

Shrewley Parish Council

CLERK: MRS E CHOUDRY
CROSSWAYS, SHREWLEY COMMON
NR WARWICK
CV35 7AU

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Shrewley Parish Council held at Shrewley Village Hall on Monday 3rd May 2025 at 7pm

Present at the Meeting:

Cllr R Wesbury	<i>Chairman</i>
Cllr G Rollason	<i>Vice Chairman</i>
Cllr D Lawrie	
Cllr E Forty	
Cllr S Underwood	
Cllr H Darwen	
Cllr R Hinton	
WDC Cllr J Matecki	

Clerk Eleanor Choudry

Members of the Public: 1

235/25 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND DECLARATION OF OFFICE

Cllr Wesbury was proposed as Chairman by Cllr Lawrie and seconded by Cllr Forty. Cllr Wesbury was unanimously elected to the post of Chairman with immediate effect and signed the Declaration of Office.

236/25 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Rollason was proposed as Vice Chairman by Cllr Darwen and seconded by Cllr Forty. Cllr Rollason was unanimously elected to the post of Vice Chairman with immediate effect and signed the Declaration of Office.

237/25 APOLOGIES Cllr S Lowe, WDC Cllrs K Aizlewood, D Armstrong.

238/25 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Garry Rollason advised that he was Treasurer of the volunteer group, Keep Hatton Station Rural (KHSR) and that his property backed onto the land in planning application W/24/0706, agenda item 242/25. The Clerk advised that she was the property owner of planning application W/24/1233 agenda item 242/25.

239/25 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: - Parish Council Meeting – Monday 3rd March 2025 - approved and signed as a true record

240/ 25 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – None.

241/25 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM - No comments.

242/25 PLANNING

W/23/1723 The Cottage, Croft Lane, Shrewley, Warwick, CV35 7H GRANTED 19/3/25
W/24/0706 Land Off, Oakdene Crescent, Shrewley, Hatton, Warwick CV35 7BN SPC OBJECTS 11/12/24 Cllr Rollason gave an update and advised that the application could now be for 30 houses instead of 34. Cllr Rollason will contact WDC Cllrs Aizlewood and Armstrong and try to get more information.
W/24/1233 Crossways, Shrewley Common, Shrewley, Warwick, CV35 7AU SPC has NO OBJECTION 6/10/24
W/24/1657 Oldmill House, Five Ways Road, Shrewley, Warwick, CV35 7HT SPC has no objection to this planning application subject to the neighbours concerns regarding noise and traffic being addressed.8/1/25.
W/24/1220 High Willows, Shaws Lane, Haseley, Warwick, CV35 7JA SPC Objects 4/2/25.
W/24/1725 The Homestead, Case Lane, Shrewley, Warwick, CV35 7JD No SPC Comment
W/24/1431 18 Station Road, Shrewley, Warwick, CV35 7LG SPC has NO OBJECTION 21/2/25 Refused17/4/25
W/25/0245 70 Station Road, Shrewley, Warwick, CV35 8XJ SPC has NO OBJECTION 3/4/25.

243/25 WCC REPORT – WCC C Cllr Jan Matecki

Coffee Pot Lane will be closed for duct installation work from 20th to 30th May. Following the recent local elections, Reform UK has emerged as the largest group on the Council. However, no formal proposals have been presented yet. Cllr Matecki advised that leaflets delivered to residents prior to the county council elections contained misinformation about him. Councillor Matecki emphasised that he prioritises the interests of residents over party politics. Cllr Matecki will investigate the possibility of traffic calming measures along Shrewley Common.

244/25 WDC REPORT – WDC Cllr Richard Hales, Kyn Aizlewood, David Armstrong

With elections taking place on 1 May, there is little routine business that can be reported due to “purdah” restrictions, so I have taken the opportunity to share with you progress with the Council’s measures to improve biodiversity and build climate resilience in Warwick District. A summary table is also attached.

Recent national warnings have highlighted the UK’s increasing vulnerability to extreme weather, with inadequate preparation placing communities at risk. Baroness Julia King of the Climate Change Committee described current national climate adaptation efforts as “frighteningly” insufficient, urging a step-change in action. Against this backdrop, Warwick District Council (WDC) is delivering tangible, local action to improve biodiversity and build environmental resilience through its Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP).

Significant progress has been made in the first full year of the BAP, with work focused on restoring habitats, supporting species, and engaging communities. The accompanying infographic illustrates these milestones.

Notable local successes include public engagement through the Biodiversity Photography Competition, as an inspiration for local action.

Habitat Work Supporting Climate Resilience

WDC’s biodiversity efforts are also a key part of local climate adaptation, directly addressing many of the risks now recognised as urgent at a national level:

- Flood mitigation: New scrapes have been created in parks to store water and slow run-off during heavy rainfall.
- Urban cooling and air quality: Tree planting has increased in residential areas.
- Soil and water management: Sustainable planting, meadow expansion, and adjusted mowing support healthier ecosystems and water conservation.
- Food security: Community orchards are now growing on WDC land.

Monitoring and Measuring Progress

Habitat improvements remain the most cost-effective and practical way to measure biodiversity progress. Key results from 2024/25 include:

- 4.25 hectares of new grassland
- 130 metres of new hedgerow
- 3 ponds enhanced
- 10 scrapes created or extended

Although species data takes time to show change, these habitat actions lay the groundwork for long-term recovery.

Priorities for 2025/26

- Expand grasslands, hedgerows and wetlands
- Support pollinators through planting and reduced mowing
- Update management of local wildlife sites and reserves
- Deepen community engagement for nature

With limited national action, WDC recognises the urgent need to act locally. Through its Biodiversity Action Plan, the council is not only restoring nature but strengthening Warwick District’s resilience to climate breakdown.

Parish Councils are vital partners in this ongoing work and are invited to comment and provide feedback.

245/25 OTHER PARISH BUSINESS

- Thermal imaging camera. The Clerk had received notices from WDC to advertise the camera. When the weather gets colder the details will be publicised. Cllr Rollason will add the details to the Hatton Station WhatsApp group.
- South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP) There are many objections received via email/letter that are waiting to be added to the portal.
- Case Lane notice board. The work has been completed, and Cllrs are pleased with the repair.
- Notice board website address footers. Two quotes had been received by the Clerk. The order of 4 noticeboard footers was placed at a cost of £71.76.
- Bus shelter. The bus shelter is waiting to be tidied by councillors who will remove sticking out nails/weeds etc.
- Meeting dates 2026. The meeting dates were agreed.

246/25 BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

- Shrewley Common village green maintenance. A small area has been left unmown as requested to increase biodiversity. Cllr Darwen reported that house martins and swallows are no longer present in Shrewley. He explained that winter wheat provides poor conditions for birdlife, and the ongoing destruction of natural habitats is contributing to a decline in bird populations. Cllr Darwen further noted that the number of bird species lost in Shrewley is now in double figures.
- **SWEAT report.** No report received.

247/25 ONGOING ACTION ITEM

- Statutory publication of documents on website. The Clerk will upload the yearend financial reports.

248/25 HIGHWAY AND PUBLIC FOOTPATH/TOWPATH MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

- WCC Fault Reporting System: Register to track and report highway problems
- Shrewley Common – mobile police speed enforcement camera location
- Highway fault report
Five Ways Road works. The works have been completed. The road will be resurfaced on the 13th May.
Shaws Lane/Five Ways Road – ‘No HGV’s’ sign. It was agreed that the current signage is adequate.
- Footpath fault report
Graffiti on railway bridge update. Cllr Underwood will check if it has been removed.

249/25 CORRESPONDENCE – Cllr Underwood will speak to the Manager of the Durham Ox regarding the police speed checks that the police wanted to carry out outside the pub. The Clerk will then advise the police. If the Durham Ox do not agree to the location the Clerk will suggest the police situate themselves in the layby nearest the crossroads.

250/25 VILLAGE HALL UPDATE - Recent developments include planning permission to extend the hall, and submission of a new updated Incorporated Charity registration which is hoped will be approved within weeks.

251/25 MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS – Cllr Rollason attended the WALC new councillor course.

252/25 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE

- 252.1 Publication Scheme. Cllrs agreed unanimously to adopt the Publication Scheme.
- 252.2 Review of updated SPC Financial regulations. Cllrs agreed unanimously to accept the new NALC model Financial Regulations.
- 253.3 Review of updated SPC Standing Orders. Cllrs agreed unanimously to adopt the new NALC amended Standing Orders.

253/25 FINANCE –

- 253.1 Bank change to Unity Trust Bank. The Clerk advised that the change of bank had happened and the balances were to be transferred this week.
- 253.2 Quarterly checks to 31st December and 31st March have been completed by Cllr Forty.
- 253.3 Bank Reconciliation as at 31st March 2025. Page 4. To be noted.
- 253.4 Insurance renewal. Due to the increase in the precept the insurance had increased to £300 pa, this was agreed by councillors.
- 253.5 Appointment of Internal Auditor 2025/26. It was agreed to ask DKE Auditing to carry out the 2025.26 internal audit.
- 253.6 2024/25 Certificate of Exemption was approved and signed for submission to Moore UK.
- 253.7 2024/25 Internal Audit Report received. To be noted.
- 253.8 Approval and signing of 2024/25 Annual Governance Statement - unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.
- 253.9 Approval and signing of 2024/25 Accounting Statement in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return - unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.
- 253.10 Permission for items listed below to be paid to be agreed: proposed by Cllr Darwen, seconded by Cllr Forty and unanimously approved.

Date	Payee	Amount £
06/05/25	April Salaries	345.85
06/05/25	HMRC April Income tax	86.40
06/05/25	May Salaries	345.85
06/05/25	HMRC May Income Tax	86.40
06/05/25	HMRC Employers NI P2	67.12
06/05/25	WALC Councillor Introduction Course Cllr Rollason - VAT to be paid	7.00
06/05/25	WALC subscription	381.00
06/05/25	Gardening by James Inv 6882 £245 – incorrect amount brought forward from previous meeting. Amount amended.	135.00
06/05/25	Reimburse Clerk printer ink	16.27
06/05/25	Reimburse Cllr Forty for thank you gift for L Wesbury for maintaining the parish website over many years	22.25
06/05/25	Notice board repair – Neal Soutter Electrical	250.00

06/05/25	Zurich insurance renewal	300.00
06/05/25	DKE Audit Fee	216.20
06/05/25	Shrewley Village Hall hire for Annual Assembly	34.00
06/05/25	Parish Online	480.00
06/05/25	Signs Express – 4 website signs for notice boards	71.76
06/05/25	JDT Farming bus shelter re-erected following storm. Invoice received after agenda issued but discussed and agreed at meeting.	456.00
	Total	3,301.10

254/25. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Meeting Monday 7th July 2025 at 7pm.

255/25. CLOSURE OF MEETING – The meeting closed at 8.39pm.

2025 Dates:-

Monday July 7th
Monday September 1st
Monday November 3rd

2026 Dates:-

Monday January 5th
Monday March 2nd
Monday March 23rd – Annual Assembly 7pm
Tuesday May 5th – Annual Parish Council Meeting
Monday July 6th
Monday September 7th
Monday November 2nd

Start times 7pm

Shrewley Parish Council

Bank Reconciliation as at 31st March 2025

		£
Cash Book Balance b/f		8,972.57
Receipts		
First half precept 26.4.24	4,737.50	
Shaw Lane Rent 18.10.24	52.00	
CIL Funding 26.4.24	6,250.00	
HMRC VAT Reclaim	445.54	
Second Half Precept	4,737.50	
Total Income		25,195.11
May payments	1,810.24	
July payments	2,824.90	
Sept payments	1,095.99	
Nov Payments	1,939.89	
Nov First Aid Kit £7.14 increase in price than on agenda	7.14	
Jan Payments	1,633.45	
Feb Bank Service Charge	4.25	
March Payments	6505.20	
March Payment to Village Hall postponed	(5250.00)	
March Bank Service charges	8.50	
Total Payments		10,579.56
A TOTAL CASH BOOK BALANCE		14,615.55
Balance as at 31 st March 2025		9,584.05
Reserve Account as at 31 st March 2025		5,031.50
B TOTAL BANK BALANCE		14,615.55

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....