

Munslow Parish Council



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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Munslow Parish Council on 4th February 2026

Present: Cllrs Barbara Archer, Richard Arnold, Nigel Dobson, Ed Povey and Graham Williams

Attendance: Cllr Colin Stanford (Shropshire Council) and Heather Coonick (Clerk/RFO).

- 26/001 Elect a Chairperson:**
RESOLVED: to elect Cllr Povey as a temporary Chair.
- 26/002 Receive and Accept Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Val Fotheringham, Chris Meeson and Stuart Rowbotham
- 26/003 Declarations of Interest:** None
- 26/004 Public Forum:** Mike Kelly reported that the Shropshire Hills Conservation Fund application needs to be submitted by the 14th March 2026 and we would be informed of the outcome shortly afterwards. As the Parish Council is the applicant a Safeguarding Policy would need to be adopted. The clerk asked Mr Kelly that a risk assessment is carried out for all activities and the details of volunteers retained for insurance purposes. They will be liaising with other local groups in making the nature boxes and they are planning a walk with an entomologist.
- The Clerk read out a letter from a member of the public regarding item 26/009 (there were other comments about the solar panels at Aston Hall but this was not relevant to the application on the agenda): 'I have grave concerns regarding the erection of this building which, without proper screening will be clearly visible from our property. They have the following questions: 1. When will planting of the screening around the proposed building structure begin 2. What will the height of any shrubs or trees be when they are initially planted around the building. 3. Will there be any exterior lighting on the new building. 4. Will there be any background noise audible to the exterior of the building.'
- 26/005 Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd December, 2025.**
RESOLVED: to approve the minutes as an accurate record and they were signed by the chair.
- 26/006 Update from the Nature Recovery Working Group and Application to Shropshire Hills Conservation Fund:** Mr Kelly requests that the grant money to be paid into the Parish Council account and payments for materials etc will be made from the account
RESOLVED: for the application to be submitted and the grant money managed within the parish council bank accounts.
- 26/007 Update on the Hills Ford Stages Rally 20th September 2026 – Mr David Mills Representing Cheltenham and Ludlow Motor Club and Decide on Response to Consultation Section 12B(2)(b) of the Road Traffic Act Regarding the Rally:** Mr Mills did not attend the meeting but the councillors reviewed the information made available and considered that the organisation so far was excellent. The Clerk will inform the organisers that the council has no concerns at this point.
- 26/008 Reports**
- i. Shropshire Council – Cllr Stanford reported that the Council's finances are still a significant problem and they are waiting to hear if the government will provide them with a loan. The latest government settlement is less than expected despite the governments fairer rural funding calculation. The council is rated as amber on a map of potholes across the country. He is a member of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee which is presently trying to ensure that health is considered in all policy and decision making across the council.
 - ii. Munslow Village Hall – Cllr Dobson reported that the coffee mornings have gone well with money raised going to Little Stars Charity. It is hoped to have a tea and cake stall at the Millichope Open Day in October.

- 26/009** Planning: [25/04867/FUL](#) **Erection of enabling infrastructure enclosure required by Statutory Undertaker to facilitate Estate electricity connection. | Aston Hall Aston Munslow SY7 9ER:** Councillors considered the plans, the comment from the member of the public, a letter Gyles Quarre Architects and the information that this enclosure is a requirement of National Grid. The architect reported that the planting of screening for the enclosure will be undertaken in the earliest planting season upon completion of the construction of the enclosure. The screening will be a mix of hedging and shrubs with species selected to provide effective long-term screening as they mature. There will be no external lighting and there will be no audible background noise to the exterior of the enclosure.
RESOLVED: to support the application.
- 26/010** **Review the Response from Stuart Anderson MP and Shropshire Council re B4368 Report:** Shropshire Council Traffic Engineer reported that they had not been given priorities by the Parish Council.
RESOLVED: to ask Shropshire Council to publish the B4368 report and to implement the recommendations of the report which include all speed limits to be 30mph with 40mph buffer zones along the length of the B4368 which would provide a consistent approach. Copies of the letter should be sent to Nick Newton (Shropshire Council Traffic Engineer, Mr Stuart Anderson MP, Councillor Vasmer (Shropshire Council Portfolio Holder for Highways and Environment) and Tracey Onslow, Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 26/011** **Consider the Effects of Storm Gorette on Electricity and Telephone Supply in the Parish:** Councillors are concerned that the National Grid and BT are not maintaining the electricity supply adequately as during storms the cables are being damaged. Storm Gorette caused the telephone supply to be cut off for days in one area of the parish.
RESOLVED: to write to National Grid and BT asking that they carry out regular maintenance to prevent future disruption to supplies.
- 26/012** **Consider the Submission to Shropshire Archives and Missing Minutes for 2007 – 2013 and 2017:**
RESOLVED: to contact previous clerks and chairs to try to locate the missing minutes.
- 26/013** **Agree New Tasks for the Environmental Maintenance Contractor:**
RESOLVED: to ask the contractor to look at the brook opposite the war memorial in Munslow and clear debris, if possible, to prevent flooding.
- 26/014** **Management of Assets**
- i. Update on Repairs/Replacement of Notice Boards – defer to the next meeting
 - ii. Update on Works to Trees in Munslow Burial Ground – the contractor has completed the work and advised that the Ash Tree does not need any immediate work but some limbs could be removed at some point.
- 26/015** **Finance: Authorise Payments**
- i. D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) Inv 925 £194.75
 - ii. H Coonick Reimbursement Stationery £12.55
 - iii. Shropshire Council Election Fee May 2025 £125
 - iv. Richard Lane (Munslow Burial Ground Mowing) £91
- RESOLVED:** to make the above payments.
- 26/016** **Update on Partnership Working Research Group Workshop Session:** the clerk reported that the session included councillors and clerks from South Shropshire considering the proposals of devolving Street Scene activities to parish councils. The information provided on what was presently being funded by Shropshire Council was not accurate. Shropshire Council will have devolution team who will be able to assist with the devolution process. It was clear that collaboration between council would assist with this process.
- 26/017** **Consider Nomination for the Buckingham Palace Garden Party, being held on 12th May 2026:** Councillors will let the clerk know of who they wish to nominate.
- 26/018** **Items for the Next Meeting at 7.30pm Wednesday 4th March 2026 at Munslow Village Hall:** a. Devolution of Street Scene Services to Parish Councils b. Nature Recovery Application c. Repairs/replacements of Notice Boards

Signed:

Date: