

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Ercall Magna Parish Council held on Tuesday, 19th March 2024 at 7.00p.m. in High Ercall Village Hall.

PRESENT:

CLlr K Connor	CLlr E Aston
CLlr R Wickson	CLlr S Bentley (and TWC)
CLlr L Hughes	CLlr C Grant
CLlr S Noyes Thomas	CLlr R Bruckshaw
CLlr R Hartshorn	CLlr G Barrow
CLlr S Walker	

In Attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)
CLlr G Thomas (Wrockwardine Ward Member, TWC)
PC McNally
9 Members of the Public

0203/03/24.C Welcome & Introductions

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone, thanking them for attending.

Public Session

a) Willow Trees / River Roden

Concerns were expressed regarding two willow trees that have fallen into the River near The Mill, Roden which increases the risk of flooding.

The Parish Council will support the resident by contacting the Environment Agency and will also express concern at the lack of river management which increasing results in flooding of adjacent land.

Members agreed to move Agenda Item 8b and that Standing Orders can be suspended to allow members of the public to take part in a discussion regarding the current application for the Grange Farm, Ellerdine.

Councillor S Bentley left the meeting (as a Member of TW Planning Committee)

b) TWC/2024/0148 Two Egg-laying Barns at Grange Farm, Ellerdine

Councillor Taylor declared an interest and took no part in the discussion / decision

The Chairman updated the meeting confirming that this application had been discussed, at length, at the Planning Meeting which took place on 11th March. The applicant had attended to update Members on the application and to confirm how this application differs from the previous one and how the concerns previous raised had been addressed.

There remained within the presentation and in the responses some unanswered questions and conflict of information between the presentation and the application. Particular concerns remained regarding

- Highways – number of vehicle journeys, route, size of vehicles, number of passing places, visitors to the site
- Location – number of properties within the settlement and proximity to the site
- Storage and transport of muck – also the amount produced and where it will be stored
- Boreholes located within the 50m zone
- Pollution, Noise & Odour

It was clear that there was no mention of the nearby Ellerdine Lakes within the application and no information as to how the applicant will protect the site, which is environmentally vulnerable.

Mr Griffiths offered to provide the missing information the following day. He also confirmed that he would be happy to include 'conditions' with the planning approval to determine the times of vehicle movements and the routes of the vehicles. The answers had been received in a letter earlier this evening and the Chairman read out some of the relevant information. However, due to the lateness of this receipt, it was agreed to circulate this to all Members, for their information.

Concerns were raised regarding the additional traffic, and the routes to the site, especially during the construction stages.

It was proposed by Councillor Connor, seconded by Councillor Wickson, with one abstention and one against, it was

RESOLVED that Ercall Magna Parish Council would call-in the application for determination by the LPA and to request that the Planning Officer and Members of the Planning Committee visit the site to understand the concerns raised regarding the highway network, the position and proximity of the site to properties and businesses.

The Parish Council does not object to the principle of the proposal, but questions if this is the appropriate site. It remains unhappy with the application and much of the previous objection is still relevant as the information has been re-used despite some informal updates. Some of the information appears inaccurate and some ambiguous.

The Parish Council shares the concerns regarding the cumulative effect with at least 6 other similar businesses within a 5km distance.

The nearby Fisheries, an internationally recognized sporting venue, is included in the Ercall Magna Neighbourhood Plan, listed as a locally significant green open space and is within 500m of the site.

The chairman re-started the meeting and Standing Orders were resumed.

c) West Mercia Police

The Chairman welcomed PC McNally and brought forward the West Mercia Police agenda item 0219/03/24.

As part of the report, PC McNally updated the meeting on recent activity in the area, although not all in the Parish. This included a stolen tractor from Roden and found in Isombridge. Cannabis also found in Isombridge and hare-coursing which will result in cameras and additional signs being erected. A recent business action day targeted rural crime and was successful. An additional PCSO will join the SNT in April.

A request for speed enforcement to take place on the B5063 near Earl's Keep has been submitted.

0204/03/24.C Apologies for Absence

Councillor Purves	Holiday
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It was proposed by Councillor Connor, seconded by Councillor Wickson, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the apologies from Councillor Purves be accepted.

0205/03/24.C Declarations of Interest (for items on the Agenda) or Dispersations

The following declarations of interests were recorded:

Councillor Wickson	High Ercall Village Hall (with dispensation), Education Trust and Royal British Legion
Councillor Connor	Ellerdine Village Hall and Royal British Legion (with dispensations)
Councillor Noyes-Thomas	High Ercall Village Hall (with dispensation)
Councillor Bentley	Member of TW Planning Committee
Councillor Grant	High Ercall Village Hall (with dispensation)
Councillor Hughes	EM CAMP (with dispensation)
Councillor Taylor	TWC/2024/0148

0206/03/24.C Minutes of the Meetings held on 20th February 2024

It was proposed by Councillor Wickson and seconded by Councillor Hartshorn, with one abstention, all were in favour and thus it was:

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2024 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

0207/03/24.C Chairman's Report and Correspondence

a) Airfields of Britain Conservation Trust

Invitations have been extended to guests to join the Deputy Lieutenant, Mayor and Councillors for the unveiling of a memorial plaque near the main entrance of the High Ercall Airfield, with thanks to Greenhouse Village. The event will take place on Friday, 12th April 2024 at 10.30 and will be followed by light refreshments in Ellerdine Village Hall.

b) The Cleveland Arms – update

The Parish Council had passed the vendor's details to the three interested parties in order that they can negotiate direct.

A letter of thanks would be forwarded to Andrew Dixon & Co who have agreed that there will be no charge for the work undertaken to date, in support of the community and its wish to see the public house re-open.

0208/03/24.C Finance & Governance

a) Financial Reports

The balances total £110,555.68 at 17th March 2024.

b) Payments

A list of payments had been circulated, and it was proposed by Councillor Wickson, seconded by Councillor Hughes (with one abstention), all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the following payments be made.

K Baker	Salary March 2024	LGA 1972 s112	£600.00
HMRC	PAYE March 2024	LGA 1972 s112	£150.00
E-ON Solutions	Street Light Repair	Parish Council's Act 1957 s3	£153.70
Parish Online	Mapping System	Localism Act 2011 ss1 -8	£108.00
Andrew Deptford	Defibrillator Pads (HEVH)	Localism Act 2011 ss1-8	£65.94
Nobridge Nurseries	Grass Cutting	LGA 1972 s 111	£64.80 £384.00 £917.46
Ellerdine Village Hall	Hall Hire	LGA 1972	£15.00

0209/03/24.C Planning

a) Report

The Chairman, Councillor Wickson, presented the Minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2024, for information.

b) New Planning Applications for consideration

Please see report included within the Public Session

c) Other Planning Matters

Roden Hall

The TW Tree Officer had visited and discussed with the Management work needed on the trees and agreed that a further site visit would take place in around three months' time.

Woodlands

TWC will discuss the storage of caravans with the owner.

0210/03/24.C Environmental Matters

a) Updates and New Issues

The Clerk continues to press TWC for action on numerous outstanding 'requests for action'

a) Provision of a litter (and dog waste) bin

It was proposed by Councillor Aston, seconded by Councillor Barrow, with one against it was

RESOLVED that the Parish Council will fund the provision of an additional bin, on highway land, in Park Lane, at a cost of £500 plus £140 installation. Following the installation of this bin, TWC will add it to its schedule for maintenance.

0211/03/24.C Highways & Transport Matters

a) Reports and Updates

i) Cllr R Wickson declared an interest

B5062 noisy drain covers

Photos will be taken to send to STW as this area is now extremely dangerous. There will need to be a three way traffic light system in place to enable the work, which is directly on the junction.

b) SIDs

The Shrewsbury Road site is now complete and operating well, data has been downloaded and will be shared with the police and TWC. There is a significant improvement and most vehicles do slow down when they approach the SID. An authentication code is required from the supplier to enable more than one member to access the data.

c) Roden Road Safety Scheme

Councillor Thomas, as Ward Member, has received notification that further details of the proposed scheme with timescales will be provided by 2nd April 2024. It was proposed by Councillor Hartshorn, seconded by Councillor Walker and all were in favour that pressure should be applied to TWC and to remind them that the funding has been made available through Section 106 monies and therefore there should be no further delays in bringing forward this important road safety scheme.

d) Shrewsbury Road, High Ercall

At a site visit, TWC Highway Engineers had confirmed that although the condition of the highway between The Cleveland Arms junction and the junction with Shirlowe is poor and not aesthetically pleasing, the road structure is sound. However, they did agree to look at what is required and provide an indicative cost. The schedule of work is extensive and the overall cost likely to be in the region of £170,000. TWC had asked if EMPC would consider a small contribution to the cost of the scheme in order to bring this higher up the list as a priority.

Members considered this suggestion but it was agreed that a Parish Council should not be contributing to a capital scheme. The scheme is under consideration for 2024/25 but it had already been stated that due to extensive work on the B5062 at Crudginton to create a roundabout and that such works would have to be carried out during the summer holiday due to the proximity to the school, that the scheme is unlikely to be on any schedule until Summer of 2025. It was therefore agreed that no funding can be available and that we would wait until the scheme was brought forward by TWC as part of the capital programme.

A discussion continued regarding the Parish Council request for raised platforms at the school crossing near to the Oak Tree at the junction with Church Road. The Parish Council has funding available to assist with this improvement and it was agreed that we should remind TWC of this request so that it can be considered as part of the capital works, when planned.

Members also considered the current advisory 20mph zone and Councillor Bentley reminded the meeting that the Government has agreed that such zones should be enforceable. However, this would need to be supported by West Mercia Police in order that it can be enforced.

e) Other Issues

i) A serious pothole has appeared in the B5062, near to the Roden Dogs Trust.

ii) Bradford Terrace drains will be the responsibility of the owner, not TWC.

iii) Councillor Wickson reminded members that HS2 funding has been allocated and TWC will be considering options based on the 2022/23 Public Transport Bid.

0212/03/24.C Play Areas

Roden & High Ercall

Work continues to ensure that the play areas are in accordance with RoSPA regulations. Thanks are extended to Sandie and Elaine for undertaking the weekly inspections.

0213/03/24.C Shropshire Association of Local Councils

- a) Regular updates are provided to all members and contain useful information. News In Brief publications contain important information.
- b) The training schedule is available on the SALC website – anyone interested in attending any should book through the Clerk.

0214/03/24.C Street Lighting

Councillor Wickson confirmed that Light 2 has been cleared but further work is required to make Light 10 (opposite the Old School House) effective.

0215/03/24.C Correspondence

- a) All correspondence is shared with Members at the earliest opportunity. There are no subjects for discussion.
 - i) Almshouse Vacancy
Anyone interested in this vacant property should contact Berry's Estate Agents.

0216/03/23.C Matters from Telford & Wrekin Council

a) Councillor Bentley – Ercall Magna Ward

Work continues to support local residents who have been affected by the flooding and also to address the many extensive (and dangerous) potholes. Whilst he shares the concerns of the local residents regarding Shrewsbury Road, he is in agreement that the Parish Council should not be offering funding towards capital projects.

With regards to the planning application for Grange Farm, if the Parish Council is minded to call-in the application, the new system recently introduced will require a robust call-in request and this should include that the Ellerdine Lakes is included as a significant open space within the Ercall Magna Neighbourhood Plan and therefore consideration must be given as to how it will be protected.

b) Councillor Gareth Thomas – Wrockwardine Ward

Councillor Thomas reported that after a long period and significant frustration he is now beginning to get some answers so hopefully some of the areas of concern in Poynton and Roden will be addressed. Gareth will check that the Parish Council comments regarding Roden and Poynton are being taken into consideration within the Governance Review.

0217/02/24.C Reports

Councillors' Reports

Councillor Wickson reported that he had recently attended the Enhanced Partnership Board, which is replace the TW Bus User Group. Timetables for the rural buses will be provided by ChaseRider. The HS 2 funding will be used to support rural buses. ChaseRider has been asked to provide costs for a bus between Newport & Shrewsbury.

Clerk's Report

All matters are included on the Agenda for this meeting. The Clerk had worked 41 hours during the last month.

The new bus shelter at Cliff Crescent is now being used as the main bus stop and over a period of time, the use of the car park at the Village Hall will cease.

A framed King's Portrait has been ordered.

A meeting with landowners reference flooding in Heath Lane will take place in April.

0218/02/24.C Village Halls

a) Ellerdine Village Hall

Councillor Connor declared an interest, but has a dispensation in place.

There are no matters to report

The Parish Council has been asked to provide a dog poo bag dispenser and bags. It was proposed by Councillor Wickson, seconded by Councillor Hughes and at a vote, there were seven in favour, one abstention and four against and it was therefore

RESOLVED that a dog poo bag dispenser and bags be provided for use towards the entrance / bin on Ellerdine Recreational Field.

b) High Ercall Village Hall

Councillors Wickson, Noyes-Thomas and Grant declared an interest but have dispensations in place
Councillor Noyes-Thomas reported that the Committee were grateful of the recent grant. The maintenance weekend had been a real success with lots of jobs being completed by a team of volunteers. The new website is now live and a leaflet drop has taken place to promote it. There is a link to the Parish Council website included. Tenders are being sought for the refurbishment project and the Committee needs a Treasurer. The memorial bench (and slabs) will be sited when the weather improves and the pizza place serves from the car park on alternate Thursdays – deliveries are also available.

0219/03/24.C West Mercia Police

Please see the report within the public session.

0220/03/24.C Parish Matters

a) Councillor Wickson reported that new defibrillator pads will be required in November for Ellerdine, Roden and High Ercall Shop.

0221/03/24.C Next Meeting

16th April 2024 7pm High Ercall Village Hall (with a zoom link for local residents)

Written reports will be requested in advance of the meeting.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their important contributions to a successful meeting and closed the meeting at 8.35pm.

SignedDate

These minutes remain draft (E & OE) until confirmed as accurate at the next Full Council meeting in May 2024.