



**MINUTES of the Ruyton XI Towns Parish Council meeting held at Victoria Rooms,  
Ruyton XI Towns on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7.00 pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs Trevor Allison, Kerry Coldwell (Chairman), Anne Mitchell & Rachel Paton.

**In attendance:** Mrs M Baker, Parish Clerk & 1 member of the public

**71/25 Welcome by the Chairman**

**72/25 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Paul Dean, Mervyn Eyles, Tamarin Bibow, Rob Hamlett, Luke Penton, Nick Kynaston & Shropshire Councillor Rob Jones

**73/25 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation**

None

**74/25 Public Session**

None

**75/25 Minutes of the meeting held:**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meetings held 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025 and 7<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

**76/25 Reports**

Council to consider and note any reports received:

- i. County Councillor Representative: In the absence of Cllr Jones, it was **RESOLVED** to defer the submitted report for discussion until December meeting. **Appendix A**
- ii. SNT Police – no report submitted as no crime in the parish councils priorities identified. It was **RESOLVED** for the clerk to add on to future agenda's any relevant Neighbourhood Alerts and crime statistics obtained from West Mercia's Police website.
- iii. Clerk's Report was **received and noted. Appendix B**

**77/25 Parish Matters**

- i. **The Stone Cross** - consideration was given to the following:
  - a). An email from the Senior Loss Adjuster of the parish council's insurance company, along with an Acceptance Note, requesting approval for the Chairman's signature. The meeting **RESOLVED** that permission is granted for the Chairman, Cllr Coldwell, to sign the acceptance note on behalf of the Parish Council.
  - b). An email from Phil White dated 23/10/2025 his charge has gone up by 20% the insurance company has accepted original tenders therefore we do not have to re-run the tender process.
- ii. **Dr's Meadow Site Meeting** –an update from the Site meeting held with officers from Shropshire Council on Dr's Meadow with the Parish Chairman & Vice Chairman was provided to the meeting by the Chairman Cllr Coldwell. Track Reinstatement, Shropshire Council is going to look into it. It was a positive meeting. Matters are ongoing.

- iii. **Budget 2026-27 –**
  - a. Review of the earmarked funds allocations suggested by the Finance Committee. It was **RESOLVED** to defer to the December meeting.
  - b. Review of the 2026/2027 budget requirements and consideration to be given as to the council precept required. It was **RESOLVED** to defer to the December meeting.
- iv. **Land Registry Entry for Cafe XI and the Village Hall** – The Chairman, Councillor Coldwell, provided an update noting that historical correspondence had been located referencing the deeds being managed by a now-defunct firm of solicitors. It is possible that this information may assist the Parish Council's current solicitors in tracing relevant documentation. Councillor Coldwell further informed the meeting that she is scheduled to meet with the Parish Council's solicitor on 17th November 2025.
- v. **Shropshire Council – A New Way of Working Together** – (deferred from the meeting held 7/10/25)- consideration was given to whether the Parish Council wishes to sign the circulated Memorandum of Understanding. It was **RESOLVED** that the agenda item be deferred to the December meeting.
- vi. **Historic Parish Council Documents** –the meeting was advised that some historical documents had been destroyed in accordance with the councils Document Retention Policy . **Matter of report.**
- vii. **Policy Review** - consideration was given to the following recommendations of the Governance and Finance Sub Committee:
  - a) Policy Review Schedule - to approve suggested amendments to the schedule. **RESOLVED** approval of the amendments.
  - b) Grant Award Policy – consideration was given to approve revisions to the policy previously circulated. **RESOLVED** approval of the revisions.
  - c) Security Incident Response Policy – consideration was given to approve revisions to the policy previously circulated. **RESOLVED** approval of the revisions.
- viii. **Remembrance Sunday** – The Chairman, Cllr Coldwell, and Cllr Paton provided an update. Cllr Paton reported that a resident regularly sweeps near the Memorial each Saturday afternoon, but the drain just above the war memorial is completely blocked; this has been reported on Fix My Street. Trees at the top of the memorial need pollarding and the roof is leaking as well. Cllr Coldwell advised that Kate Maine will light the Lantern on the 9th and 11th of November 2025.  
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the purchase of a replacement wreath at a cost of up to £30.00, in accordance with Financial Regulations 1.14; that an agenda item be brought to the December meeting for discussion about reviewing the Maintenance Plan for the War Memorial and an email to be sent to Cllrs Rob Hamlett and Luke Penton to find out if any trees need cutting back.
- ix. **Christmas – Update:** The Chairman advised the meeting that a larger tree will be set up by Cllrs Nick Kynaston and Luke Penton, with decorations provided by Kate Maine. Carols are scheduled for December 20th; Ruth has coordinated with the Vicar and will create a poster. The event features carols, mince pies, and mulled wine. Total expenditure costs is a £100 (including £8.76 for plates, cups, and mince pies). Event starts at 4:00 pm. Cllrs Luke Penton and Nick Kynaston will address the Christmas Tree base hole.
- x. **VAS** – the meeting was advised that the battery replacements will be undertaken within the next two weeks by Cllrs Nick Kynaston & Luke Penton
- xi. **Parish Council Action List** – was received and noted.

## 78/25 Financial Reports

- i. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the latest reconciliation of banking statements dated 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025.

### Appendix C

- ii. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments and note receipts:

#### Payments:

Ent Date:	Payment Method	Inv No:	Description of Payment	Amount	VAT Amount
15/10/2025	DD	67	Tesco Mobile - Clerks Mobile Phone Contract	£10.00	1.66
27/10/2025	BP	68	Maxine Baker _ Wages (October)	£1,039.28	
27/10/2025	DD	69	HMRC - Tax & N.I. payments	£428.96	
27/10/2025	DD	70	Nest -superannuation	£96.35	
27/10/2025	DD	59	Hugo Fox - Website Hosting	35.99	6.00
26/09/2025	DD	60	Unity Trust - Bank Charges	6.00	
			<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£1,616.58</b>	<b>£0.00</b>

#### Receipts:

Ent Date		Amount
30/09/2025	Nationwide - Interest	20.48
31/10/2025	Nationwide - Interest	20.04
		<b>£40.52</b>

## 79/25 Planning Decisions and Applications

- i. To note planning decisions made since the last meeting: - none.
- ii. To consider and agree responses to planning applications: - none.

## 80/25 Future agenda items - Archive – binding of minutes

## 81/25 Date of the next meeting

To note that the next meeting shall be held on December 2nd, 7pm at the Victoria Rooms.

20.25 pm meeting closed.

**Cllr Robert Jones**

Shropshire Councillor for Ruyton and Baschurch

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## **Report to Ruyton XI Towns Parish Council: November 2025**

### **CIL Project and Traffic Issues**

Since the planned CIL-funded project in Ruyton has been delayed until February half term, I asked the portfolio holder for Highways, Cllr David Vasmer, to chase up the officer in charge of the project regarding the delays. Although it remains unclear, it appears the cause of the delay rests with the contractor, Kier. I will continue to keep pressure up for the project to be delivered in February and seek further updates shortly.

I was also contacted by Helen Morgan MP on behalf of a resident raising concerns about speed and volume of traffic through the village. Once the CIL project has been completed and we can assess the impact, if any, on traffic and speeds, it may be appropriate at that time to consider what other measures might help improve the situation.

### **Marton Road, Baschurch**

Works is due to have commenced on Monday (3<sup>rd</sup> November) on the repair of the landslip on Marton Road. The nature of the works mean it is unsafe to keep the road open, it is therefore closed to all but access for residents. Although the closure of the road is going to be disruptive, I am sure that we can all welcome the news that the two and a half year old traffic lights on the site will soon be gone.

### **Baschurch Station**

I have had a number of meetings over the last month relating to railways and in particular the proposed Parkway Station to the east of Shrewsbury. Whilst the scale and nature of that project is different to Baschurch, there are some similar issues which being encountered with the Strategic Outline Case which could inform a similar proposal for Baschurch.

I will attend a cabinet workshop session on the Local Transport Plan (LTP4) to refine and progress the plan towards its next stages in 2026.

### **Shropshire Council Financial Situation**

Following the declaration of a financial emergency by cabinet in September and recommendations from the Corporate Peer Challenge, a 'deep dive' audit has been conducted

into the Council's finances in order to establish our *actuals* – how much money the Council has spent to *date, this year*. This differs from the ordinary monthly and quarterly reporting on the finances which produces projections for the end of the year.

The position revealed is significantly worse than previous estimates had indicated. In order to avoid an immediate Section 114 notice being issued, the leader and the interim chief executive have requested urgent *in-year* funding of £64m from the government, as well as additional assistance from the Local Government Association.

If this funding is granted, it will allow us not only to address the overspend in the current budget, but also to invest into areas of the Council which have been subject to cuts, redundancies and downsizing which have critically undermined the Council's sustainability, revenue, and ultimately the ability to deliver core services and responsibilities efficiently.

Our objective is to do what the previous administration consistently failed to do: to stabilise the Council's finances, protect and enhance revenue, and to continue to seek improved funding settlements from the government that take account of our reality as a large sparsely-populated rural area.

Appendix B

## Clerks Report – 04/11/2025

### **UPDATES**

#### **Previous Agenda Items:**

- **Appointment of Parish Council Representative to Village Hall Committee**
- **Accessibility Ramp Village Hall**

The agreed meeting is due to take place in December

**CIL** – Cllr Rob Jones has contacted the portfolio holder at Shropshire Council for reassurances see emails

#### **Fix My Street:**

Overgrown footpath between Eardiston & Tedsmore – we have received a response back stating that the pathway has been investigated and it needs to be dealt with by another department, which is currently not supported by Fix My street, therefore the case will be closed on this system, but the relevant department has been informed and asked to investigate.

**Historical Documents** - these have been sorted and documents sorted for destroying have been checked by Kerry

**BANK RECONCILIATION as at 31st October 2025**

		<b>Balances</b>
Unity Trust Bank- Current a/c		70897.25
Nationwide		15754.65
		<u><b>86651.90</b></u>
<b>Less Unpresented Cheques / Deposits</b>		
Maxine Baker	885.55	
PKF LittleJohn	252.00	
Maxine Baker	1039.28	
HMRC	428.96	
NEST	96.35	
	<u><b>2702.14</b></u>	2702.14
	<b>Total</b>	<u><u><b>83949.76</b></u></u>
Brought forward start of year		74875.61
Receipts for year		37227.10
Less payments for year		<u>28152.95</u>
		<u><u><b>83949.76</b></u></u>