

EATON UNDER HEYWOOD & HOPE BOWDLER PARISH COUNCIL
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<u>Chairman: Cllr. Graham Watts</u>
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MINUTES

of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 16th June 2025
7.30pm at Tickerton Village Hall

069/25 - Present

Cllr. G Watts - Chairman
Cllr. C Pugh
Cllr. R Davis
Cllr. M Pratt
Cllr. M Joseph
Cllr. S Pratt

In Attendance

The Clerk, Corvedale Divisional Cllr. Colin Stanford and two members of the public.

Resignation The Chairman advised that since the May meeting Cllr. Tony Madley has resigned as a councillor. The Chairman thanked Tony Madeley for his many years of loyal and dedicated service to the parish council. His knowledge of the parish and his careful consideration of all matters coming before the council will be missed. We all thank him for his long service.

The parish council now has a vacancy for a councillor which will be advertised with a view to co-opting a councillor.

070/25- Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting.

Members are requested to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary or Personal Interests they may have in matters to be considered at this meeting in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

No declarations were made.

071/25 – Reports

Cllr. Colin Stanford, the new Corvedale Divisional Councillor for Shropshire Council, introduced himself. He resides in Middlehope. He has been on a lot of courses to get himself familiarized with local authority government and procedures: he has been appointed to the Health Overview and Scrutiny

Committee as he has a medical background. He will get to as many of our meetings as he can and aims to support and help his parish councils as much as he can. The Clerk asked if he could arrange for SC to send parish councils a list of all the highways officers, with their contact details and which parts of the highways specifically they dealt with. FixMyStreet don't do bridges, culverts and other things. SALC had given her details of an officer who could assist with a bridge query, but that officer had responded he did not do bridges but had failed to provide information as whom she should contact. This is all hugely frustrating and time wasting. Cllr. Stanford will raise the request. He has discovered SC have three main priorities concerning highways: potholes, the north Shrewsbury relief road and better communications with communities and parish councils, but anything Highways can do is determined by the funding available and the predominant duty on SC is to care for those who are unable to care for themselves. Discussion followed concerning the repairs to potholes and why some are filled and others not, and why the repairs seem to last no time. Kiev are contracted for one more year.

072/25 Public question time

Mr J Sansom of Pikeside, Bull Lane, Hope Bowdler and his partner addressed the councillors on the matter of their planning application 25/01140/FUL by which they had sought planning permission for the erection of a detached outbuilding to comprise a home gym, home office and garage/workshop. Mr Sansom was puzzled as to why the council had so strongly opposed the application. The parish council had considered the application at its April 2025 meeting and all seven councillors present had voted against the application as in their view it constituted an over-development of the site, especially as the proposed development was significantly larger than the existing house. A search of the planning portal prior to this June meeting revealed that SC had not yet made a decision on the application, but had required Mr Sansom to obtain an Arboricultural Report, which he has now done. Also on the portal were letters of support for the application from neighbours, which had not been there prior to the April meeting. Mr Sansom explained the size and scope of the application and assured councillors it is not a way of developing a second house on the site. Councillors accepted the explanation, but due to the parish council's Standing Orders, which govern our proceedings, it is not open to the council to reverse the objection within six months of it being made. In any event, it may well be that Shropshire Council will ignore the parish council's objections and grant permission. The Chairman advised that should it be necessary for Mr Sansom to submit a second application, he could come to the parish council meeting and discuss it fully with the council. He thanked the applicants for their courtesy in coming to explain their application.

073/25– Approval of Minutes

073/25/1 – approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 12th May 2025

The Minutes of the Parish Council's Annual Parish Meeting held on 12th May 2025 at 7.30pm had been circulated and considered by the councillors. No objections were raised to the Minutes.

Cllr. Joseph **proposed** that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 12th May 2025 be approved by the councillors.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Pugh

Vote: Minutes approved by unanimous vote.

073/25/2 – approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council's annual meeting of 12th May 2025

The Minutes of the Parish Council's annual meeting held on 12th May 2025 at 8.00pm had been circulated and considered by the councillors. No objections were raised to the Minutes.

Cllr. Pugh **proposed** that the Minutes of the Parish Council 's annual meeting of 12th May 2025 be approved by councillors.

Proposal **seconded** Cllr. Joseph

Vote: Minutes approved by unanimous vote

074/25 – Matters arising from the two sets of Minutes of 12th May 2025

No matters were raised.

075/25 – Planning application

25/01634/FUL – application for change of use from an annexe to a holiday let at Woodgate Farm, Hope Bowdler.

The original planning permission for the annexe, granted in March 2006, contained a restrictive condition limiting the use of the annexe to be ancillary to the dwelling and not at any time to be occupied as a separate dwelling or for commercial or business purposes. The applicants now want to use the annexe as a holiday let, hence this application.

Councillors considered the plans. Their only concern was that the sight line onto the B4371 from the proposed holiday let is not good: they were prepared to agree to the application but would ask that the hedge be kept cut back to provide the best visibility.

Cllr. Joseph **proposed** that the parish council should support this application, with the subject of the sight line mentioned.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. S Pratt

Vote: Unanimous in support of the proposal

076/25 - Correspondence/Communications

Councillors considered the following items of correspondence:-

1. Notification of road closures: 4th August to 27th September, Church Stretton pavement scheme will cause disruption to traffic during these dates. Various roads including A49 will be closed at times. Details can be obtained from streetworks@shropshire.gov.uk or by telephone on 0345 6789006
2. Thank you letter from St Edith's Church, Eaton for the S137 LGA donation
3. Thank you letter from St Andrews Church, Hope Bowdler, for the S137 LGA donation
4. Notification from Planning department that application 25/01346/FUL – for the erection of an annexe building with garage and home office at Merryleas, Soudley, was granted planning permission on 20.05.25
5. Email from Mr J Sansom who wishes to discuss a planning issue with the council. He has been invited to attend the meeting on 16th June.
6. Hand delivered letter from Clerk to Cllr. R Davis
7. Notification from South Shropshire Area Local Committee, enclosing the agenda etc. for their meeting on Wednesday 2nd July 2025, 6.30m at Craven Arms Community Centre.
8. Email from Stephanie Hayes, Promotions Officer, Shropshire Hills Natural Landscape, enclosing 132 page five management year plan.
9. Email from Ashley Kendrick of Shropshire Council advising that a number of errors have been made by councillors in the new Declarations of Interests forms submitted by councillors on line, which she outlines in her email. She also attaches a further "How To" Guide to completing the form Disclosable Pecuniary & Other Registerable interest for your assistance. If councillors have any issues with downloading the forms they should contact Ashley Kendrick at Shropshire Council's Legal and Democratic Team – ashley.kendrick@shropshire.gov.uk

077/25– Highways and Environmental matters

Cllr. Stanford had been asked to look at the two areas of road subsidence by Lower House Farm, Ticklerton, on his way home. The parish council has been reporting this matter for over a year. Part of the highway has now collapsed.

078/25 - Finance Report for June 2025

Finance Report for June 2025

Balance carried forward from May 2025	£7,456.71
ADD: 2024/2025 VAT Refund	<u>£ 45.87</u>
	£7,502.58

1. Payments to be made on 16th June 2025 from Precept Fund

• HSBC bank charges to May 2025	£ 7.00	
• Clerk's net salary for June 2025	£199.11	
• HMRC - PAYE on Clerk's June 2025 salary	£ 49.80	
• <u>Admin expenses incurred in June 2025 paid by Clerk and reclaimed by her.</u>		
• Contribution towards telephone/internet provision for June 2025 @ £20 p.m.	£20.00	
• Postage & Certificate of posting to PKF Littlejohn – external auditor	£ 0.87	
• Book 8 x 2 nd class stamps	£ 6.96	
• 1 pkt A4 copy paper	£ 4.90	
• Badger Inks Ltd. Epson compatible ink cartridges 1 x multi pack	£10.98	
• Travelling expenses @ 45p per mile 31.05.25 – travelling around whole Parish to display audit notices, to deliver letter to Cllr Davis, to meet Cllr. M Pratt; to check on road subsidence in Ticklerton – 34 miles 16.06.25 to Ticklerton Village Hall for PC meeting - 32 miles Total mileage – 66 miles	<u>£30.60</u>	
Total of June 2025 admin. expenses	£74.31	£ 74.31
		<u>£330.22</u>
		<u>£ 330.22</u>
Balance of Precept fund c/fwd to July 2025		<u>£7,173.26</u>

The Chairman **proposed** that direct debits/cheques to the value of £330.22 be approved for payment.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. R Davis

Vote: Unanimous vote in support of the proposal.

Ring Fenced funds held by Parish Council

Environmental & Asset Maintenance Fund

Bal. c/fwd from May 2025 **£721.78**

Neighbourhood Fund – balance c/fwd from May 2025 **£451.59**

Total funds held by Parish Council following authorisation & presentation of the above cheques.

Precept Fund	£7,173.26
Environmental/Asset Maintenance Fund	£ 721.78
Neighbourhood Fund grant	<u>£ 451.59</u>
	<u>£8,346.63</u>

078/25/2 - Bank Statement/Cash Book reconciliation.

The verification of the Clerk's reconciliation between Cash Book and HSBC Bank Statement 164 was checked and approved by Cllr. R Davis.

078/25/3 – Additional councillors to be added to the bank mandate.

Following the resignation of Cllr. Madeley, only two councillors and the clerk can sign cheques. The Clerk can't sign cheques for her salary or expenses. Additional signatories are needed. The Clerk had tried at the Bishops Castle Branch of HSBC to obtain additional bank mandate forms, but had been told she had to go on line and print them off. This she tried to do, but failed. The Chairman has also endeavoured, without success, to print off the necessary form. It was agreed that the Clerk should again go to Bishops Castle and try to obtain the necessary forms.

079/25 – To consider the process for the Co-Option of one additional councillor.

It was agreed to advertise as required to seek the appointment of a councillor to be co-opted to replace Cllr. Madeley.

080/25– Any Other Business (for dissemination of information only)

No matters were raised.

There being no further business to conduct, the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.30pm

**The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at Hope Bowdler Village Hall
at 7.30pm on Monday 14th July 2025**

SIGNED Colin Pugh

DATED 14th July 2025