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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 21 JULY 2026

EATON CONSTANTINE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors M Thorn (Chair), A Bain, M Budgen, S Dawes, S Jones, and W Vernon

Clerk: Lisa Harris

No members of the public were present

25.26 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Shropshire Councillor S Coleman

26.26 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

- a) No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared.
- b) There were no applications for a dispensation regarding disclosable pecuniary interests

27.26 Public Participation Session - *a period of 20 minutes will be set aside for the public to speak, with a strict 3-minute limit per speaker. Members of the public may speak on matters appearing on the agenda. However, if a matter does not appear on the agenda, a written request should be submitted to the Clerk no later than 2 working days before the meeting.*

No members of the public were present.

28.26 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19 May 2026

The minutes of the previous meetings had been circulated.

It was proposed by Councillor Jones and seconded by Councillor Dawes and
resolved (without opposition)

that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19 May 2026 be accepted as a true record.

The minutes were signed accordingly.

29.26 Clerk's report on matters arising since the Parish Council Meeting on 19 May 2026

- AGAR and year end accounts published to the website.
- Contacted the Safer Neighbourhood Team at West Mercia Police to request mobile speed enforcement checks are carried out in Lower Longwood.
- Environmental Maintenance Grant application had been successful and £1,000 (maximum available) had been received from Shropshire Council to partially match-fund the contribution made by the Parish Council.

- The English Devolution and Community Engagement Act 2026 has inserted a new section 32A into the Localism Act 2011 which provides that, while details of all property in the area of their Authority in which a Councillor has an interest (including their usual residential address) must be disclosed to the Monitoring Officer, the register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests published by the Authority must not include the usual residential address of a Councillor unless they specifically request that it is published. Shropshire Council is therefore currently in the process of removing councillors' home addresses from the published register to ensure that this is completed before 29 June 2026. This amendment is designed to enhance privacy and security for all council members.
- Fly-tipping - A fly-tipper who illegally dumped waste near Yockleton has been fined £500 following an investigation by Shropshire Council. The fly-tip was reported to Shropshire Council via FixMyStreet by members of the public who witnessed the offender fly-tipping. Following an investigation by Shropshire Council's enforcement team – which gathered witness evidence and carried out detailed enquiries – officers were able to identify the offender and issue a £500 Fixed Penalty Notice. This demonstrates how information from residents can directly lead to action against those who spoil Shropshire's environment. Shropshire Council have recently increased fixed penalty notices for fly-tipping, meaning offenders can now face fines of up to £1,000. Anyone who witnesses fly-tipping is encouraged to report it through the council website or the FixMyStreet app.
- Under The Wrekin had asked for the minutes of the Ironbridge Power Station Liaison Group meeting. These were provided and should appear in the next issue.
- Notification received from Shropshire Council of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO SC/00571/26) confirmed on an oak at The Old Smithy in Leighton.
- A query had been received regarding the current situation of the application to have the footpath by Eaton Constantine Village Hall put on the Definitive Map. Emails successfully sent to the footpaths officer at Shropshire Council in the past, are now bouncing. A request was made to chase with Shropshire Council. Clerk confirmed that the officer concerned had now left Shropshire Council.

ACTION: Clerk to chase the issue with an alternative officer at Shropshire Council

30.26 To receive report from Shropshire Councillor

As she had given her apologies, Shropshire Councillor Susan Coleman had submitted the following report in advance of the meeting:

"Shropshire Council finances continue to be a cause for concern: they are having to justify every penny they spend conscious that if they borrow the full £192million allowed by government this will be costing them £22million per year in interest. We have seen cuts to services such as the Helena Lane centre in Ludlow and the Meole Brace park and ride in Shrewsbury and we can expect to see more such cuts during this financial year."

31.26 To receive any relevant updates from parish councillors

- Councillor Jones:
 - The bin at Leighton's River Severn Meanders is often overflowing as Shropshire Council are not emptying it regularly enough to cope with the demand. Previously reported on FixMyStreet.

ACTION: Clerk to report again on FixMyStreet and to chase with Shropshire Council

- Stretch of footpath on the B4380 between Kynnersley Lane and Home Farm (left hand side when heading in Buildwas direction) is unsafe for use by the public due to severe overgrowth. Requires clearing to reinstate it's full width.

ACTION: Clerk to report again on FixMyStreet and to chase with Shropshire Council

- All traffic calming measures (including roundabout) relating to the Ironbridge Power Station redevelopment, are currently on hold. The threshold for progressing with the works is the sale of 150 houses. Currently only circa 10 houses sold.

The Chair extended thanks to Councillor Jones for all her efforts with the Ironbridge Power Station Liaison Group. All present agreed that Councillor Jones had gone above and beyond with this work.

- Councillor Vernon:

- The road between Eaton Constantine and the Wrekin had had its potholes marked out for repair but to date, beyond Upper Longwood, there was no sign of the work being done to fill them. Had spoken to the contractors who had been filling potholes in Eaton Constantine as there had been numerous spillages of tar on the road which were hazardous to cyclist and motorcyclists, and the work had been remedied.

- Councillor Dawes:

- The bus service through Eaton Constantine is unreliable as frequently it fails to arrive. Had queried the service with the bus company who had been swift with their response but unsure of their data accuracy. Councillors Dawes and Bain will be joining Shropshire Council's online workshop on 28 July, which forms part of the early engagement activities for the updated Shropshire Local Transport Plan (LTP), and will use the opportunity to attempt to raise concerns about the local bus service.

- Councillor Thorn

- Shropshire Council Highways had previously agreed to provide the data from the VAS within the Parish free of charge on an annually basis.

ACTION: Clerk to request data from Highways for the six VAS within the Parish (Leighton, Lower Longwood and Eaton Constantine).

- No further update on the proposal from Shropshire Hills National Landscape/Shropshire Council to increase the accessibility of the River Severn Meander Viewpoint at Leighton.

32.26

Current financial matters

a) Payments

Payee	Description	Amount
HMRC	PAYE on Clerk's salary June/July	£ 173.56
Miss L Harris	Clerk's net salary June/July	£ 682.70
Miss L Harris	Clerk's expenses June/July	£ 45.00
TOTAL		£ 901.26

It was proposed by Councillor Thorn and seconded by Councillor Jones and **resolved (without opposition)**

that the above accounts be approved for payment.

b) Bank reconciliation to 9 July 2026

The bank was reconciled at £28,131.14, being the online banking balance. The bank reconciliation was agreed and signed accordingly.

33.26

Planning

1. Decisions to note

a. Ref: 26/00943/FUL

Address: 1 Upper Longwood Eaton Constantine Shrewsbury Shropshire
SY5 6SB

Description: Proposed two-storey side and rear extension following
removal of existing single storey extensions

Validated: 10 Mar 2026

Status: Granted

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by
clicking [here](#)

2. Planning applications for consideration:

None

No comments or objections were recorded.

34.26

Correspondence

Nothing beyond what already covered.

35.26

Future agenda items

None.

36.26

Date of next meeting

Tuesday 15 September 2026 at 7.00pm – Eaton Constantine Village Hall

Tuesday 17 November 2026 at 7.00pm – Leighton Village Hall

The Chair thanked everybody for attending and the meeting closed at 7.54pm.

Signed by Chair:

Date: 15 September 2026