



**MINUTES of the Ruyton XI Towns Parish Council meeting held at Victoria Rooms,
Ruyton XI Towns on Tuesday 7th April 2026 at 7.00 pm.**

Present: Cllrs Trevor Allison, Kerry Coldwell (Chairman), Paul Dean, Mervyn Eyles, Nick Kynaston, Anne Mitchell, Rachel Paton.

In attendance: Mrs M Baker, Parish Clerk; Shropshire Councillor Robert Jones; one member of the public.

128/26 Welcome by the Chairman

129/26 Apologies

Apologies were received and noted from Cllr Tamarin Bibow & Luke Penton.

130/26 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

None

131/26 Public Session

None

132/26 Minutes of the meeting held:

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 3rd March 2026 and these were approved and signed.

133/26 Reports

Council to consider and note any reports received:

- i. County Councillor Representative: Cllr Rob Jones presented a report this evening [Appendix A.](#)
- ii. SNT Police – [Appendix B.](#)
- iii. Clerk's Report: [Appendix C.](#)

134/26 Parish Matters

- i. **New Village Hall Working Group** – The Chairman, Cllr Coldwell, provided an update following the meeting held on 26th March 2026. The Chairman explained that a WhatsApp group had been established after the initial meeting to keep members informed of progress. The group's first priority is to identify suitable land, and several people will be approached regarding this. Additionally, the group plans to distribute a survey to all households to demonstrate the need for a new village hall. The initial meeting was positive, but considerable groundwork remains to be done.
- ii. **Devolution Asset Transfer** – Correspondence from Shropshire Council concerning their updated policy on transferring assets to Town and Parish Councils was received and acknowledged. The meeting expressed interest in closely monitoring the Parish and Town Councils participating in the pilot scheme.
- iii. **Annual Parish Meeting** – The meeting was advised of the date of the Annual Parish meeting to be held on Thursday 23rd April at 7.00pm. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Paton would buy light refreshments and wine which would be reimbursed and Cllr Luke Penton would provide cheese.
- iv. **Basnett, Mathews & Minton Trust** – consideration was given for a representative from the Parish Council to be put forward as a signatory for the Trust. The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to nominate Cllr

Mervyn as a signatory to the trust, and to invite Reverend Lucinda Burns to the Annual Parish Meeting so she can share her experiences as Vicar and discuss the dioceses plans following her retirement.

- v. **CIL – Road Improvement Scheme** – Councillor Coldwell provided an update, indicating that the scheme is currently being implemented. Councillor Eyles inquired with Shropshire Councillor Rob Jones regarding the inclusion of pavement resurfacing within the programme. Councillor Rob Jones responded that pavements are addressed by a separate programme of works, but he will seek clarification and request their inclusion given their current condition.
- vi. **War Memorial Tree Works** – the meeting was advised that the tree works had been undertaken.
- vii. **Parking Problems in the Village** – an update was provided within the Clerks report presented this evening. Councillor Kynaston had pictures of vehicles struggling to get past due to double parking. It was **RESOLVED that** Cllr Kynaston would send the pictures to the Clerk and she would write again to the police requesting a police presence at the next meeting or clarification on enforcement measures that could be taken.
- viii. **VAS Data** – VAS download data from 24 February 2026 to 20 March 2026 has been received and duly noted. Councillor Eyles informed that there may be a software glitch affecting some of the data, and the Clerk is currently seeking clarification from the manufacturer.
- ix. **Succession Planning & Councillor Training** – Information regarding available training for Councillors was received and formally acknowledged. The Chairman and Vice Chairman informed the meeting of their intention to step down from their respective roles at the Annual General Meeting, while confirming that they will continue to serve as Councillors on the Parish Council.
- x. **Parish Council Action List** –the circulated latest working document and new action list working document for 2026/2027 was received and noted.

135/26 Financial Reports

- i. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the latest reconciliation of banking statements 31st March 2026. [Appendix D.](#)
- 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 |
|------------|----------------|---------|--|------------------|------------|
| 03/03/2026 | BP | 107 | Café Eleven (Christmas Carols Reimbursement) | 89.82 | |
| 03/03/2026 | DD | 108 | ICO (Data Protection) | 47.00 | |
| 06/03/2026 | DD | 109 | Shropshire Council | 360.96 | |
| 16/03/2026 | DD | 110 | Tesco Mobile (Clerks mobile) | 10.00 | |
| 16/03/2026 | DD | 111 | CBS Ltd (The Cross - Listed building Consent) | 3036.00 | |
| 24/03/2026 | DD | 99 | Shropshire Council (Refund of DD taken in error) | -553.70 | |
| 30/03/2026 | DD | 112 | Hugo Fox (website - monthly charge) | 35.99 | |
| 31/03/2026 | DD | 113 | Nest (Superannuation) | 79.18 | |
| 31/03/2026 | DD | 114 | HMRC (Tax & N.I.) | 326.30 | |
| 31/03/2026 | DD | 115 | Unity Bank | 7.00 | |
| | | | | £3,438.55 | |

Receipts:

| Ent Date | | Amount |
|------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 28/02/2026 | Nationwide Interest | 19.49 |
| | | £19.49 |

- iii. The Year end accounts as of 31st March 2026 were received and considered. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Year end Accounts and Budget Review and were immediately signed by the Chairman.
[Appendix E.](#)

136/26 Planning Decisions and Applications

- i. To note planning decisions:
- a) [24/03767/OUT - Land North of Olden Lane](#) –**Refused**
 - b) [26/00849/LBC – The Cross, At Junction Of Church Street And School Road](#) – **Pending consideration**

137/26 Future agenda items – Updates on the CIL Project, Village Hall; Village Hanging Baskets

138/26 Date of the next meeting

To note that the next meeting shall be held on May 5th (AGM), 7pm at the Victoria Rooms.

[Meeting closed at 9.00pm]

05/05/2026

Cllr Robert Jones

Shropshire Councillor for Ruyton and Baschurch
07913377617 / robert.jones@shropshire.gov.uk

Report to Ruyton XI Towns Parish Council: April 2026**CIL Project Progress**

Following the completion of statutory consultations on the two TROs relating to upgrades on Church St, I am pleased that we have now had confirmation that works are proceeding this week. In addition to comments made in the consultation, I also received a number of comments from residents expressing concerns about Puffin crossings and about the lack of any proposals for other parts of the village. I am keen that after this scheme is completed, we can continue to look for opportunities to improve safety throughout the village.

576 Bus Communications Issues

Over the past week I have been dealing with disruption to the 576 bus service linked to road closures in Ruyton XI Towns, particularly the Platt Mill Bridge closure (30–31 March) and the forthcoming Church Street closure this week. Residents reported buses running late or not serving stops at all, with passengers left waiting due to a lack of clear information about service changes during the closures.

Following enquiries, officers confirmed that contractors had notified Tanat Valley Coaches in advance, but that this information was not acted upon internally by the operator, resulting in late or inadequate communication to passengers. I raised this directly with both council officers and Tanat Valley Coaches, and officers have acknowledged the issue and advised that steps are being taken to improve coordination and communication ahead of the Church Street closure to prevent a repeat of the problems experienced at Platt Mill Bridge.

Application for 155 Houses and GP Surgery in Prescott, Baschurch (26/01060/OUT)

An application to build 155 houses and a new GP surgery on land off Perryfield Road in Baschurch has now been published and is available on the Shropshire Council planning portal for public comment. I have begun reviewing the submitted documents in detail and have been engaging with residents, officers and other stakeholders to understand the potential implications of the proposal.

A number of concerns have been raised with me by residents, including the scale and location of the development, increased traffic and highway safety impacts, particularly on Perryfield Road and surrounding rural routes, and the capacity of local infrastructure, most notably Prescott Surgery, schools and drainage. There are also concerns about pedestrian safety, the sustainability of the site in relation to village amenities, and whether the proposed mitigation measures are realistic and deliverable. I would strongly encourage residents to submit their own comments through the formal planning consultation so that these views are fully taken into account.

Government Guidance on LTPs

The government has published on April 2nd new guidance for the development and adoption of Local Transport Plans together with a vision document titled 'Better Connected'. These policies represent a significant revision to transport strategy and policy from the government and had been anticipated since 2024. These policies will have direct implications on Shropshire Council's ongoing process of drafting a new Local Transport Plan, and the ambition of residents in our area to reopen Baschurch Railway Station. It will take a little time for the new documents to be digested and to fully understand their implications, but my early perception is that the government's vision broadly aligns with Shropshire's approach generally and our ambition locally.

The guidance places much stronger emphasis on improving accessibility, reducing car dependency, and providing better transport options for rural communities. It encourages councils to plan transport around long-term outcomes such as access to jobs, education and healthcare, rather than focusing only on short-term road capacity.

Importantly, the guidance makes clear that LTPs do not have to list every individual scheme to support them in principle. This means that a project like Baschurch Station can be recognised as a legitimate long-term opportunity within a wider transport strategy, even though it is still at an early stage.

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|---|--|
|  | <h2>Oswestry Rural South</h2> <p>Safer Neighbourhood Team parish council report</p> <p>Date: 31/03/ 2026</p> |
|---|--|

Oswestry Rural South

Team email: oswestryrs.snt@westmercia.police.uk

Police Community Support Officers:

PC Wright **Mobile:** 07977 957689

PCSO Carroll **Mobile:** 07970 544372

PCSO Mabe **Mobile:** 07870 219669

Parish – Ruyton XI Towns

Community priorities:

1. Speeding
2. County Lines
3. Rural Theft

Priority 1.

There have been no reports of speeding, but we have had a few reports regarding traffic issues.

One report was of a van being badly driven.

Another report was of a scaffold pole in the live lane of the A5, causing issues for drivers. Police removed the pole and traffic resumed to the normal flow.

There was also a report of an RTC.

Priority 2.

Nothing to report on.

Priority 3.

Nothing to report on.

Appendix C

Doctors Meadow – An email has been received detailing times for the rounders team using the field.

The Cross Repairs – Planning Application has been submitted and is on the planning portal.

VAS -Data has been downloaded there are some discrepancies at the moment regarding how some of the data is presented in the download i.e. numerous records for the same direction and exact time. I have submitted a contact form raising these issues and I am awaiting clarification.

War Memorial



Annual Parish -Will be held on Thursday 23rd April at 7.00pm at Victoria Rooms

CIL – Consultation – An email has been sent requesting further information regarding the consultation results. Shropshire Council require more time to assess but they advised that they would let me know as soon as possible.

Helen Morgan M.P. – Parking – Unfortunately, Helen Morgan is not able to make a site meeting at 8.30pm due to her work commitments. However, she will speak with Cllr Jones.

Cliffe Signage – An email has been sent to Edward from Shropshire Council to provide an update to signage on the Cliffe, I am yet to receive a reply but I will chase.

Speed Sign at Brownhill – reports that the VAS sign at Brownhill has been knocked and displaced. Cllr Nick Kynaston has kindly agreed to take a look at it.

Shropshire Council – Direct Debit Refund - Direct Debit Payment – Shropshire Council

A Direct Debit payment taken by Shropshire Council, as notified in March, has been recalled. Despite four emails requesting copies of the relevant agreement(s) or contract in relation to this charge, Shropshire Council has failed to provide the requested documentation and has not acknowledged the correspondence. As a result, the bank was contacted and the payment has been successfully reclaimed. Shropshire Council has been notified of this action.

Obscured Signage by the Bridge – Shropshire Council Highways have been notified of the obscured signage.

BANK RECONCILIATION as at 31st March 2026

| | | Balances |
|--|---------------|--------------------------|
| Unity Trust Bank- Current a/c | | 100,761.74 |
| Nationwide- Business Savings | | <u>15,851.18</u> |
| | | <u>116,612.92</u> |
| Less Unpresented Cheques / Deposits | | |
| D Peate | 140.00 | |
| HMRC | 326.50 | |
| | <u>466.50</u> | 466.50 |
| | Total | <u>116,146.42</u> |
| | | |
| Brought forward start of year | | 74,875.61 |
| Receipts for year | | 80,535.75 |
| Less payments for year | | <u>39,264.89</u> |
| | | <u>116,146.47</u> |

**RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS 2025-26**

Receipts & Payments, as at 31/03/2026

| Balance b/f | | | 74875.61 |
|---|---------------------|--|---------------------------|
| | Budget 25/26 | Receipts & Payments 25/26 | %Under over budget |
| <u>Receipts</u> | | | |
| Precept | 33744 | 33744.00 | 0.00% |
| VAT refund | 1000.00 | 1972.23 | |
| CIL | 0.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% |
| Bank interest | 200.00 | 250.19 | |
| Other | 0.00 | 5.35 | 100.00% |
| VE Day Donations | 0.00 | 1752.00 | |
| Insurance Monies _ The Cross | | 42811.93 | |
| | 34944.00 | 80535.70 | 130.47% |
| <u>Payments</u> | | | |
| Wages | 15000.00 | 15508.93 | 3.39% |
| Administration costs (incl. bank charges) | 1829.00 | 2118.35 | 15.82% |
| Audit fees | 565.00 | 210.00 | -62.83% |
| Election Fees | | 125.00 | |
| Affiliation fees & subs | 800.00 | 692.65 | -13.42% |
| Insurance | 1500.00 | 877.79 | -41.48% |
| Training (incl. cllr mileage) | 500.00 | 60.00 | -88.00% |
| Street lighting & maintenance | 1000.00 | 1452.40 | 45.24% |
| Village and grounds maintenance | 2550.00 | 3123.05 | 22.47% |
| Village floral displays | 1200.00 | 622.99 | -48.08% |
| Local grants & Donations (s.137) | 1000.00 | 530.00 | -47.00% |
| Community Events (s.137) | 1000.00 | 955.09 | |
| Contingency | 2000.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% |
| Safer roads | 3000.00 | 400.80 | -86.64% |
| Cliffe maintenance | 4000.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% |
| The Cross Repairs | | 2530.00 | |
| VAT | 2000.00 | 2125.84 | 6.29% |
| Village Hall & memorial Hall Legal Fees | 500.00 | 420.00 | |
| Mobile Library | 1000.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% |
| | 39444.00 | 31752.89 | -19.50% |
| s.137 (max total spend) | 9403.71 | 1485.09 | |
| Earmarked Reserves balances | Current Bal. | Expenditure | |

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|---------|---------|---|
| Cliffe | 3000.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% | - |
| QE11 Purchase | 2000.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% | - |
| QE11 Legal Fees | 2000.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% | - |
| Roads | 10000.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% | - |
| Neighbourhood/Drs Meadow Track | 20000.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% | - |
| Village Hall Building Repairs | 5000.00 | 2552.00 | -48.96% | |
| Village Hall Accessibility | 5000.00 | 4960.00 | -0.80% | |
| War Memorial seats | 3000.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% | - |

£50,000.00

7512.00

Total payments

39264.89

Receipts over payments

41270.81

Uncleared receipts

0.00

Uncleared payments

466.50

466.50

Cashbook balance

116146.42

Balance as Unity Trust Bank Statement

100761.74

Balance as Nationwide Bank statement

15851.18

Combined bank balance

116612.92

Uncleared Payments & Income total

466.50

116146.42

Meeting date: 31.03.2026

-466.50 Uncleared

Chairman signature.....