

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at Harley Village Hall on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at 7pm

In attendance: Cllrs Rob Davies, Colin Campbell, Victoria Todd, Robert Davies, Matthey Murray, Shaun Bott, Roger Beardsmore, Shropshire Councillors Susan Coleman and Dan Thomas, 25 members of the public, and the Parish Clerk

**88.25 Chairman's welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting noting that it was a few years since so many residents had attended.

**89.25 To note Apologies**

An apology was received from Cllr John Esp

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

Cllr Shaun Bott is the owner of SLB Maintenance

**91.25 Public session**

Speeding in Harley

Five residents from Harley raised concerns about speeding through the village. There are no footpaths or streetlights, with the speed of the traffic, it can be treacherous to walk through the village. The speed limit is national speed limit. It was considered that 20mph might be more appropriate. Cars are not breaking the legal limit by driving through at 40 or 50mph, but it is too fast. Heavy goods vehicles coming through the village shake houses as they go past.

Village Life has had a reminder to residents about appropriate speed levels but they are not the only road users. It was requested that speed measures be considered, such as flashing lights warning drivers of their speed. It was noted that Cressage, Cross Houses, and Morville have all had village gateways installed.

Cllr Dan Thomas said that he had recently met the Traffic Engineer to look at damage incurred to a property on Harley Bank by a vehicle. He offered to arrange a similar meeting to include the two Harley Parish Councillors and ideally two or three residents. He was thanked for this offer.

Planning application 25/04124/OUT

Eight residents spoke about the planning application from Raby Estates to build 90 houses in Cressage. Following on from the comments from Harley residents, it was noted that there is a 30mph flashing speed sign in Cressage, a resident living along the Shrewsbury Road said it was often flashing, and traffic comes through at 50mph ignoring it. There are major issues with the road before considering building a new housing estate. Other residents questioned what contribution Raby Estates would be making to the future of the community other than building new houses. The projected housing need for the area was questioned including the definition

of Cressage as a 'Community Hub'. A resident said that previously when the criteria for this had been challenged, the criteria were moved. It was questioned if the plans would enhance the area. The importance of retaining open countryside was expressed, whilst one resident complained that it was not possible to have direct contact with planning officers at Shropshire Council. Cross Houses also has planning proposals to build on the open countryside.

The Chairman thanked residents for their comments which would be noted by Parish Councillors prior to making a decision on a response to the plan.

#### **92.25 Shropshire Councillor's Report**

Cllr Susan Coleman provided an update on repairs to Buildwas Bridge where a pothole repair keeps failing. She explained that the bridge would need to be closed for 6 weeks to complete an effective long-term repair. This is currently scheduled for the next financial year, but she is trying to get it brought forward from April.

Cllr Dan Thomas provided an update on the financial status of Shropshire Council. There is a £50 million overspend from the previous administration. There is no update yet on emergency funding from Central Government. Plans are being put in place for improvements for service delivery and for staffing. As referred to in the public session, Cllr Thomas has met with the County's Traffic Engineer to look at damage incurred to a property at the bottom of Harley Bank.

#### **93.25 Council to consider and agree the Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

It was resolved to agree the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025 as a true record5/0

#### **94.25 Planning matters:**

##### **i. Decisions:**

The following were noted:

25/01628/FUL (validated: 19/06/2025)

The Eagles Inn, 1 Harley Road, Cressage, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 6DF

Proposal: Change of use from a former public house to two residential dwellings

Decision: Grant Permission

Reference: 25/03638/FUL (validated: 06/10/2025)

Address: Old Crown House, Crown Lane, Cressage, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 6BT

Proposal: Two storey side extension

Decision: Grant Permission

Reference: 25/03639/LBC (validated: 06/10/2025)

Address: Old Crown House, Crown Lane, Cressage, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 6BT

Proposal: Two storey side extension

Decision: Grant Permission

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

It was resolved to object to the following:

25/04124/OUT (validated: 19/11/2025)

Proposed Residential Development Land Off, Shore Lane, Cressage, Shrewsbury, Shropshire

Proposal: Outline planning permission for residential development, associated open space including an enhanced pedestrian route, habitat enhancements, landscaping, and infrastructure, with all matters reserved apart from access and demolition of outbuilding

The following plans received after the publication were noted with no comment to file:

25/04580/PIP

Proposal: Application for Permission in Principle for construction of one or two dwellings at 37 Harley Road, Cressage

25/04455/FUL

Barn Yonder, Harley

Proposal: Extension to existing garage

## **95.25 Highways matters**

- i) It was requested that the Parish Clerk bring a quote for additional Village Gateway signs to the next meeting
- ii) The grit bin in Sheinton should be replaced soon.
- iii) Residents have comment on the bus swinging into Cressage at a sharp angle. It was requested that the Parish Clerk send an email to the service providers about it.

## **96.25 Financial matters:**

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

Payee	Item	Amount	Date of Invoice
Clerk	Salary month 7	£tbc	18/12/2025
HMRC	Tax month 7	£tbc	18/12/2025
Clerk	Travel December	£16.78	8/7/2025
Amazon (Clerk)	Lock for noticeboard	£6.29	9/11/2025
Lloyds Bank (direct charge)	Service Charges	£4.75	12/11/2025
Energy (direct debit)	Electricity charges	tbc	tbc
Water Plus (direct debit)	Pavillion water	£tbc	14/11/2025

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

*Cllr Shaun Bott did not vote on this item*

SLB Groundcare	Monthly maintenance – December	£738.64	4/12/2025
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- iii. Council agreed to note the receipts and expenditure to end November

- iv. Council agreed to note the Bank Reconciliation to end November

- v. Council agreed to note Spend Against Budget to end November

- vi. The grant request from Cressage Village Hall will be considered at the next meeting
- vii. Council noted the draft budget for the financial year 2026-2027. A precept will be agreed at the next meeting.

**97.25 Other Parish Matters**

- i. Defibrillator: it was requested that the Parish Clerk checks when the annual check is due. Monthly visual checks are required.
- ii. Benches: it was suggested that one bench be placed by the main gate and the other by to the side of the door near where a bench was previously in place. Placement is being actioned by Cllrs Shaun Bott and Matt Murray.
- iii. ROSPA reports: long-term items to consider at the Play Area are matting and securing the fence It was considered that the Parish Council has sufficient reserves to consider investing in maintenance works on both the play area and the recreation area. It was agreed that a schedule of works be requested from SLB Maintenance.
- iv. Foliage covering lights: there are five lights that need trimming around. It was requested that SLB Maintenance complete this work.
- v. Overgrowth on Cressage Bridge: Cllr Shaun Bott said that this work required a hedgecutter. It was agreed that SLB Maintenance complete this work, and in addition, the trim of the two trees on Harley Road Bank.
- vi. Verges maintenance: this item was deferred
- vii. Yellow line: advice from Shropshire Highways is that any consideration of works to establish yellow lines in Cressage would be deferred to the next financial year

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

- Speeding in Harley village
- Clearing gateway areas
- Quote for additional Village Gateway signs
- Issuing reminders to residents about hedgerow clearance

**99.25 Date & time of next Council meeting** 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026, at Harley Village Hall