

Munslow Parish Council



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Draft Minutes of the Meeting of Munslow Parish Council on 2nd September 2026

Present: Cllrs Stuart Rowbotham (Chair), Richard Arnold, Liam Bell, Nigel Dobson, Val Fotheringham, Sara Kelby and Graham Williams. In attendance: Heather Coonick (Clerk/RFO)

- 26/104** **Receive and Accept Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Chris Meeson and Ed Povey. Cllr Colin Stanford (Shropshire Council).
- 26/105** **Declarations of Interest:** None
- 26/106** **Public Forum:** No members of the public were in attendance.
- 26/107** **Approval of the Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting Held on 19th August 2026.**
RESOLVED: to accept the minutes and they were signed by the chair.
- 26/108** **Reports**
- a. Shropshire Council – Cllr Stanford - had sent a report: He has met with the Council portfolio holder for Health and Social Care and discussed the pressures on GP services, Community Nursing services and Social Care including the drive from governments to centralise and spend on new hospitals and management structures at the expense of the family doctor service. South Shropshire is very rural and has an ageing population which comes at a cost and needs to be resourced properly. The recent report from CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) describes the council as “in extremely poor financial health”, with a predicted £120 million budget shortfall in 2026-27 rising to £180 million in 2027-28. The costs of adult social care services and children’s services are the main increase in expenditure. It highlights poor financial management in the past and recognises the work that the council is doing to reduce costs. Unfortunately, the demands for proper and fair funding for rural councils in England have largely been ignored despite pressure from the current and previous administrations and from our local MPs. A proposed solar farm near Onibury has caused major upset for many local people and I have been working ensure that their voices are heard by our planning department and the developers. Whilst I support renewable energy, I do not believe that 130 acres of productive farmland on the doorstep of the Shropshire Hills National Landscape AONB is the right place for it. I was encouraged by the turnout near the proposed site last month and at Onibury Village Hall when local campaigners and other local residents came to raise their particular concerns about the local habitat, protected birds nesting in the area, diversity of plant life and of course the noise and disruption that would inevitably happen. I was pleased to see our local MP Stuart Anderson supporting these efforts too.
 - b. Munslow Village Hall – Cllr Dobson reported that there will be a Macmillan Coffee Morning on the 26th September and the regular coffee mornings will restart in November. The proceeds from the tea and coffee stall at the Millichope Open Garden on 10th October will go to the village hall.
 - c. Nature Recovery Project – Cllr Kelby reported that the Butterfly Count had been very successful with fifty counts. The habitat box building day is on 9th October at Munslow Village Hall 11am-3pm for members of the public to drop in.
- 26/109** **Update on the Expression of Interest with Shropshire Council in Providing Streetscene Services – Verge Cutting** The form has been completed and returned. The closing date was 31st August. SALC have been asked to give the Parish Council information on the legal obligations for Shropshire Council regards to verges.
RESOLVED: to contact Abdon and Heath and Diddlebury Parish Councils to enquire about their actions regarding verge cutting.
- 26/110** **Consider a Claim Again National Grid re Potholes in Community Car Park in Aston Munslow:**

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RESOLVED: to make a claim using images from Google maps.

26/111

Management of Assets

- a. Agree update of Asset Register to Include Safe
RESOLVED: the safe was included in the Asset Register.
- b. Consider Disposal of a Safe Owned by Munslow Parish Council: the safe is not required as all retainable records should be deposited with Shropshire Records.
RESOLVED: to advertise the safe on local second-hand sales sites.
- c. Update on Repairs/Replacement of Notice Boards: deferred to the next meeting.
- d. Consider Purchasing Solar Panels for the Vehicle Activated Signs: Elan Valley charge £396 for each solar panel
RESOLVED: to purchase one panel this financial year from reserves and budget for further panels in 2027-2028.

26/112

Agree New Tasks for the Environmental Maintenance Contractor: the work on Rowe Lane was noted and further work for Shropshire Council requested via Fix my Street.
RESOLVED to request that the brook in Aston Munslow (near the Community Car Park) is cleared of vegetation and the culverts cleared. Also check and strim, if required, the verges on Park Lane

26/113

Review Policies

- a. Complaints Policy and Procedure: the new policy and procedure now include GDPR complaints.
RESOLVED: to adopt
- b. Data Protection and Privacy Policy and Privacy Notices:
RESOLVED: to adopt

26/114

Consider Data Protection Training Options for Councillors: councillors considered the advice from The Parkinson Partnership via SALC that 'A simple approach would be to take councillors through the IT policy at a meeting, to ensure that they all understand the requirements and the potential consequences' but 'if one of them accidentally breaches the rules about personal data it can be enormously time consuming and disruptive for the individual involved, particularly if they use their personal laptop or phone.'
RESOLVED: to go through the IT and General Data Protection Policy at the December meeting. Those wishing to complete the online GDPR training can do so individually.

26/115

Review the Risk Assessment and Update on Risk Assessing Assets: the clerk is recording risk assessments of the assets and reports any issues to the full council meeting.
RESOLVED: to adopt the Risk Assessment.

26/116

Agree Policing Priorities for Next Six Months:
RESOLVED: to inform the Neighbourhood Team of the priorities: a. speeding b. wildlife crime c. other road traffic offences

26/117

Finance

- a. Consider Items for Inclusion in the Draft Budget for 2027-2028 for Consideration at the Meeting on the 4th November.
RESOLVED: to include the cost of solar panels for three vehicle activated signs.
- b. Consider Providing the Clerk with a Debit Card with a Spending Limit of £300
RESOLVED: to apply for a debit card with a limit of £300
- c. Note Income: VAT reclaim £345.73 for the period April 2025- March 2026. The donation from the mini library at The Crown Inn for the defibrillator was deposited £33.10.
- d. Note Payments: MedUK – Defibrillator pad £71.95 incl VAT and Zurich Insurance £443.58.
- e. Authorise Payments
 - i. H Coonick and HMRC, Clerk Salary July- Sept Including Pay Award Backdated to 1st April 2026 £926.82
 - ii. H Coonick Clerk Travel Expenses £50.85
 - iii. SALC Planning Training for Cllr Rowbotham £130
 - iv. D Lewis, Environmental Maintenance Inv 1067 £175**RESOLVED:** make the above payments.

26/118

Items for the Next Meeting on Wednesday 4th November 2026 at Munslow Village Hall

Signed:

Date: