

# Culmington Parish Council

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2025

**Present:** Councillors Mr M Seabrook (Chair), Mr Ian Alderson, Mrs C Byng, Mr J Caine, Mrs J Disley, Mrs J Mear, and Mrs J Williams. **In Attendance:** H Coonick (Clerk/RFO).

1. **Receive Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Mr A Lewis, Ms J Watts. Cllrs C Stanford and J Owen (Shropshire Council).
2. **Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting:** None
3. **Public Involvement Session:** Mr Andrew Mear reported that the desilting work on Seifton Brook on Mr Turley's land had been completed on behalf of Shropshire Council. Over a metre of silt and gravel have been removed from the exit of the pipe running under Seifton Lane and water is now running well. It is hoped that this will stop flooding on Seifton Lane. The Council will send a letter to Mr Turley thanking him for arranging for the work to be done on his land.
4. **Minutes:** To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September  
**RESOLVED:** that the minutes were correct and they were signed by the chair.
5. **Cllr James Owen (Portfolio Holder for Housing and Leisure Shropshire Council) re the Blocked Bridleway** Cllr Owen had sent apologies due to ill health. The Clerk has informed him that she will contact him for an update prior to the next Parish Council meeting.
6. **Reports from Members**
  - 6.1 Shropshire Council – Cllr Colin Stanford had sent a report - The Council has declared a “financial emergency” and the interim chief executive Tanya Miles insists that all non-essential spending must stop and that all areas of Council spending must be scrutinised to find savings. In a statement this week she made it clear that if savings were not found the Council would be in an illegal position and it would be taken over by central government. Work on our roads continues with the introduction of two Multihog vehicles and it has been pleasing to see many potholes repaired and some larger projects being completed. It was very good news to learn that Shropshire Council Children's Services were recently acknowledged as “outstanding” at their OFSTED inspection. This is recognition of the dedication and care of all the staff who often work in very challenging circumstances.
  - 6.2 Village Hall Committee– Cllr Mear reported that Care Coordinators from Station Drive Surgery are coming to the Lunch Club on the 16<sup>th</sup> October when individuals will be able to meet with them privately. West Mercia Neighbourhood Team will attend on the 13<sup>th</sup> October. There were 107 entries in the Tractor Run which was very successful and she thanked everyone involved. The committee are looking at whether it would be possible to fence off an area of the ground to improve the safety of children at events as suggested by the Parish Council.
  - 6.3 Flood Action Group – Cllr Disley reported that at the meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October Slow the Flow reported that they were making good progress with work at Seifton Batch, Burley Farm and Westhope. There is also work being conducted further up the Corvedale. Shropshire Council are looking at broken and blocked drains.
7. **Consider the Letter from James Walton (Executive Director, Shropshire Council) and the Memorandum of Understanding:**  
**RESOLVED:** to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.
8. **Update on Letter to the Police and Crime Commissioner and the MP about the Reduction in Policing Budgets and the Effect on Rural Crime and Speeding:** Cllrs Seabrook, Alderson and the Clerk had met with Tracey Onslow from the Police and Crime Commissioners Department to discuss the issues raised. She will contact Nick

# Culmington Parish Council

Newnton, Shropshire Council's Traffic Engineer about improvements to road engineering on the B4368. She is in support of the changes to the speed limits in Culmington Village proposed by Shropshire Council and will look at ways the PCC can assist. She will also ask the Rural and Business Officer (RABO) from West Mercia Police to visit the Parish Council to offer support with rural crime prevention.

9. **Update on Actions Regarding Danger from Vehicles on the B4368:** the clerk has reported various overgrown, faded and missing signs on the B4368 to Fix My Street some of which have already been dealt with by Shropshire Council. Nick Newton has been asked to make a visit to the area to look at what can be done to improve the road safety and Cllr Stanford is in discussions with him about supporting the installation of children crossing lights at Manor Adventure.
10. **Agree Response to the Police and Crime Commissioner Survey**  
**RESOLVED** for Cllr Alderson to complete the survey on behalf of the Council.
11. **Agree the Policing Priorities for the Next Six Months**  
**RESOLVED** to set the priorities as Farm Thefts, Speeding and Wildlife Crime
12. **Consider Methods of Managing Flood Waters from Seifton Lane on the B4365:** it is hoped that the work conducted to desilt the drain which runs under Seifton Lane will prevent it from flooding. The Clerk will discuss further options with the landowners concerned.
13. **Consider the Response from the Land Registry re: Culmington Village Hall:** the Village Hall Committee have sought further information from Community Resource. Deferred to the next meeting.
14. **Review and Adopt Policies:**
  - 14.1 Equality and Diversity Policy
  - 14.2 Grievance Policy
  - 14.3 Health and Safety Policy**RESOLVED:** to adopt the above policies.
15. **Finance:**
  - 15.1 Consider the Finance Report and Bank Reconciliation: As of the 18<sup>th</sup> August the bank account held £12,022.40 which reconciled with the cash book. Expenditure is within budget. As of the 29<sup>th</sup> September expenditure was £5,552.92 and Income £6,534.81
  - 15.2 Agree Items for Inclusion in the Budget for 2026-2027: Choke kit and fencing for the village hall, defibrillator maintenance.
  - 15.3 Authorise Payments:
    - 15.3.1. H Coonick (Clerk reimbursement - inks) £29.97
    - 15.3.2. D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) £156.75**RESOLVED:** to make payments above.
16. **Items for the Parish Council Meeting at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2025:**
  - a. Consider the draft budget
  - b. Review response from Shropshire Council re blocked bridleway.
  - c. Consider the Response to the Land Registry re: Culmington Village Hall
  - d. Consider further action re road safety on the B4368.
  - E. update on repairs to the Vehicle Activate Sign near the Village Hall

Signed:

Date: