

Culmington Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on 1st July 2025

Present: Councillors Mr M Seabrook (Chair), Mrs C Byng, Mr J Caine, Mrs J Disley, Mr A Lewis, Mrs J Mear, Ms J Watts, Mrs J Williams. **In Attendance:** Cllr Colin Stanford (Shropshire Council) and H Coonick (Clerk).

1. **Receive Apologies for Absence:** Mr I Alderson (Vice Chair),
2. **Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting:** None
3. **Public Involvement Session:** No members of the public were in attendance.
4. **Minutes:** To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd June 2025
RESOLVED: that the minutes were correct and signed by the chair.
5. **Reports from Representatives**
 - 5.1 Shropshire Council – Cllr Colin Stanford reported that he was keen that the council responded to the letter from Shropshire Council (see item 8). Plans for the North-West Relief Road have been paused whilst the Council considers alternatives. The Highways Team have a general lack of resources. Potholes that are deemed dangerous to road users are prioritised which is why those nearby are not repaired at the same time. He is concerned that the voice of Parish Councils is not being given high enough priority by the planning team and is aware of proposed changes by the government which might make the parish's view even less important, which is concerning.
 - 5.2 Emergency Plan – Mr Hugh Disley – defer to the next meeting.
 - 5.3 Village Hall Committee– Cllr Mear reported that H Coonick is now the treasurer. Station Drive Surgery Care Coordinators will be attending the village hall to discuss meeting the needs of patients in rural areas, everyone is welcome to attend. The trustees are discussing the suggestion to fence part of the grounds to provide a safe area for children during outside events.
 - 5.4 Flood Action Group – Cllr Byng reported that the next meeting is in September.
 - 5.5 South Shropshire Area Committee – Cllr Byng will attend the next meeting on 2nd July and report to the next Parish Council meeting.
6. **Highways:**
 - 6.1 Concerns Over Vehicle Access to Manor Adventure: Cllr Byng reported issues with coaches struggling to turn into the grounds and causing problems on the B4368.
 - 6.2 Concerns Over Children Crossing the B4368: Cllr Byng reported concerns that Manor Adventure staff were not wearing high visibility jackets when assisting the children to cross the road and need to cross at a different point to allow vehicles to have time to slow down.
RESOLVED: to write to Manor Adventure inviting them to the next meeting for an update and raise issues 6.1 and 6.2.
 - 6.3 Update on the Clerks Meeting with Shropshire Council's Traffic Engineer: the clerk met with Nick Newton and looked at the issues raised regarding traffic speed through Seifton and Culmington. He suggested that reducing the speed to 30mph with buffer zones of 40mph reaching beyond Clay Lane and beyond the present speed limit on the Southern end was possible but would depend on a survey of traffic speeds. He anticipates that a traffic count budget will be available this year which will allow him to place strips for a survey. The request to have the signs upgraded to yellow backed signs depends where potential buffer zones would start. He was not convinced that the verge width available would be able to accommodate village gateways that would be large enough to be effective and not affected by hedge/verge overgrowth. If the traffic count did show sufficient

Culmington Parish Council

evidence to support a reduction in the speed limit, then a consultation with the police, parish council and public would need to occur in the next financial year.

7. Review the Option for Expenditure of the Neighbourhood Fund

7.1 Repairs to All Saints Church:

RESOLVED: to contribute £1,000 toward the repairs to the tower.

7.2 Repairs to the Drainage System and Installation of a Fence at Culmington Village Hall:

RESOLVED: to contribute £1,000 towards the repairs to the drainage system particularly as the Parish Council is Custodian Trustee of the Village Hall.

7.3 Installation of Village Gateways to the West of Culmington Village: the Clerk has discussed the installation with Morville Parish Council who have recently installed gateways. The cost is likely to be in the region of £3,250. The Police and Crime Commissioner may give a grant towards the cost which would need to be match by the Parish Council. No decision will be made until the possible changes in item 6.3 have been decided.

7.4 Waste Bin for the Bus Shelter in Culmington Village

RESOLVED: to purchase a waste bin to be installed on the outside of the bus shelter for no more than £100.

7.5 Installation of a Defibrillator at Seifton

RESOLVED: to seek permission from the owner and tenant for the possible installation and apply for free defibrillator/cabinet from charity. Cllr Caine raised the possibility of the purchase of a Lifevac to be used during choking incidents.

8. Update on Response to a letter from Shropshire Council - A New Approach to Partnership with Town and Parish Councils: Councillors discussed the survey and the Clerk will respond.

9. Finance:

9.1 Review the Finance Report: As of the 17th June 2025 the bank account holds £12,806.02. The expenditure has been within budget. A grant of £750 has been received from Shropshire Council for Environmental Maintenance and a reclaim of VAT for £721.96 will be made before the next meeting.

RESOLVED: to accept the report and Cllr Disley (non-signatory) signed the bank reconciliation.

9.2 Authorise Payments: H Coonick (stationery and stamps reimbursement) ££31.80, D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) inv 788 £95.00.

RESOLVED: to make the above payments.

10. Items for the Parish Council Meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 2nd September 2025: a. Emergency Plan. b. Update on Telephone Box

The Parish Council will invite the West Mercia Police Neighbourhood Team to attend a future meeting.

Cllr Caine reported issues with children walking along the B4365 to the bus shelter. A letter will be written to the school asking for them to be picked up nearer their home where the school bus has previously collected children.

Cllr Mear reported that Mr John Turley had a very enjoyable time at the Lord Lieutenant's Shropshire Garden Party and thanked the Parish Council for its nomination in recognition of his over 55 years as a Parish Councillor.

Signed:

Date: