

MINUTES of the Ruyton XI Towns Parish Council meeting held at Victoria Rooms, Ruyton XI Towns on Tuesday 6th January 2026 at 7.00 pm.

Present: Cllrs Trevor Allison, Tamarin Bibow, Paul Dean, Mervyn Eyles (Vice Chairman), Rob Hamlet, Nick Kynaston, Anne Mitchell, Rachel Paton.

In attendance: Mrs M Baker, Parish Clerk; Shropshire Councillor Robert Jones; 1 member of the public.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman Cllr Eyles, chaired the meeting.

94/26 Welcome by the Chairman

95/26 Apologies

Apologies were received and noted from Cllrs Kerry Coldwell & Luke Penton

96/26 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

None

97/26 Public Session

None

98/26 Minutes of the meeting held:

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 2nd December 2025 and these were approved and signed.

99/26 Reports

Council to consider and note any reports received:

- i. County Councillor Representative: Cllr Rob Jones presented a report this evening

[Appendix A.](#)

[Cllr Rob Hamlett arrived]

- ii. SNT Police: [Appendix B.](#)

- iii. Clerk's Report: The Clerk provided an update regarding the Cross repairs, referencing agenda item 100/26 iv. It was noted that Phil Whites Association will be unavailable until Monday, 12 January 2026. The Clerk also reported that the chairman Cllr Kerry Coldwell wished to report the Defib What's App group is working well and thanked the group.

100/26 Parish Matters

- i. **Budget 2026-27** – Consideration for approval for the Clerk to make a Precept requirement request for 2026/27 to Shropshire Council of £35,027.85 - (thirty-five thousand, twenty-seven pounds, and eighty-five pence). **RESOLVED** approval for the Clerk to make a precept request to Shropshire Council of £35,027.85 - (thirty-five thousand, twenty-seven pounds, and eighty-five pence).

- ii. **Policy Review – General Data Protection Regulation – Assertion 10: I.T Policy** – a meeting date for the Finance & Governance group to review an IT policy and bring recommendations to full council at next meeting on 4th February 2026 was discussed. Councillor Mervyn Eyles informed the meeting of the necessity for an I.T Policy, noting potential areas of overlap with existing Council policies. Councillor Mitchell emphasised that any overlap should be managed to ensure there are no conflicting provisions. It was **RESOLVED** that a date will be decided by the Finance and Governance committee and that the Clerk will circulate to the committee two I.T. Policy Document templates for consideration by the committee. The committee will prepare a recommendation for consideration at the next meeting.
- iii. **Expression of Interest – Shropshire Council School Library Service** – a letter dated 4th December 2025 from Shropshire Council seeking expressions of interest from parties who may wish to explore taking over the full operation, management and financing of the Shropshire Schools Library Service was received and considered. The meeting was advised that these changes did not affect the mobile library service. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk makes a response back to Shropshire council to advise that due to limited resources of the parish council, the parish council will not be putting forward an expression of interest.
- iv. **The Cross Repairs** – The Council received an update as follows: The council insurers have issued the final settlement of the claim. CBS Conservation has been contacted and they have provided a revised quotation. Additionally, CBS confirmed that repairing the Cross off site is preferable. The repair work is anticipated to proceed in January 2026 under the project management of Phil Whites. An email has been sent to the Phil Whites Association to ensure all necessary permissions are secured prior to commencement of the works.
- v. **Parish Council Action List** – the circulated latest working document was received and considered. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk includes on the February Meeting Agenda the Commemorative VE Day bench with options of design being provided and for consideration to the siting of the bench. It was noted that the repairs to Platt Bridge were now scheduled for 30th and 31st March. If there is to be a road closure this would be a good time to address the outstanding maintenance work required on the tree above the War Memorial. Parish Clerk to liaise with Cllr Penton to be ready to capitalise on this opportunity.

101/26 Financial Reports

- i. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the latest reconciliation of banking statements dated 31st December 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
11/12/2025	BP	80	Dave Peate - Mow, water baskets, Take down Baskets	£385.00	
11/12/2025	BP	81	Cllr Coldwell - Refund - Xmas Tree	55.00	
11/12/2025	BP	82	Gough-Thomas & Scott - Land Registry	420.00	
16/12/2025	DD	83	Tesco Mobile	£10.00	1.67
29/12/2025	BP	84	Hugo Fox - Website Hosting	35.99	6.00
31/12/2025	DD	85	Unity Trust - Bank Charges	6.00	
31/12/2025	BP	86	Maxine Baker	£905.67	
31/12/2025	DD	85	HMRC	£348.00	
31/12/2025	DD	86	Nest	£82.78	
			Total Payments	£2,248.44	£7.67

Receipts:

Ent Date		Amount
28/11/2025	Nationwide Interest	19.42
02/12/2025	MCL (Insurance Claim - Final settlement) - Ringfenced Income	42811.93
31/12/2025	Nationwide Interest	20.10
		£42,851.45

102/26 Planning Decisions and Applications

- i. To note planning decisions:
 - a) [25/03598/FUL - The Grange, Brownhill](#) – Pending consideration
 - b) [24/03767/OUT - Land North of Olden Lane](#) -Pending consideration

RESOLVED: The Clerk will add Shropshire Council's committee meeting date to the Parish Council website as soon as the date is announced.
- ii. To consider and agree responses to planning applications: - none.

103/26 Future agenda items - Land at Olden Lane, Doctors Meadow, VE Day Commemorative bench, Succession Plan

104/26 Date of the next meeting

To note that the next meeting shall be held on February 3rd, 7pm at the Victoria Rooms.

(7.55pm – meeting closed)

Cllr Robert Jones

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

Report to Ruyton XI Towns Parish Council: January 2026**CIL Funded Project**

I wrote to the lead project officer for the CIL project to ask that details could be disclosed and shared by the parish council as soon as possible. The response I received asked that the parish council await publication of details by Shropshire Council in 'early January'. I have asked for clarification of whether this is just a request or a formal requirement, and I am awaiting a response.

Planning Issues

24/03767/OUT - Land north of Olden Lane: It has been confirmed to me that this application will be heard by the Northern Planning Committee. No date for that has been set yet, whilst the officer is seeking clarifications from the Highways team, but it may be at the February 17th meeting of the committee.

River Perry Management

At the December meeting of Shropshire Council I questioned the relevant portfolio holder about the council's approach to development and the impact on river levels and flooding.

Shropshire Council will address concerns about flood risk and wastewater capacity through several forthcoming initiatives. As part of the new Local Plan, site selection for growth will consider physical constraints such as flood risk, supported by a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment in 2026. The Council will also review wastewater treatment capacity and potential upgrades through an updated Water Cycle Study. Acting as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), the Council has statutory duties under the Flood and Water Management Act (2010) and provides advice on major developments, as well as smaller schemes in sensitive areas, to ensure flood risk and drainage impacts are properly assessed.

The LLFA's consultee role is delivered via WSP, which reviews applications against the Council's Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) Handbook and updated national guidance. Planning conditions applied will reflect the latest standards, including those introduced by DEFRA. The Council is currently updating its Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, with a draft expected soon, which will inform a revision of the SuDS Handbook to align with national policy and ensure sustainable development practices are embedded across Shropshire.

Shropshire Council Finances


The government announced before Christmas its Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement which sets out allocations for local authorities across England for the next three years, and

incorporates an updated distribution of resources following the conclusion of the Fair Funding Review. This is the main source of funding for local government, together with Council Tax, and separate from grants which are ringfenced to specific areas of spending.

Despite promises made by the government that funding would be fairer to rural Councils, what was announced was very disappointing for Shropshire, with cuts to funding from 2026 until 2029 of £15m. Government figures suggest that ministers are expecting Shropshire to balance funding by raising Council Tax by the maximum rate permitted under the law, which is 4.99%. This however does not account for our existing shortfalls and the rising costs of delivering social care in a less densely populated area.

Meanwhile, Shropshire Council's application for Exceptional Financial Support was formally submitted to the government. This is a request for in-year funding to ensure the council does not go bankrupt before the end of March. We are awaiting a response from ministers.

DRAFT

	<h2>Oswestry Rural South</h2> <p>Safer Neighbourhood Team parish council report</p> <p>Date: 31/12/2025</p>
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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: (None have been given yet)

1. Speeding
2. County Lines
3. Rural Theft

Priority 1.

There have been two reports. One of an RTC and one of a car seen where the driver was seen in suspicious circumstance.

The RTC was at the junction of Long Oak. No injuries reported and the road was cleared leaving the drivers to exchange insurance details.

The second report was of a person slumped over the wheel of a car at the X roads at Shottaton. A search was made but no car found.

Priority 2.

None reported

Priority 3.

There was a theft in dwelling. The male involved has been arrested.

BANK RECONCILIATION as at 31st December 2025

		Balances
Unity Trust Bank- Current a/c		109622.62
Nationwide		15794.17
		<u>125416.79</u>
Less Unpresented Cheques / Deposits		
HMRC	287.39	
Nest	71.98	
M Baker	905.67	
HMRC	348.00	
Nest	82.78	
	<u>1695.82</u>	1695.82
	Total	<u><u>123720.97</u></u>
Brought forward start of year		74875.61
Receipts for year		80478.69
Less payments for year		<u>31633.33</u>
		<u><u>123720.97</u></u>