



MINUTES of the Ruyton XI Towns Parish Council Annual Council meeting held at Victoria Rooms, Ruyton XI Towns on Tuesday 6th May 2025 at 7.00 pm

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

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs M Baker; and 9 members of the public.

The Chairman Cllr Coldwell presented a report to council on the last 12 months of her chairmanship – appendix 1

01/25 Election of the Chairman

Cllr Coldwell was nominated by Cllr Bibow and seconded by Cllr Hamlett. No other nominations were put forward. A vote was taken. The meeting **resolved** unanimously for Cllr Coldwell as Chairman of the Parish Council. Cllr Coldwell immediately signed the Acceptance of Office as Chairman.

02/25 Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllr Hamlett nominated Cllr Eyles as Vice-Chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Bibow. No other nominations were put forward. A vote was taken. The meeting **resolved** unanimously for Cllr Eyles as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council.

03/25 Welcome by the Chairman - a welcome was given by the Chairman.

04/25 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Penton & Michell

05/25 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

None

06/25 Public Session

Members of the public spoke on the following Agenda Items:

14/25 viii (a) – A resident informed the meeting that the recent questionnaire on Village Development caused confusion, with misinformation being circulated. She asked the council if it would have been more effective for the questionnaire to be mailed to all residents of Ruyton XI Towns and to include background information along with a clearer map. She stated that the questionnaire was poorly communicated. Councillor Eyles acknowledged that, in retrospect, providing some background information with the questionnaire might have been beneficial, and assured that the Parish Council will learn from this experience. The need for the questionnaire arose from advice by the local Shropshire Councillor, who suggested that the Parish Councils be proactive following the government's rejection of the local plans, which could expose the Parish to developers. Councillor Eyles informed the residents present that due to the rejection of the Local Plan and changes to the National Planning Framework, some land proposed by Shropshire Council might be reconsidered by Developers and Shropshire Council, which is why the Parish Council utilised Shropshire Council's shortlisted sites.

Cllr Eyles then explained that he had tried as a resident to put information on one of the media platforms that he felt, was putting out some misinformation but he and all other Parish Councillors had been barred.

Another resident inquired about the confusion regarding an end date displayed on the website. The Chairman clarified that there is currently no end date for the questionnaire. The Clerk further explained that the end date on the website was due to the fact that the questionnaire had been listed as an event, and that the website system does not permit events to extend beyond a block period of six-weeks.

A resident suggested that attending the meetings would enable individuals to stay informed about current events.

16/25 – A resident brought to the Parish Council's attention a contentious planning application. The Chairman advised that whilst the Parish Council was informed of the application, it was not open for comment. However, due to residents' concerns, the Parish Council and the Shropshire Councillor Cllr Nick Bardsley, have secured an extension to the timeline and granted permission by Shropshire Council to be able to comment. If the timeframe aligns with meeting date legislation, the Parish Council plans to hold an extraordinary meeting to consider the planning application, allowing residents to express their opinions.

07/25 Minutes of the meeting held 1st April 2025

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting on 1st April 2025 and these were approved and signed.

08/25 Councillor Vacancies - consideration was given to the co-option of one vacancy. The meeting **RESOLVED** that a Co-option Notice to be displayed in the Parish council noticeboards and website.

09/25 Appointment of Standing Committees

Consideration was given to council representation on the following committees:

- i) Staffing Committee – **RESOLVED** that Cllrs T Bibow, K Coldwell and M Eyles be on the committee.
- ii) Finance Committee – **RESOLVED** to defer until the meeting of 3rd June 2025
- iii) Countryside Committee working group - **RESOLVED** to defer until the meeting of 3rd June 2025
- iv) Roads Committee working group - **RESOLVED** to defer until the meeting of 3rd June 2025
- v) Any other proposed Committee - **RESOLVED** to defer until the meeting of 3rd June 2025

10/25 Outside Bodies

- i) Consideration was given to council representation on the following outside bodies:
- ii) SALC Area Committee representatives – **RESOLVED** to defer until the meeting of 3rd June 2025
- iii) Village Hall - **RESOLVED** to defer until the meeting of 3rd June 2025
- iv) Mathews, Minton Trust - **RESOLVED** to defer until the meeting of 3rd June 2025

11/25 Review of Council Policies

- i) **RESOLVED** approval of the presented draft amended Standing Orders
- ii) **RESOLVED** approval of the presented draft amended Financial Regulations
- iii) **RESOLVED** approval of the Risk Management Schedule dated 31/03/2025
- iv) **RESOLVED** approval of the Councils Asset Register dated 31/03/2025

All updated documents would be uploaded on the Parish Council's website.

12/25 Schedule of Meetings:

RESOLVED approval of the schedule of meetings (appendix 2) and for the Clerk to book the Victoria Rooms for the approved meeting dates.

13/25 Reports

- i) County Councillor Representative: due to the recent elections held by Shropshire Council there was not a report this evening. The meeting was advised that our new Shropshire Councillor was Cllr Robert Jones
- ii) SNT Police report was received and noted, (appendix 3)
- iii) Clerk's Report was received and noted, (appendix 4)

14/25 Parish Matters

- i. **Councils Insurance Renewal 25/26** – consideration was given to quotations for the renewal of the Councils insurance policy due to expire on 01/06/2025. **RESOLVED** for the Clerk to renew the Parish Councils Insurance for 2025/26 with Ansvar at a cost of £877.79.
- ii. **The Stone Cross** – Councillors were informed that the Parish Council had received a response from the Council's insurance company requesting justification for overseeing the works. The meeting was also informed that Phil White had recently provided the necessary justification. **RESOLVED** for the Clerk to notify the Councils insurance company on P Whites response relating to overseeing the works and costings.
- iii. **Land at Peverey Close** – an update was given by the Chairman Cllr Coldwell. **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Coldwell & Eyles contact the homeowners of the affected houses to advise them of the present situation, this will then be brought back to a future council meeting for due diligence.
- iv. **Parish Council Noticeboards** – New noticeboards have been installed. Cllr Coldwell, Cllr Eyles and the Clerk hold keys. A heading banner will be printed and displayed. **RESOLVED** to scrap the old noticeboards due to their poor condition.
- v. **Church Clock** - consideration for approval of the annual service of the clock at a cost £180.00. **RESOLVED** approval.
- vi. **VE Day Celebrations** - An update on the VE Day celebrations on 5th and 8th May was provided by the Chairman. The Chairman and the Council noted that the event on Monday, 5th May was very well-attended, with all items sold out, and The Dog public house was fully occupied. The event successfully brought people together. The Chairman advised that a full report will be given at the next meeting after both events have taken place.
- vii. **Doctors Meadow** – the meeting was advised that a rounders team had shown interest in using the field. This would be included in the items to be mentioned at the site meeting with Shropshire Council.
- viii. **Future Development of our Village Questionnaire** -
 - a. a preliminary update on questionnaire responses was received. The Clerk advised that a resident had requested that their survey response be pulled from the results. The clerk confirmed that she has done so. **RESOLVED** that an update to responses would be brought to the next meeting of the council and that the closing date for responses would be 25th June where it would be discussed again at the meeting to be held in July.
 - b. a resident's email and the Clerks response was circulated to members. **Matter of report**
- ix. **Parish Council Action List** –the circulated draft working document was **received and noted**. The Clerk to add to the report: Councils support of the Village Hall, War Memorial Maintenance as well as adding 977 & 978 of the Place Plan
- x. **SALC** –consideration was given for the renewal of SALC Affiliation fees at a cost of £645.65 per annum. **RESOLVED** approval.

15/25 Financial Reports

- i. **RESOLVED** approval of the latest reconciliation of banking statements.
- ii. **RESOLVED** approval of the schedule of payments dated 6th April 2025 and note any income received.

Payments:

Ent Date:	Payment Method	Inv No:	Description of Payment	Amount	VAT Amount
04/04/2025	BP	8	Reimbursement to Cllr Paton - APM Drinks	57.79	
04/04/2025	BP	9	Reimbursement to R Guest - Booking fee for Ruby Rockabella	440.00	
15/04/2025	BP	10	DM Payroll services	66.00	
15/04/2025	BP	11	VE Day 80 LTD - M Baker - Reimbursement - VE Day Flag	72.20	
01/05/2025	BP	13	D E Peate - Land Maintenance	352.50	
01/05/2025	BP	14	Amazon - Reimbursement M Baker - Phone	68.30	11.38
30/04/2025	BP	15	Unity Bank - Bank Charges	6.00	
22/04/2025	D/Debit	16	Shropshire Council - 2 x Additional E1 Licences	32.92	5.49
28/04/2025	D/Debit	17	Hugo Fox - Website Hosting Fee -	35.99	6.00
01/05/2025	BP	18	Wages	849.71	
01/05/2025	BP	19	HMRC - Tax & N.I.	312.88	
			Total Payments	£2,294.29	£22.87

Receipts:

Ent Date		Amount
25/04/2025	Shropshire Council (Precept)	33744.00
		£33,744.00

- iii. **RESOLVED** approval of the Accounts for the Financial Year 2024/25 and were immediately signed by the chairman (appendix 5)

16/25 Planning Decisions and Applications

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

17/25 Future agenda items

- Severn Trent Water
- Review of the maintenance of Doctors Meadow

18/25 Date of the next meeting

The next meeting shall be held on June 3rd, 7pm at the Victoria Rooms.

Meeting closed at 8.36pm

RXIT PC AGM 6th May 2025

Chairman's Report

On behalf of the Parish Council I would like to welcome you all to the AGM.

This year has been an eventful one however one event that has been on the cards for some time, the CIL road project, is no nearer completion. The latest contact indicates that there will be no movement on this until after the election period and we are now not expecting anything to be done until early 2026.

We hope to work with the new Shropshire Councillor to progress this.

I would like to thank Nick Bardsley, our Shropshire Council representative for many years for his support, for attending almost every council meeting and for working diligently on behalf of this Parish. On behalf of the Parish Council and the residents of the parish we would like to wish him a happy retirement and we look forward to working with his replacement.

During the year we welcomed Rachel Paton as a councillor which brought us up to a full complement however, due to work commitments, Kate Mayne has stepped down so we have a vacancy to fill. We also welcomed Maxine Baker who commenced employment as our clerk on the 10th March following Sarah's decision in December to move on.

Parish issues:

Water leaks,

- The Parish Council continue to monitor and put pressure on Severn Trent and Shropshire Council regarding water leaks and road closures. Thanks are again due to Cllr Trevor Alison who is consistent in monitoring these closures and the effects on road users and bus timetables. I would like to draw your attention to the various road closures in Baschurch during April/May that will affect patients of Prescott Surgery. Details can be found on the Parish Council website using the link to the interactive live map under Shropshire Council info, Roadworks.

Cross Monument.

- During the year some progress has been made with the repairs to the cross. The repair was put out for tender and tenders were submitted to the insurance company however we are still waiting for a response in this regard.

War Memorial:

- The cleaning of the War Memorial has been carried out during the year and the new plaque, commemorating those previously excluded, is now in place, thanks to Irena White. Further cleaning will be scheduled for consideration every 5 years.

Broadband:

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- Improved broadband services with both Airband and Freedom Fibre are now beginning to be installed however it is still patchy in places.

New PC Website

- During the Summer of 2024 we successfully transitioned to our new website hosted by Hugo Fox. This new site includes easy to use links to many useful informative and interactive sites including the Village Hall, with its live booking pages, and local schools as well as police & Shropshire Council services links. Particularly useful is the live link to road closures.

Village Hall

- During the year the decision was taken to apply for both the Village Hall and the Memorial Hall, Café XI, to be registered with the Land Registry and the Parish Council as owners and custodian trustees are footing the bill for this. To this end the deeds have been lodged with a solicitor however we are on the hunt for a later set of deeds for the memorial hall from 1975, once located the registration for that building can also be finalised.
- The Parish Council is also supporting the Village Hall Committee by funding necessary repair works, to the brick work and chimney, that does not attract grant support.
- Due to the accessibility issues the Village Hall Committee took the decision to engage an architect for a professional assessment and the Parish Council are funding the feasibility report that you will hear more about shortly in the Village Hall report. This has been an ongoing issue for many years and we hope to be able to progress this to a satisfactory conclusion that meets residents approval.

Planning:

- Following the adoption of the new National Planning Policy Framework and the lack of an effective Local Plan in Shropshire and, as reported at the well-attended Annual Parish Meeting (APM), our retiring Shropshire Councillor Nick Bardsley urged the Parish to be proactive in regard to planning.

A very informal questionnaire was first introduced at the Annual Parish Meeting to encourage residents of the parish to become more aware of what the future might hold for the area. Residents are encouraged, and will continue to be encouraged, to talk about these issues and let the Parish Council know what their views are.

Currently there is no new information and, as stated at the APM, the concern is that Shropshire Council could fall back on their previous plans and adopt a free for all attitude to planning under pressure from the government to find space for more homes in all parishes under their control. Should there be any new information from the new government regarding this very important issue the Parish Council will

inform residents through the usual channels and may consider holding a public meeting.

QE II Jubilee Field

To commemorate King Charles III Coronation the Parish Council engaged with the national program for planting trees and specifically Community Orchards. The orchard is flourishing however further work is needed to encourage the wildflower section.

The Parish Council took possession of the section of the field on which the orchard is planted in March this year.

The Parish Council also took possession of other small pockets of land and has started to contact residents affected to act as facilitator to enable them to add these anomalous sections to their properties should they wish to do so.

The Parish Council has continued to support

- St Johns The Baptist Primary School with funding for specific items to benefit the local children and with maintenance of the AED's
- Ruyton Amateur Dramatic Society, RATS, with grants
- Village Hall as above but also with donations to the yearly show
- We are also continuing to fund the Church clock maintenance.

Finally,

VE 80 Day, wow what a day.

It was marvellous to see so many residents enjoying all the aspects of yesterday. It was a fantastic joint effort. As it was only yesterday a full report will have to wait till the next meeting.

Thank you to everyone.

Cllr Kerry Coldwell
Ruyton XI Towns Parish Council.

2025 Meetings

4th February

4th March

25th March Annual Parish Meeting

1st April

6th May

3rd June

1st July

2nd September

7th October

4th November

2nd December

6th January 2026



Oswestry Rural South

Safer Neighbourhood Team parish council
report

Date:
03/05/2025

.Oswestry Rural South

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

PC Wright Mobile: 07977957689

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Carroll Mobile: 07970544372

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Mabe Mobile: 07870219669

Community priorities:

- 1. Speeding**
- 2. Country Lines**
- 3. Theft**

Priority 1.

There have been no reports of speeding during the April time period.

We have had a report of drink driving locally. We have put this forward to our road policing team and the person may be breathalysed at any time seen behind the wheel of any vehicle.

Priority 2.

Nothing reported over this period.

Priority 3.

Nothing to report over this period.

Emerging trends - Requests for information - other.

oswestryrs.snt@westmercia.police.uk

Clerks Report

Year end Accounts and Audit

The year end accounts have been completed and presently I am working through the Internal Auditors check list and compiling the documents.

A review of Standing Orders & Financial legislation - All legal updates have been included in the revised documents

Asset Register has been updated by the previous Clerk to include purchases made in 2024/5

Action Report has been compiled; this is a working document – Cllrs who wish to add anything then if you email be I will include for next month

Analysis of the Survey of Future Development of our Village.

Analysis of the questionnaires has been compiled; not all of the questionnaires have yet been added to the analysis. This will be done once the internal audit has been completed by me.

Insurance

Quotations for the Insurance has been obtained. I have been in communication with the Councils insurance regarding the Parish's claim for the stone cross.

**RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS 2024-25**

Receipts & Payments, as at 31/03/2025

Balance b/f			£ 78,289.86
	Budget 2024/25	Receipts & Payments	% Under / over budget
<u>Receipts</u>			
Precept	31920.00	31920.00	0.00%
VAT refund	1700.00	1043.26	
CIL	0.00	1492.55	100.00%
Bank interest	20.00	324.43	
Other	0.00	1759.52	100.00%
VAT refund (from suppliers)	0.00	0.00	
	33640.00	36539.76	8.62%
<u>Payments</u>			
Wages	14500.00	14275.78	-1.55%
Administration costs (incl. bank charges)	2000.00	2060.35	3.02%
Audit fees	500.00	435.85	-12.83%
Affiliation fees & subs	800.00	631.81	-21.02%
Insurance	1500.00	805.74	-46.28%
Training (incl. cllr mileage)	500.00	150.00	-70.00%
Street lighting & maintenance	2000.00	1852.15	-7.39%
Village and grounds maintenance	2550.00	3617.04	41.84%
Village floral displays	1200.00	1104.75	-7.94%
AED project	0.00	0.00	
Local grants (s.137)	1000.00	1650.00	65.00%
Contingency	2000.00	0.00	-100.00%
Safer roads	3000.00	76.19	-97.46%
Cliffe maintenance	3000.00	3000.00	0.00%
VAT	2000.00	1623.35	-18.83%
Land Costs		5500.00	100.00%
Village Hall	5000.00	0.00	-100.00%
	41550.00	36783.01	-11.47%
s.137 (max total spend)	9403.71	0.00	
Earmarked Reserves balances	Current Bal.		
War memorials	3201.00	3171.00	
	3201.00	3171.00	
Total payments		39954.01	
Receipts over payments		-3414.25	
Uncleared receipts		0.00	
Uncleared payments		0.00	0.00
Cashbook balance			74875.61
Balance as Unity Trust Bank Statement			59274.62
Balance as Nationwide Bank statement			15600.99

Combined bank balance
Uncleared Payments & Income total

74875.61

0.00

74875.61

Meeting date: 06.05.2025

Chairman signature.....