

CHILDS ERCALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Childs Ercall Parish Council held on Wednesday 17th December 2025 in the Jubilee Hall at 7.00p.m.

Present: Cllr. J Maddocks (Chair)
Cllr. R Griffin
Cllr. P Clifton
Cllr. M Hatfield (Attended Stoke-on-Tern "Shropshire Together" meeting prior to attendance)
Cllr. G Barnes
Cllr. B Sale
Cllr. J Letts
Cllr. N Bentley (Unitary Councillor)

Also in attendance:
Barbara Pearce (Clerk)
6 Members of the Public

188/2025 Apologies for absence

Cllr. J Harrison

189/2025 Chairman's Welcome

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished all parishioners a Merry Christmas and prosperous and healthy New Year.

Notices given for Church Christmas Services.

190/2025 Public Question Time and Participation

Parishioners in attendance with concerns regarding current planning applications. Issues discussed at Agenda point 13 (minutes 202/2025).

Concerns raised regarding accumulation of rubbish at Peplow Airfield.

Action: Chair to escalate to Environmental Protection.

Concerns raised regarding change of ownership of hangers on Airfield.

Action: Chair will monitor.

191/2025 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:

None

192/2025 Minutes

RESOLVED: To accept the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th November 2025 as being correct.

193/2025 To receive reports from Unitary Councillor.

Written report provided by Cllr. Bentley attached.



Unitary Cllr
Report_Dec25.pdf

Cllr. Bentley gave an overview of Shropshire Council financial position, with the council seeking emergency funding from central government.

194/2025 To receive updates from parish community organisations – CECA, Church, Club

Following CECA providing an update on their current position including financial overview and upcoming vacant position (Treasurer) at the last meeting, Chair to attend next CECA meeting on 12th January 2026.

No update from Church or CE Club.

195/2025 Safety in the Parish

No specific concerns regarding safety in the parish, potential traffic from solar farm and Crow Lane weight restriction discussed separately.

196/2025 Highways and footpaths

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

Large signs have now been erected at Sambrook crossroads.

Action: Cllr. Bentley to chase local signage for the village.

b. Eaton Road (village part) safety improvements.

Chair has proposed two further locations to SC for speed assessment on existing highway furniture (posts) opposite the old post office on the Newport Road, and on the junction of Narrow Lane and St Michaels Way.

Action: Chair to forward the two further locations onto Cllr. Bentley who will chase with SC.

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

Cllr. Bentley confirmed that Shropshire and T&W council will be installing average speed cameras on A41, from Newport to Tern Hill, exact locations not known.

PC very concerned regarding the Mill Green crossroads which continues to be hazardous. The hedge continues to be overgrown and impede vision despite being reported.

Action: Chair to raise with SC again.

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

Parishioners have raised concerns to councillors regarding flooding in the village centre. Chair has added 3 drain locations to Fix My Street for action.

e. Streetlights - Lamp replacements. Dark skies initiative.

No issues.

197/2025 Parish Matters

a. Correspondence – update on important PC matters received via NALC/SALC Bulletins etc.

None.

b. Shropshire Council – review of Memorandum of Understanding

Cllr. Hatfield attended a “Shropshire Together” Meeting at Stoke-on-Tern PC, to discuss SC’s proposal to transfer some services from County to Town and Parish council level. No representative from SC attended the meeting.

Cllr. Hatfield reported that it was felt amongst the 8 local PCs at the meeting that there was very little detail included in the MOU regarding the services involved, funding and administration of those services. Several PCs, including CEPC, have declined to sign the MOU until more information is provided.

A further meeting has been arranged in January where it is hoped further detail will be available from SC.

c. Best Kept Village 2025

PC have received feedback from the BKVC committee identifying how scoring was carried out and where CEPC did well or could improve.

Action: Chair to forward on feedback to BKVC committee who will produce a report, which in turn will help decision making for next year’s competition.

198/2025

Grounds Maintenance/Playground

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

Last grass cut of the season took place at the end of November.
Football pitches are wet but coping well and are still playable.

b. Playground – to receive the monthly inspection report.

Inspection report received with no issues.
Following the advisory note in the ROSPA Safety Inspection, remedial paintwork is required to the adult gym equipment.

Action: Chair to complete work.

199/2025 Parish infrastructure projects – Community Plan

a. On-going maintenance and repairs to assets.

Benches on playing field require attention.
Action: (continued) Chair to investigate.

Sandstone blocks dislodged from wall at Village Green.
Action (continued): Investigation required

Grass seed required on the area around the bus stop following the repairs to the footpath.
Action: Chair to put seed down in the Spring.

Bus stop roof requires attention.
Action: Cllr. Sale to investigate and produce a quote in the Spring.

b. Commitment to the football pitches and Clubs.

5 teams confirmed to use pitches next season. CECA continue to take bookings and manage.

200/2025 Advertising and social media/website

Feedback from website continues to be very good with approx. 400 individual visitors.

Linking questions/queries/information from FBook to the website is currently working particularly well.

Clr. Griffin continues with production of newsletters which are going well. No newsletter in December, councillors asked to forward relevant content for the January issue to Cllr. Griffin.

201/2025 Grants and Donations

No new applications received.

Action: Grant Funding to be advertised in the New Year.

202/2025 Planning Applications

a. New Planning applications.

None

b. Existing Applications

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

Chair continues to monitor, no further update.

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)

Update received from Steering Group. Consultation date extended to 25/12/2025.

Reference: 25/03922/FUL (validated: 28/10/2025)

Address: Land At Hatton Road, Hinstock, Shropshire

Proposal: Change of use of land to a mixed use comprising of 1No. pitch family gypsy and traveller site, 1No. day room and the keeping of horses (Retrospective)

Applicant: Mr A Quinn

Update: Application at Recommendation Stage.

i. Withdrawn - None

ii. Refused - None

iii. Granted

Reference: 25/03953/PIP (validated: 23/10/2025)

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

Proposal: Application for permission in principle for between 2 to 4 dwellings.

Reference: 25/04049/AMP (validated: 28/10/2025)

Address: Daisy Bank Bembows Close Childs Ercall Market Drayton Shropshire TF9 2BF

Proposal: Non-material amendment for the replacement of existing conservatory with a single story extension, loft conversion to include the installation of skylights to rear and alterations to existing windows openings relating to 22/05732/FUL.

c. Any other planning matters.

- a. Land to the Rear of the Birches – Enforcement

No further update. Chair continues to monitor.

- b. Solar Farm – 25/03820/VAR Construction Traffic Routing Scheme

Traffic to Solar Farm re-routed through Childs Ercall with sharp left turning at CE Club.
PC objection lodged with SC.

- c. Land adjoining Eaton Road (old Peplow Airfield) – Enforcement

Further caravans noted on the site.

Action: Chair to contact SC for update.

- d. Land at Ercall Heath – Enforcement

203/2025 Financial Matters

Members are asked to:

- a. **Receive and confirm the payment of the items to be presented to the meeting**

i. SSE Energy Solutions – Final DD made no further payments due.
DRAX Energy Solutions - £96.79 (October) DD due 18/12/2025

ii. Administration December - £318.83

iii. K&S Plantscapes – Grass Cut 27/11/2025 £310.20

iv. Premier Surfacing - £2346.00

v. Lloyds Bank - £6.25 Bank Charges

RESOLVED: Clerk is authorised to pay the above invoices.

b. 2026/2027 Budget

Initial 26/27 budget proposed and shared with councillors for consideration. Further discussion took place, precept to be set at January meeting.

204/2025 Any new matters relating to the parish not included elsewhere on the agenda.

None

205/2025 Date of next meeting.

Members are asked to note the next meeting of Childs Ercall Parish Council is scheduled to be held on Wednesday 21st January 2026 at 7.00pm in the Jubilee Hall.