travel November	£16.78	11/11/2025
Ebay (Clerk)	Sign for noticeboard	£18.75	20/10/2025
Costcutters UK	2 park benches – pro forma	£1032.73	20/10/2025
Lloyds Bank (direct charge)	Service Charges	£4.75	12/9/2025
Tomato Energy (direct debit)	Electricity charges	£1.98	1/11/2025
Water Plus (direct debit)	Pavillion water	£19.12	14/10/2025

ii. Council agreed to payment of monthly environmental maintenance charge

*Cllr Shaun Bott did not vote on this item*

SLB Groundcare	Monthly maintenance – November	£738.64	4/7/2025
SLB Groundcare	Hedgecutting by the Eagles	£75	19/11/2025

iii. Council agreed to note the receipts and expenditure to end October  
 iv. Council agreed to note the Bank Reconciliation to end October  
 v. Council agreed to note Spend Against Budget to end October  
 vi. Council noted that Tomato Energy is no longer trading. It will be moved to a new supplier and will be able to reconsider its options after this time.  
 vii. Council noted that Cressage Village Hall has requested a grant of £300 for Christmas celebrations. This was sent after the publication of the agenda and will be considered in full at the December meeting. An application form has been sent out.

## 85.25 Other Parish Matters

- i. Recreation Ground: the fallen tree has been removed, Cllr John Esp advised that tree maintenance is in hand
- ii. Play area: the item identifying no action following the ROSPA inspections was deferred
- iii. Recreation Ground benches: the item considering a costing for securing the benches in the park was deferred. Cllr Matt Murray noted that the benches have been delivered.
- iv. Station Road lights : the report on foliage covering the lights on Station Road has been deferred
- v. Hedges on Severn Way: there is still an ongoing issue along parts of the Severn Way. The Chairman (Cllr Victoria Todd) said she would be speaking to the owner of one problematic location. It was agreed that Cllr Todd writes a separate Village Life article reminding homeowners that it is their responsibility to cut back hedges so they don't impede footpaths. It was agreed that Cllr Rob Davies puts a reminder on social media forums.
- vi. River bridge: the item considering funding clearance of the overgrowth was deferred
- vii. Noticeboards: The Parish Council thanked Cllr Rob Davies for his repair work on the Cressage noticeboard. A new sign has been put in place. A lock has been purchase

- viii. Verges: consideration of a maintenance plan for the village gateway areas was deferred
- ix. Verges: consideration of the cost of removal of two saplings on the left hand side of Harley Road was deferred
- x. Yellow lines: the Chairman, Cllr Victoria Todd, referred to an email sent to her by Shropshire Council Highways on 28<sup>th</sup> October. This explained that placing yellow lines on Severn Way and Sheinton Road is in the current financial year's work programme but due to the Council's financial situation it will be postponed until consideration of the new financial year's work programme.
- xi. Footpaths: there were no updates on replacement of the missing bridge at this time

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

- Cost of resurfacing Cressage Village Hall car park
- Provision of bins on Harley lay-by
- Grant request from Cressage Village Hall

**87.25 Date & time of next Council meeting** 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025, at Harley Village Hall