

Culmington Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday 1st April 2025

Present: Councillors Mr M Seabrook (Chair), Mr A Pike (Vice Chair), Mr Ian Alderson, Mrs C Byng, Mrs M Holland, Ms J Mear, Mr I Steele, Mr J Turley and Ms J Watts.

In Attendance: H Coonick (Clerk/RFO).

1. **Receive and Accept Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Cecilia Motley (Shropshire Council)
2. **Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting:** Cllr Jo Mear (item 6.1) - non-pecuniary interest.
3. **Public Involvement Session:** No members of the public were in attendance.
4. **Minutes:** To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th March 2025.
RESOLVED: that the minutes were correct and signed by the chair.
5. **Reports from Members**
 - 5.1. Shropshire Council – Cllr Motley had sent her apologies.
 - 5.2. Village Hall Committee – Cllr Mear reported that the AGM will be on the 20th May. The planning application has been resubmitted.
6. **Planning:**
 - 6.1. [25/00968/FUL](#) Proposed single storey extension, Village Hall, Culmington, SY8 2DB, OS REFERENCE: 348956 – 282011 APPLICANT: Culmington Parish Council. Cllr Mear was not involved in the debate.
RESOLVED: to support the application.
7. **Highways**
 - 7.1. Update on Desilting the Outflow Pipe on Land on Seifton Lane: Cllr Mear reported that John Bellis, Shropshire Council's Flood Risk Manager, had visited the site and agreed for the desilting to be carried out.
 - 7.2. Review and Agree the Environmental Maintenance Grant Application:
RESOLVED: to request a grant of £1,500 for the year 2025-26.
 - 7.3. Confirm the Council's Expenditure of the Environmental Maintenance Grant was in Accordance with the Grant Specification.
RESOLVED: to confirm that the grant for 2024-25 had been spent in accordance with the grant specification.
 - 7.4. Consider the Installation of Village Gateways: the verges to the southwest of the village near the speed limit signs is 1.7 metres. This would allow for a 960mm gateway. A single gateway without installation is in the region of £475 from a commercial supplier. The clerk was asked to investigate the cost of installation and the effectiveness of gateways. Cllr Turley asked the Clerk to investigate whether there was still a weight limit on the bridge on the B4365 on the racecourse.
RESOLVED: to include this matter on the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting under expenditure of the Neighbourhood Fund.
8. **Update on the Blocked Bridleway:** a response had been received from Mr Bamber, Shropshire Council's Rights of Way Officer (Legal Orders & Enforcement). He stated that there is a 'disparity between the volume of work that our team has to deal with and the resources available to the team' which has 'increased since the Parish Council initially contacted us with their concerns' in January 2024.
RESOLVED: to make a formal complaint to Shropshire Council about the lack of action regarding this bridleway.
9. **Decide on the Retention of the Telephone Box at Culmington:**
RESOLVED: to respond to Shropshire Council team that the telephony should be retained as this area is at risk of flooding, is on a diversion route for the A49 and there

Culmington Parish Council

are no other public telephone boxes on the diversion route. The option of adopting the telephone box, should BT decide to decommission it, be added to the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting Agendas.

10. **Agree the Agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm on the 13th May 2025:**
RESOLVED: to include items on consideration of the expenditure of the Neighbourhood Fund to include the Village Hall extension, Repairs to All Saints Church and Village Gateways. Also, the possible adoption of the telephone box in Culmington Village.
11. **Finance:**
 - 11.1. Authorise Payments: H Coonick (reimbursement for Inks and postage) £33.47, D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) Inv 718 £45.00
RESOLVED: to make the above payments.
 - 11.2. Review the Draft Annual Finance Report and Bank Reconciliation:
RESOLVED: to present the Annual Finance Report at the Annual Parish Meeting.
12. **Items for the Annual Parish Council Meeting after the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 13th May 2025:** a. Village Gateways b. Potential Adoption of Telephone Box c. update on blocked bridleway d. Dates and Times of Future Meetings.

Councillors wished to thank Cllr John Turley for his service to the Parish Council for 55 years. He will not be standing again at the election. His understanding of the history of the parish will be very much missed. He was nominated by the Parish Council to attend the Shropshire Garden Party in recognition of his time as a councillor.

Signed by the Chair:

Date:

Members of the public can request items to be included in future agendas by contacting the Clerk.