

Cressage, Harley & Sheinton Parish Council

Minutes of an Annual Parish Meeting held at Cressage Village Hall on Tuesday 12th May 2026 at 7.00 pm

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

1. Welcome and Opening Comments

Cllr Victoria Todd welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Apologies for absence

An apology was received from Shropshire Councillor Dan Thomas

3. To approve the minutes of previous meetings

It was agreed to approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 13th May 2025

4. Parish Council Report (by Chairman of Parish Council)

Cllr Victoria Todd gave an overview of the past year. There are two new Shropshire Councillors following the elections, changes of boundaries meaning that part of the Parish Council area is now covered by the Much Wenlock Shropshire Councillor.

The year's themes include:

- Speeding on the A458 – village gateways were installed in July. Evidence suggests that village gateways help reduce speeding.
- Footpaths – particularly the missing footbridge by Wood Lane. Plans are underway to get a replacement bridge.
- Double yellow lines – the request for Highways to look at the possibility of additional yellow lines by the school and the surgery was postponed due to financial restraints at Shropshire Council.
- Hedges – householders have been reminded of their responsibilities to keep hedgerows tidy
- Defibrillator – the defibrillator has been moved to the front of Cressage Village Hall to make it more accessible
- Dog fouling – this continues to be a problem despite bin provision

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- Planning matters – planning has been given for 4 dwellings at the Eagles Inn
- Speeding in Harley – residents raised concerns about speeding in Harley, this is being followed up by Shropshire Councillor Dan Thomas
- Future working with Shropshire Council – discussions have begun about increased self-help for the maintenance of village lanes. Voluntary roles have been suggested.
- Council Tax – this year the Parish Council requested a 0% increase on its precept

Cllr Todd thanked the Parish Councillors for their input and enthusiasm.

5. Shropshire Council Report – by Shropshire Councillor

Shropshire Councillor Susan Coleman (Severn Valley) thanked the Parish Council for the welcome she has received in her first year of office. She has attended all the Parish Council meetings and attends as many community meetings and events as possible. She has helped with many issues raised by residents, including highways matters and potholes. Cllr Coleman spoke at the public meeting held to discuss planning development proposals and supported the Parish Council's objections to a large development proposed by Raby Estates.

Shropshire Council has appointed a new Chief Executive. The budgeted situation is still difficult, but this is the new financial year, so the Parish Council should not hold back on asking for things, for example, a survey on installing yellow lines. Cllr Coleman said that she would always help to try and find funding from other sources.

6. Reports from Village Organisations

Medical Practice

A written report was filed in advance, it notes that the practice size at 1st April 2026 was 8284 across both sites. It is near capacity in room size and parking remains a problem in both sites. Additional developments locally will have an impact on resources.

Information about services can be found on the website
www.muchwenlockandcressagemp.co.uk

It is requested that any complaints about the practice should be directed to the practice manager who can investigate any concerns and provide a response on an individual basis. The practice does not investigate or respond to any generalised comments made on social media.

Cressage and District WI

The W.I filed a written report highlighting the 90th Anniversary celebrated in November. There are currently 27 members meeting on the second Thursday of each month. Throughout the year there are a wide range of speakers presented talks, craft and cookery demonstration. The group takes part in events at County level, including exhibiting in the Show held in September at Shrewsbury Abbey. The named charity for 2026/27 is First Responders.

Royal British Legion

The Poppy Appeal is looking for a volunteer to look after the boxes in various locations in Harley and Cressage.

Village Life

Village Life started 50 years ago this October. It has been a struggle to keep it going, it is now down to 28 pages, it needs 4 pages of news a least for it to go back up to 32 pages as advertisements will drop otherwise. There are two editors who cover the work in turn. Not everyone uses social media, Village Life lets other people know what is going on.

7. Open forum where members of the public may raise any subject for the exchange of information and general discussion.

A member of the public commented that the biggest issues in the last year were planning applications. The planning application from Raby Estates has an accompanying 23 page officer's report that indicates that subject to conditions it may be allowed.

A resident filed a written comment about reoccurring problems with repair to a drain by the old Bakery in Cressage. This was passed to Cllr Susan Coleman who is looking into the issue and will follow up this concern.

A member of the public asked about plans for the recreation field and possible installation of a pump track. This is still under discussion by the Parish Council as a potential idea, and was included on the Agenda of the Annual Parish Council Meeting due to follow the Annual Parish Meeting.