



MINUTES of the Ruyton XI Towns Parish Council meeting held at Victoria Rooms, Ruyton XI Towns on Tuesday 1st April 2025 at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllrs Trevor Allison, Tamarin Bibow, Kerry Coldwell (Chair), Paul Dean, Mervyn Eyles (Vice Chair), Rob Hamlett, Nick Kynaston, Kate Mayne, Anne Mitchell, Rachel Paton, Luke Penton

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs M Baker; Shropshire Councillor, Nick Bardsley and 2 members of the public.

165/25 Chairmans Announcements

166/25 Apologies

Apologies were received and noted from Cllrs, Bibow and Hamlett who will arrive later.

167/25 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Luke Penton - item 176/25(i) - planning application 25/00971/FUL – near neighbour.

168/25 Public Session

A resident informed the meeting about the condition of the pavement on Church Bank, which is covered in debris. Councillor Eyles responded that he would inquire if the Churchyard working party could clear it. If they are unable to do so, he advised the resident to report the issue on Fix My Street if the debris has not been cleared within a week's time.

[7.06pm Cllrs Bibow & Rob Hamlett arrived]

169/25 Minutes of the full council meeting held 4th March 2025

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting on 4th March 2025 and these were approved and signed.

170/25 Reports

- i. Shropshire Council: Cllr Nick Bardsley provided a report for this meeting. **Appendix A**
- ii. West Mercia Police: a police report was provided late and was circulated to Cllrs after the meeting
Appendix B
- iii. An Update from Cllr Mitchell on GP Out of Hours contract in Shropshire was provided.
The meeting was informed by Cllr Mitchell that the awarded contract had been challenged. As a result, the challenge is currently under review. The contract will not be officially awarded until the challenge is resolved. Residents have also raised concerns regarding the lack of public representation and the possibility that the contract may be awarded to an external contractor with limited local knowledge.
- iv. Clerks Report: The Clerks report was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. **Appendix C**

174/25 Parish Matters

- i. The Clerks advisory note dated 12th March was received. Consideration was given as to whether permission should be given to the Clerk to apply for a .gov.uk domain name and for the clerk to make a request to Hugo Fox to proceed with the transition.

Cllr Eyles advised the meeting that the Council had carefully considered both a .org.uk and a .Gov. Uk domain name before transferring the site to Hugo Fox. Cllr Eyles ran through and the main reasons the council chose a .org.uk domain over a .gov.uk domain:

- Websites with the .org.uk domain adhere to accessibility best practices as outlined in The Equality Act 2010, which prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities. However, their standards and requirements tend to be less rigorous compared to the mandatory WCAG compliance required for .gov.uk sites. The Councils historical documentation may not meet these stringent standards, and producing an accessibility statement might incur significant costs.
- The Parish Council would not be allowed to sell tickets on a .Gov.Uk website

It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council's website site would remain with Hugo Fox, with its org.uk domain name

- ii. Consideration was given for approval for the purchase of an Android mobile phone at a cost of £69.99, plus a monthly data contract costing £10.00 per month for downloading VAS data and for usage for the Clerks Parish Council business. It was **RESOLVED** approval.
- iii. The Local Policing Charter 2024-28 – consideration was given to the councils' priorities. It was **RESOLVED** for the Clerk to confirm the council's priorities being Traffic; Speeding; County Lines; and Rural Theft and that the council still desires to work with the police.
- iv. Ruyton XI Towns Parish Council held Bank Accounts – consideration was given for approval of the following:

a. Nationwide Business Savings Account:

- permission for the clerk to remove the following retired Cllrs: D Spicer; A Lister; D Denyer from the bank mandate. It was **RESOLVED** approval.
- permission for the Clerk to remove the previous Clerk, L Bardsley, from the bank mandate. It was **RESOLVED** approval.
- Names of Cllrs to be added on to the bank mandate. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Nick Kynaston; Rachel Paton & Kerry Coldwell would be added on to the Nationwide Business Savings Account mandate
- permission for the Clerk & RFO to be added on to the bank mandate. It was **RESOLVED** approval.
- permission to change the correspondence address on the bank account to the RFO's address. It was **RESOLVED** approval.

b. Unity Trust Bank:

- permission for the Clerk to remove the previous Clerk, S Windridge, from the bank mandate. It was **RESOLVED** approval
- permission for the Clerk & RFO to be added on to the bank mandate. It was **RESOLVED** approval.
- permission to change the correspondence address on the bank account to the RFO's address. It was **RESOLVED** approval.

- v. Cllr Coldwell provided an update on the VE Day celebrations scheduled for the 5th & 8th of May. Concerns were raised regarding utilising Doctors Meadow with accessibility, toilet provision, power supply, and volunteer coverage for Monday 5th of May's celebrations. The suggestion was made to instead focus on the other three areas.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- A budget would be set of £1, 000.00. Of this budget, £500 for the hire of live entertainment and £500.00 for sundry items relating to the VE Day 80 celebrations.
 - Cllr Mayne would take charge of the Beacon and to light and place, the Lamp Light of Peace on The Cross with Cllrs Rob Hamlett, Luke Penton & Nick Kynaston assisting.
 - Permission for Cllr Coldwell to book the school for the event
 - Cllr Bibow would liaise with Packwood School
- vi. An update on The Perry and Peatland re-wetting programme was given by Cllr Mayne. Cllr Mayne advised that there is nothing of concern to raise. More remodelling is required, plus funding. Farmers will be engaged, and Cllr Mayne will provide the parish council with a further update when there is more to report.
- vii. Consideration was given to what actions relevant to the damaged roadside mirror near Victoria Rooms needed to be taken. It was **RESOLVED** that the council will put this matter on hold.
- viii. Doctors Meadow –consideration was given to:
- a. Dog Fouling on the playground and what measures the Parish Council would like to see happen to help tackle the issue
 - b. The use of the field by Baschurch Youth Football Club
 - c. Next steps to be taken if any, for the reinstatement of the track

The meeting felt that before any decisions could be made on the above agenda items, a site meeting would be required with Shropshire Council. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk arranges a date for a site meeting with Shropshire Council.

175/25 Financial Reports

- i. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the latest reconciliation of banking statements to the 31st March 2025.
- 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
27/03/2025	BP	66	SALC – Councillor Training	60.00	
27/03/2025	BP	67	Locum Clerk fees for March	400.00	
27/03/2025	BP	68	Battlefield Land Survey – Measured Bldg Survey (VH)	1440.00	240.00
27/03/2025	BP	69	Multiproject (SE) Ltd – Preparation of a cost plan (VH)	912.00	152.00
27/03/2025	BP	70	HMRC (Liabilities Month 12)	677.18	
27/03/2025	BP	71	Wages	621.78	
27/03/2025	BP	72	Ruyton XI Towns Village Hall	68.25	
03/03/2025	DD	73	ICO (Annual Fee)	47.00	
28/03/2025	DD	74	Hugo Fox	35.99	6.00
31/03/2025	BP	75	BCHNN Architects	3600.00	600.00
31/03/2025	DD	76	Service Charge	6.00	
07/03/2025	BP	77	Brindle & Yam Solicitors (Bridge Inn Field)	5500.00	
			Total Payments	£13,368.20	£998.00

Receipts:

Ent Date		Amount
07/03/2025	HMRC (VAT Refund)	1043.26
		£1,043.26

176/25 Planning Decisions and Applications

[Cllr Luke Penton took no part in the discussion or decision for item 176/25(i)]

Planning Applications

- i. Reference: **25/00971/FUL**
Address: Bawtry, Olden Lane, Ruyton XI Towns, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1JD
Proposed Development: Erection of fences over 1m high, adjacent a highway (Retrospective)
It was **RESOLVED** that the following response will be made to Shropshire Planning Authority
Refusal on the following grounds: - not in keeping with the street scene; prejudice highway safety

Planning Decisions

- ii. To note planning decisions made since the last meeting: - none

177/25 Future agenda items

- The Cross - to receive and consider update
- Land at Pevery Close - to receive and consider update

178/25 Date of the next meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Council shall be held on May 6th, 2025, 7pm at the Victoria Rooms.

The meeting closed at 21:00

Appendix A – Shropshire County Councillor Report

Parish Council: 1st April 2025

Baschurch Railway Station Project

The Project Action Group met on March 10th. The submission to be made to Shropshire Council is now in its final form and the priority is to make sure that the project is included in the draft LT4.

Further public consultation on the draft LTP is likely over the next few months and those parishes likely to benefit from a reopened railway station may wish to lobby newly elected Shropshire Councillors as well as Officers once the May 1st elections are decided and a new Administration has been formed.

Planning/Highways

Formal enforcement action was commenced in respect of **The Grange, Brownhill** by SC Officers on December 11th, 2024. An Appeal has now been lodged which effectively suspends the Enforcement Notice for the time being.

The recent planning application - 25/00134/FUL has been “called in”. My request has been acknowledged.

CIL funded road/safety improvements

There was some discussion at the Annual Parish meeting last week. I obviously share the frustration expressed by the Chair over the lack of communication from SC officers.

I have one additional suggestion that may help loosen the log jamb which I will discuss the councilor’s at the meeting.

Prescott Surgery

A lobbying campaign similar to that which I have suggested above (in respect of the railway station) after the May elections may help to ensure that recent progress is maintained.

Appendix B – West Mercia Police Report

Parish: Ryton XI Towns

Community priorities: Speeding, Drugs, Theft

Priority 1. – Traffic / Speeding

PC Mark Wirght has been out in the local area conducting speed enforcement operations and surveys. He has also been issuing fixed penalties for motoring offences and educating motorists on their road usage.

There was one reported accident within the area, there were no injuries and no necessity for police attendance, both vehicles were recovered and highways assisted.

Posts regarding awareness and enforcement have been disseminated across both Facebook and Neighbourhood matters.

Priority 2 – Drugs

There have been no official reports of drug issues within the area.

High visibility presence and mobile patrol are conducted within the village and intelligence is gathered and submitted.

Please pass on any information relating to drug offences including locations, vehicles and persons so further intelligence can be submitted and for officers to conduct positive targeting.

Priority 3 – Theft

There have been no official reports of theft within Ruyton XI Towns.

High visibility presence including foot and mobile patrol are conducted within the village, with any highlighted areas or areas of concern prioritised.

On the beat in Oswestry and Ellesmere

If there are any concerns regarding theft or suspected attempts, please pass this information on so the team can adjust their HVP routes and or times to fit.

Emerging trends - Requests for information - Other.

There is nothing of note for the month of March

Unfortunately, due to sickness and abstractions for other operations and events such as the recent Visit from the Duke of Edinburgh and the High Sherifs parade, the levels of presence within the area have not been as high as we had hoped.

Local SNT hold engagement opportunities, when possible, these engagements are a chance for residents to have their say, raise concerns, ask for advice or just to come and have a chat with the officers.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could help to encourage people to come along and speak with us, if we don't know there are issues, we cannot help or offer guidance.

We would also like to encourage yourselves and the local community to like and follow the Oswestry and Ellesmere Police dedicated Facebook page.

Please be reminded that it is not to be utilised in reporting crime and that to do so you must continue to follow the correct channels – 999, 101 or online submission via the West Mercia police website.

Appendix C –Clerks Report

Speed Enforcement Activity

Rural North Safer Neighbourhood PC completed Speed Enforcement in areas of concern raised by members of the public and local councils.

The team have been using a newer speed detection device which records any excess speed offences, which are processed and the registered keeper of the vehicle receiving correspondence from West Mercia police about the offence through the post.

The locations visited on Saturday 15th March included Whittington Road, Oswestry and the B5009 in Babbins wood. There were no vehicles captured exceeding the speeding thresholds with friendly conversations had with members of the public passing by on foot.

Doctors Meadow

An email received from Shropshire Council to advise that their contractors have contacted them to advise that they have been unable to gain access to the recreation ground due to there being a combination lock on the gate. Therefore, the grass has not been cut. The lock is no longer on the gate and Shropshire Council has been advised

B.T. Phone Box decommission List

A list of potential phone boxes in Shropshire that B.T. wish to decommission. None relate to Ruyton XI Towns

Emails circulated to councillors as Information: Project Gigabit -Stakeholder Update; ALC Chairmans Networking (Chair & Vice Chair); Cil – email from Nick Bardsley; Election information; Devolution; Local Policing Charter

Appendix D – Bank Reconciliation