



MINUTES OF THE CONDOVER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY 4 MARCH 2025 AT RYTON VILLAGE HALL.

Councillors in Attendance: R Ball, R Betton, T Cobbe, S Gill, P Gore, E Marvin, R Nash, R Slee, J Streilitz, R Wintle (Chair)

Apologies: G Walker-Pryor, L Baines, D Morris

048.25 PUBLIC SESSION

1. Mike Collison explained his application for the installation of a new district heating scheme in Stapleton and answered questions from the Council
2. Sarah Cole raised a number of concerns about the recent application for a housing development in Dorrington and the way in which the notification was dealt with. She also considered the Neighbourhood Plan management process and the need to engage the Steering Group in order to retain the confidence of residents. The Chair agreed and asked that the Steering Group holds a meeting as soon as possible.
After Note: This is likely to follow once we have received further direction from Shropshire Council.
3. Rob Gough briefed the meeting on the Fox Inn project in Ryton. They are on track to complete the purchase by 31 March and plan to open for business by November. He answered questions from the Council

049.25 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND APOLOGIES – Apologies were received from L Baines, Dan Morris and G Walker-Pryor

050.25 COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS – Ongoing

051.25 CONFIRMATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES – The meeting accepted the minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2025 and the Chair duly signed the minutes

Strategic Planning

052.25 SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR REPORT

Harley Road. The officer recommendation for approval for the planning application for 32/34 Harley road was over-turned. I was delighted to be able to speak alongside Condover residents and the parish council and contribute in helping get the southern planning committee to agree that 32/34 HR was not a suitable place for the application.

Unfortunately there was no route to prevent a LDC for 25 HR. The reason being that although this is a business, the planning officers were able to issue a LDC due to, in their eyes, no 25 not having any material change to its use as it would be used as a family house.

Gonsal Quarry On March 10th I have arranged a meeting with Officer Mark Wootton and Parish Councillors from Condover village to discuss the best use of money from the Gonsal Quarry monies

VAS One of the new VAS signs from Dorrington has been knocked over. I have been in touch with National Highways and reported this. I will keep the PC updated.

After Note: Repairs carried out

Elections Shropshire Council enters a period of 'purdah' on March 10th in the run up to the May 1st Council and Parish Council elections

Social Services Shropshire Council celebrates achieving a 'good' rating by Care Quality Commission for its adult social care service. In the report published Friday 28 February, the CQC concluded that 'evidence shows a good standard' for the council's adult social care service, highlighting several areas where Shropshire Council is excelling in serving its community.

Secondary Schools Monday 3 March was secondary school National Offer Day 2025 when the allocation of school places to children across the country is made. In Shropshire Council's area, 2846 children applied on time for places at secondary schools, with 91.1% – 2,592 children – offered their first preference school. All who applied on time have been offered a place, with 99.2% allocated one of their preferences, and 0.8% – 23 children, allocated an alternative preference. This year's figures for the Shropshire Council area are:

- Number of on-time applications – 2846
- Number allocated their 1st preference – 2592 (91.1%)
- Number allocated their 2nd preference – 217 (7.6%)
- Number allocated their 3rd preference – 14 (0.5%)
- Number allocated one of their preferences – 2,823 (99.2%)
- Number allocated an alternative preference – 23 (0.8%)

Railways Shrewsbury Parkway station plans take a step forward - The Shrewsbury Movement Strategy's 10-year vision has taken another step forward following discussions with a rail development consultancy and a new 'Open-Access' rail operator. 'Shrewsbury Moves' was published in January 2024 by the Shrewsbury Big Town Plan Partnership, made up of Shropshire Council, Shrewsbury Town Council, and Shrewsbury Business Improvement District (BID), looking to improve how people move around the town, including the role that rail could play. Included in its aims is the creation of a new Parkway station to alleviate pressure on Shrewsbury station and the town's highway network. Shrewsbury station would also be improved as a key gateway to the town. Together with a new 'open access' rail operator, Wrexham, Shropshire and Midlands Railway (WSMR) and its partner, rail development and delivery specialist, SLC, Shropshire Council is now investigating the feasibility and private-financing options for a new parkway station, potentially near Preston Boats roundabout, meeting the Shrewsbury Moves vision.

Budget Shropshire Council sets budget with £18 million savings for 2025/26. Shropshire Councillors have voted and agreed to set a budget for the financial year 2025/26, which includes £18 million in planned savings. £7.7m of savings have been developed following consultation with residents, businesses, and other stakeholders. £11m refers to managing demand for services, including early intervention and prevention to help residents access the right support for their needs at the right time. The budget plan will allow a 4.99% rise in council tax for households in Shropshire, which the Government expects the council to implement. Equivalent to approximately £1.65 more a week for the average Band D home, the increase includes a 2% contribution for adult social care.

Relief Road Shropshire Council has set out a powerful case for North West Relief Road in draft Full Business Case

Waste A move to three-weekly collections of general, non-recyclable, waste in the Shropshire Council area will not be part of the council's budget for the year 2025/26, and will not be considered until at least the 2026/27 financial year, with any changes only considered once plans for a new free weekly food waste collection have been confirmed

Thanks **The Parish Council passed a vote of thanks to Cllr Morris for his support and advice over the past several years.**

053.25 PLANNING MATTERS

1. 25/00398/CPE – Accepted by the Parish Council
2. 25/00508 – Approved unanimously by the Parish Council. **Chair will action.**

3. 25/00555/FUL – Agreed by the Parish Council but need for temporary arrangement given the nature of the application (for elderly parents). **Cllr Ball will draft for the Chair.**
4. Enforcement Notice – No comment from the Parish Council
5. Planning decisions – Harley Road, Condover. The Chair congratulated councillors and residents alike for their efforts in successfully resisting the planning application at 32 Harley Road.

054.25 REPORT FROM FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Cllr Ball briefed the meeting on the proposals for the 2025/26 budget. He answered a number of questions related to;

1. The Neighbourhood Plan – Edward Marvin described the finance situation
2. Condover Woodland Park - a separate discussion would take place.
3. Grants – Council approved the Warm Hub grants increase to £1000 per village hall and the Community Grants to remain at £500 maximum

The budget was signed off and debt cleared from the Reserves

055.25 CONDOVER PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Marvin updated the Council as follows;

1. The revised plan was considered and it was explained that this version is simply for consideration at Shropshire Council

Parish Council agreed to send the plan to Shropshire Council

2. Edward explained the plethora of potential new policies that could be included but had not been consulted

Parish Council agreed that this should be clarified with Shropshire Council

3. Edward explained that it was now time to approach the landowners of the chosen Dorrington sites

Parish Council agreed to contact the owners/developers and the Chair asked to be included in any subsequent meetings

Items for Decision

057.25 URGENT ISSUES FROM WARDS REQUIRING DECISION

Condover Village Sports Ground – Roger Nash briefed the meeting on the latest situation and asked that plumbing works now be incorporated into the main contract. A number of questions were raised about the sums involved, CIL funds and contingency funds. The contract will be amended to reflect the change of works.

Parish Council approved this request to incorporate the plumbing into the main contract (Matrix) and to cover the cost of Building Control as follows

- **Plumbing - £9,039 (+VAT)**
- **Building Control - £1,400**
- **Total amount - £10,400**

Parish Clerk – The Chair explained that we were awaiting references for the successful candidate and that she hoped he would be available to attend the April meeting.

HR policies – Cllr Streilitz explained we have completed 3 parts of our Action Plan and that our Training Plan has been budgeted for. This will be followed up with SALC. Rob Ball reminded everyone that it is vital the Parish Council signs up to the NALC HR rules as a policy commitment.

Parish Council thanked Jon for his efforts in managing this work

Police Cyber Crime – Cllr Streilitz described the free West Midland Police cyber-crime service.

Parish Council agreed to go ahead with a trial service

058.25 CLERKS UPDATE REPORT AND COMMUNICATION

The Chair and Clerk thanked everyone and Libby Baines and Rob Ball in particular, for supporting her during this period.

059.25 VILLAGE UPDATES

- Ryton Village – Cllr Slee briefed the meeting on the deteriorating condition of the village roads as a result of the heavy traffic and lack of adequate maintenance.
- Condover Woodland Park (CWP) – Cllr Gore updated the meeting on the CWP fundraising efforts. He explained that whilst over £1000 had been raised a further £3000 was still needed by 5 April in order to secure crowd funding monies from Shropshire Council. A lengthy debate and argument took place about the funding and continued Parish Council support. The meeting was reminded that significant sums of money have been spent over the past 10 years and that an urgent review was necessary into the lease and viability of the CWP.
 - Parish Council approved the following:
 - A grant of £2850 for tree works in order to reopen CWP
 - 2025/26 Maintenance Grant of £1,600
 - The Parish Council will not contribute to the Green Space Fund
- Dorrington Community Garden - not dealt with and will be addressed at the April meeting

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 11.00 pm.

Signed Chair, Cllr Wintle

Date: March 2025