

CHILDS ERCALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Childs Ercall Parish Council held on Wednesday 19th August 2026 in the Jubilee Hall at 7.00p.m.

Present: Cllr. J Maddocks
Cllr. M Hatfield
Cllr. R Griffin
Cllr. J Letts
Cllr. B Sale
Cllr. J Haslegrave
Cllr. Clifton

Also in attendance:
2 Members of the Public

116/2026 Apologies for absence

Mrs B Pearce (Clerk)
Cllr. N Bentley (Unitary Councillor)

Absent: Cllr. J Harrison

117/2026 Chairman's Welcome

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

There was no meeting in July, however, PC work has continued through the summer.

The extremely hot summer with excessive temperatures and drought has had an impact on the Parish and Chair suggested forming a "Vulnerable Person Register" possibly in conjunction with other associations in the parish.

Chair thanked the farming community for their hard work during the heatwave.

Chair reminded the community of the risk of fire and requested that outdoor fires are not lit in line with current government guidelines.

The Church Horse and Dog Show fundraising event is scheduled for 12th September and Chair invited community to support, and committee are looking for volunteers.

Chair noted that Christine MacKay, a longstanding member of the community had moved out of the area and wished her well.

The next CEPC meeting is scheduled for 17th September 2026.

118/2026 Public Question Time and Participation

Members of the Public attended the meeting to advise the Parish Council of their proposal to erect a single 'Build Your Own' Affordable Home at Hatton, based upon the local connection criteria.

Member of the Public raised the issue of a large structure at Mildene Farm. Chair has escalated to Shropshire Council Planning Enforcement Portal and will chase.

119/2026 Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED: that the following declaration of interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and under The Relevant Authorities (Shropshire Council disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 was received:

Cllr. Haslegrave declared an interest in Planning Application 26/01212/FUL

120/2026 Minutes

RESOLVED: To accept the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th June 2026 as being correct. Three councillors were present who had also attended the June meeting.

121/2026 To receive reports from Unitary Councillor.

Written report for August provided by Cllr. Bentley (Unitary Councillor) attached and can also be found on Childs Ercall Community Website.

Cllr. Bentley submitted apologies and was not present at the meeting.

122/2026 Safety in the Parish**West Mercia Police Community Charter – update.****Action: Chair to update Charter to show priorities as:**

1. Speeding through the village
2. Anti-Social Driving/Behaviour
3. Theft from Farms

Also Chair to flag state of the roads as this affects safety across the parish if possible.

123/2026 Parish Matters**a. Correspondence – update on important PC matters received via NALC/SALC Bulletins etc.**

None.

b. Shropshire Council – Update on “Shropshire Together” Proposals

None.

124/2026 Financial Matters**Members are asked to:****a. Receive and confirm the payment of the items to be presented to the meeting**

- i. DRAX Energy Solutions - £45.32 (May) DD 19/06/2026
£45.32 (June) DD 20/07/2026
- ii. Administration July and August 2026 - £637.66
- iii. K&S Landscapes Kerb Clearance - £540.00
Grass Cut on 25/06/2026 - £310.20. Grass not cut since this date.
- iv. Hugo Fox – Monthly DD for e-mail addresses £20.99
- v. Lloyds Bank – £5.75 Bank Charges
- vi. “Thank You” voucher for Christine McKay re BKVC 2025 - £75.00 – re-imburse J Maddocks

RESOLVED: Clerk is authorised to pay the above invoices.

125/2026 Highways and footpaths**a. St Michaels/Crow Lane 7.5 tonne weight restriction – on-going management, reporting, enforcement and further options.**

Enforcement of weight restrictions still not being carried out despite evidence being sent to DVSA, SC and police.

Action: Chair to follow up with parish action group to ascertain current position.

b. Eaton Road (village part) safety improvements.

Funding for speed assessments has been granted in principle by John Campion, West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner. Following a meeting with Tracey Onslow, (Deputy PCC), three sites were identified for assessment, however, there is now a query on the power/infrastructure required to carry out the assessments.

Action: Chair to follow up with Cllr. Neil Bentley and Tracey Onslow.

Safety on Eaton Road — including speeding, the lack of a continuous footpath, narrow road widths, poor visibility, drainage issues and regular HGV movements — has been a long-standing concern of the Parish Council, and these matters have formed a significant element of its objection to the Eaton Road planning application.

Patch repairs have been carried out on safety critical defects on Eaton Road which appear to be temporary, and PC feel that these repairs will deteriorate quickly. Chair understands that a wider resurfacing schedule is to follow.

Action: Chair will follow up to confirm when the permanent resurfacing will take place.

A sink hole has formed at Alford Brook. Cllr. Letts has reported on Fix my Street with no response.

Action: Chair to escalate to Cllr. Bentley and Shropshire Highways.

c. **A41 working group – updates on new cross county group.**

Work continues between T&W and Shropshire Councils. No update.

d. **Footpaths and public rights of way – to consider any queries which may impact on the parish.**

Cllr. Letts raised the issue of footpaths being continually blocked across farmland. Cllr. Letts has contacted SC Footpaths Officer with no response.

Action: Chair to investigate escalating issue to the Rural Payments Agency.

No issues with village footpaths.

e. **Streetlights - Lamp replacements. Dark skies initiative.**

All lamps currently in operation.

NGED have replaced the light post which was leaning on the footpath opposite the Village Green.

All lamps are on timers and therefore nothing further to be actioned regarding a dark skies' initiative. Item to be removed from agenda.

126/2026

Grounds Maintenance/Playground

a. **To receive an update from the grounds sub-committee.**

All grounds currently very dry. Last grass cut from K&S was on 25th June 2026. Village Green has a considerable amount of weed.

Pitches are very dry and hard but no concerns from football teams who are using them for training over the summer. Junior leagues commence on 6th September with 5 teams looking to use the pitches.

Goalposts on the 7x7 pitch will remain down with teams using their own temporary posts as required.

b. **Playground**

- **To receive the monthly inspection report.**

No issues on last playground inspection. Chair reported that the bins are being used and he empties them weekly. Pidgeon fouling has improved since extra cable ties have been added to equipment.

Following a report of overloading on the zipwire, Chair to contact the playground contractor to ascertain if any damage has been done and if repair is required.

Posts to the playing field are rotten. Chair has asked K Warren for a quote to repair.

- **Annual Inspection Report**

The annual ROSPA playground inspection has been carried out by Playsafety Ltd and is now under review.

The welds to the basketball stand are cracked and require repair. Discussion on removing the basketball net rather than repair which may be costly.

Paintwork on adult gym requires attention.

Zip wire bolts shown to require dismantling inspection. This was carried out following last year's inspection. **Action (continued): Chair to forward dismantling report carried out last year to Playsafety.**

127/2026 Parish infrastructure projects – Community Plan

a. On-going maintenance and repairs to assets.

The Chair met with Helen Bourton from Newport Girls Football Team to discuss potential grant opportunities for the refurbishment of the women's toilet and changing room facilities in the Jubilee Hall.

Action: Sub-committee to be formed comprising parish councillor(s), CECA representative(s) and Helen to investigate project and possible grant funding.

Benches on playing field require attention.

Action: Chair and Cllr. Sale to investigate.

b. Commitment to the football pitches and Clubs.

Chair to contact Tom Wellings from Football Association regarding the grant. Following two consecutive years of very dry weather with no facilities that can be watered, pitch improvements may not be possible. The pitches will be monitored over the winter.

128/2026 Advertising and social media/website

Cllr. Griffin continues with the production of newsletters, there was no newsletter in July with the next issue being for August and September. Councillors asked to forward any content to Cllr. Griffin.

129/2026 Grants and Donations

- **To consider any new applications.**

None received.

- **Request received for sponsorship for the Church fundraiser Horse and Dog Show 12th September 2026.**

Resolved: PC to sponsor show for £40.

130/2026 Planning Applications

a. New Planning applications.

Reference: 26/02619/VAR (validated: 13/07/2026)

Address: Land At, Hatton Road, Hinstock, Shropshire

Proposal: Variation of condition 1 and removal of condition 2 attached to planning permission 25/03922/FUL

Applicant: Mr A Quinn (Land To The North Of, Halton Road, Hinstock, TF9 2TX)

Application at Recommendation / Committee Stage

Reference: 26/02761/TDC (validated: 28/07/2026)

Address: Proposed Residential Development Land At, Bembows Close, Childs Ercall, Shropshire

Proposal: Proposed technical matters application for the construction of 3No. dwellings (25/03953/PIP)

Applicant: Mr And Mrs S Lea (The Bembows, Village Road, Childs Ercall, Market Drayton, Shropshire, TF9 2DA)

Consultation period extended to 26th August with 70 objections lodged at today's date.

RESOLVED: Planning Sub-Committee to formulate objection to this second stage application and share it with full council before submission.

Reference: 26/02963/AG1/2 (validated: 05/08/2026)

Address: Land To The West Of Forge Farm, Howle, Newport, Shropshire

Proposal: Agricultural storage building for the storage of compost

Applicant: Wildflower Turf Ltd (Forge Farm, Howle, Newport, TF10 8AZ)

Agricultural Application – no response required from PC.

b. Existing Applications

Reference: 26/01212/FUL (validated: 09/04/2026)

Address: Land West Of Eaton Road, Childs Ercall, Shropshire

Proposal: Proposed Mixed Residential Development of 27 dwellings (including 8 Affordable Housing properties), Village Shop, Public Open Space and Public Footpath/Cycleway linkage

Applicant: Mr & Mrs R. Topham (Moat Farm, Wood Lane, Wollerton, Market Drayton, Shropshire, TF9 3NY)

Application at Recommendation / Committee Stage

Reference: 25/03608/FUL (validated: 08/10/2025)

Address: Land Adjacent Wood Farm, Caynton, Newport, Shropshire

Proposal: Erection of a free-range egg production unit and associated infrastructure

Applicant: Mr Andrew Hollins (Holly Cottage, Ightfield, Whitchurch, SY13 4BW, Shropshire)

Application at Recommendation / Committee Stage

Reference: 23/03138/FUL

Proposal: Mixed residential development of a brownfield site for 35 dwellings and associated development|

Address: Former Motor Salvage Yard The Firs Childs Ercall Shropshire TF9 2DL

Application at Recommendation / Committee Stage

No Updates on the above three existing applications.

Action: Chair to follow up with Cllr. Bentley for updates.

i. Withdrawn - None

ii. Refused

Decision: Certificate - Not Lawful

Reference: 26/01008/CPE (validated: 16/03/2026)

Address: Caravan Adjacent Stables South Of, Eaton Road, Childs Ercall, Shropshire

Proposal: Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the keeping of a caravan on site in connection with the equestrian use at Trinity Acres

Applicant: Tracey Buchanan (42 Shenley Lane, Birmingham, B29 5PN)

Appeal on Planning Application

Reference: 24/03791/VAR

Address: Ollerton Business Park, Childs Ercall, Market Drayton, Shropshire.

Description of development: Variation of condition 7 (highways improvements) of planning application 23/02475/FUL Application reference: 24/03791/VAR

Appellant's name: Mr Glen James

Item g. – Any other planning matters (see below)

iii. Granted

Reference: 26/01603/FUL (validated: 29/04/2026)

Address: Holmside, Narrow Lane, Childs Ercall, Market Drayton, Shropshire, TF9 2TW

Proposal: Proposed two storey rear extension, single storey rear extension and first floor side extension

Applicant: Mr Shayne Orme

Reference: 26/02166/HHE (validated: 09/06/2026)

Address: 17 Steppes Way, Childs Ercall, Market Drayton, Shropshire, TF9 2BN

Proposal: Erection of a rear single storey extension to detached dwelling, dimensions 4.40 metres beyond rear wall, 3.67 metres maximum height, 2.3 metres high to eaves

Applicant: Mr and Mrs John and Stella Seed (17 Steppes Way, Childs Ercall, Shropshire, TF9 2BN)

c. Any other planning matters.

a. Shropshire Local Plan Spatial Consultation

PC and residents have submitted comments next stage of the process believed to be in Spring 2027.

b. Land to the Rear of the Birches

With SC Enforcement Officer

c. Land South of the Eaton Road (caravans, access, hardstanding)

On SC Enforcement Portal

d. Land South of the Eaton Road (vehicle storage/commercial business)

On SC Enforcement Portal

e. Eaton upon Tern Solar Farm

On-going on agenda as safety concern re traffic through the village.

f. Land on the Northwest Side of The Rowans, Bolas Road, Ercall Heath

Concern from residents regarding unlawful development.

g. Ollerton Business Park

Variation was regarding the fact that units have been built without passing places completed. With Shropshire Council Enforcement Department.

Enforcement issues have been escalated to Shropshire Council via Cllr Neil Bentley and Mark Pritchard MP who has asked for confirmation when these will be addressed. Chair continues to monitor.

131/2026 Any new matters relating to the parish not included elsewhere on the agenda.

None.

132/2026 Date of next meeting.

Members are asked to note the next CEPC Meeting is scheduled for September 16th 2026 at 7.00pm in the Jubilee Hall. Apologies for this meeting given by Cllr. Sale.