

Cressage, Harley & Sheinton Parish Council

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Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at Harley Village Hall on Tuesday 13th January 2026 at 7pm

In attendance: Cllrs Rob Davies, Colin Campbell, Victoria Todd, Matthey Murray, John Esp, Roger Beardsmore, Shropshire Councillor Susan Coleman, 1 member of the public, and the Parish Clerk

100.25 Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, wishing them a Happy New Year

101.25 To note Apologies

Shropshire Councillor Dan Thomas sent in an apology

102.25 To note Declarations of Pecuniary Interest or consider dispensation requests

There were no declarations of interest at this time

103.25 Public session

A member of the public expressed his frustration at lack of action regarding overgrown hedgerow. This issue had been reported on Fix My Street, but nothing had been done. Shropshire Councils Highways should be more proactive on this issue. There are overgrown hedges in Harley towards the Mill House, on the road from Kenley to Harley where an overgrown hedge covers the Give Way sign, and in Cressage by the Old School House where a road sign is overgrown.

Cllr Victoria Todd said that she had spoken to residents about this issue. Cllr Susan Coleman said that she can follow issues up that are reported on Fix My Street as they will be logged onto the system.

The light on the flashing 30mph signs have gone out on both entrances to Cressage. This will be reported on Fix My Street.

104.25 Shropshire Councillor's Report

Cllr Susan Coleman reported that the financial situation at Shropshire Council has gone further into the red. It will be February before it is known if central government will be providing the assistance requested. The Fair Funding Review was disappointing and will leave Shropshire Council with less money.

Reporting on behalf of Cllr Dan Thomas, it was noted that during the recent snowy weather, Veolia had been informing Councillors daily about collections. Cllr Thomas had appeared on the news praising the community spirit in Much Wenlock.

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Cllr Susan Coleman said that she was one of five Shropshire Councillors on a Task and Finish Group discussing the future of Shire Hall. Parish Councils will be notified in due course about it, there is likely to be some element of consultation involved in the process.

105.25 Council to consider and agree the Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th December 2025

It was resolved to agree the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th December 2025 as a true record

106.25 Planning matters:

i. Decisions:

The following were noted:

25/04000/FUL (validated: 24/10/2025)

Hardstanding Adjacent To The South Of The Former , Eagles Inn , Harley Road, Cressage
Proposal: Development of 4No. residential dwellings, including access, internal roads, and associated landscaping.

Decision: Grant Permission

25/04580/PIP (validated: 05/12/2025)

37 Harley Road, Cressage, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 6DF

Proposal: Application for Permission in Principle for construction of one or two dwellings

Decision: Refuse

ii. Determine response to any new Planning Applications:

There were no new planning applications to consider at this time

Cllr Victoria Todd noted that updated planning guidance from Shropshire Council had been circulated in October. CPRE's winter newsletter lead with a headline planning update, this has also been circulated to Parish Councillors.

107.25 Highways matters

- i. Cllr Matt Murray reported that Sheinton Bank now has a replacement grit bin. He thanked Cllr Susan Coleman for her help.
- ii. It was agreed to accept the quote from JACS for two additional signs for the gates with 'Cressage please drive carefully' on will be £360 including delivery. SLB Groundcare will be asked to quote for securing it in place.
- iii. Noted: a temporary road closure on B4380 Station Road, Cressage, between 18th and 20th February. Severn Trent Water will be installing a large hydrant. *Closure and diversion route:* <https://one.network/?tm=GB147326025>
- iv. The Midlands Motor Club has notified the Parish Council that the Clee Hill Classic Trial due to be held on 26th January will pass through Harley. A route map and compliance schedule issued by Shropshire Council has been circulated to the Parish Council

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- v. Shropshire Council Public Transport Team has asked for more information about the public concerns about buses swinging into Cressage at tight angles. It has asked for details about services and junctions so it can investigate. Cllr Rob Davies said the concern was that it was a daily problem on Severn Way on the 436 bus service. This information will be provided to Shropshire Council.

108.25 Financial matters:

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

Payee	Item	Amount	Date of Invoice
Clerk	Salary month 10	£577.70	18/1/2026
HMRC	Tax month 10	£190.36	18/1/2026
Clerk	Travel January	£16.78	8/1/2026
SALC	Training session	£40	11/7/2025
Shropshire Council	Streetlights Q3	£560.38	10/12/2025
Shropshire Council	Elections costs	£125	5/1/2025
Harley Village Hall	Room Hire	£50	5/1/2025
Lloyds Bank (direct charge)	Service Charges	£4.75	12/1/2026
Water Plus (direct debit)	Pavillion water	£19.12	14/12/2026

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

SLB Groundcare	Monthly maintenance – December	£738.64	4/1/2026
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- iii. Council agreed to note receipts and expenditure to end December
- iv. Council agreed to note the Bank Reconciliation to end December
- v. Council agreed to note Spend Against Budget to end December
- vi. Council to consider the grant request from Cressage Village Hall
- vii. Council considered the draft budget for the financial year 2026-2027. It was decided to file a 0% budget as a goodwill gesture to residents, with consideration that there are sufficient reserves to make this manageable, and that approximately £2K can be reclaimed in V.A.T.
- viii. Council agreed a precept request of £28,994 for Shropshire Council for the financial year 2026-2027

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

- i. Defibrillator: the Parish Clerk said she would check when the next annual check is due
- ii. Recreation ground: it was agreed to accept the quote from SLB Groundcare for placement of the benches at £350 for both benches.
It was agreed that Cllrs Roger Beardsmore and Shaun Bott should be delegated the decision of where to place the benches.
- iii. Treeworks: it was agreed to accept the quote of £125 from SLB Groundcare to prune around 5 streetlights in Cressage identified as being overgrown with foliage.

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It was also agreed to accept the quote of £30 from SLB Groundcare to cut down two small trees on the verge in Harley Road, Cressage.

It was agreed to hold off from cutting the hedges on Cressage Bridge because of location considerations.

- iv. Recreation and Play Areas: Cllr Roger Beardsmore noted that it had been reported to him that the fence gateway on Cherry Arbour has rusted through. It was agreed that he advise Cllr Shaun Bott about it and report back to the Parish Council at the next meeting.
- v. Verges: there was no update on a maintenance plan for the village gateway areas
- vi. Footpaths: there was no update on replacement of the missing bridge
- vii. Hedgerow clearance: there was discussion on the suggestion of sending out reminders about responsibilities to keep footpaths clear from overgrown hedges. There should be some care in the wording, it might possibly include a comment that if there is a problem, the Parish Council may be able to help. ¹
- viii. Speeding in Harley: Cllr Dan Thomas has not yet arranged a meeting with Highways, but there should be an update on this next Parish Council meeting.

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

Defibrillator should return on each agenda

111.25 Date & time of next Council meeting 11th February 2026, at Harley Village Hall

¹ **Minute 117.25** Regarding minute 109.25, Cllr Colin Campbell had asked the Parish Clerk to include in the minutes that he had said that whilst agreeing with the need for residents to cut back hedges, it is a waste of time sending out letters now, and residents should have been informed in September 2025.