

Cressage, Harley & Sheinton Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at Cressage Village Hall Tuesday 14th May 2024 at 7.00 pm

In attendance: Cllrs Laura Christmas, Victoria Todd, Rob Davies, Matt Murray, John Esp, Colin Campbell, Shropshire Councillor Claire Wild, six members of the public, and the Parish Clerk (Vanessa Voysey)

1. Welcome and Opening Comments

Cllr Victoria Todd welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

There were none at this time

3. To approve the minutes of previous meetings – 9th May 2023

The minutes of the meeting of 9th May 2022 were accepted as a true record

4. Parish Council Report

The Chairman of Parish Council (Cllr Victoria Todd) had prepared a written report that highlighted the following items of note from the last year:

- The Parish Council has been frustrated at the length of time it takes to get a decision from Shropshire Council
- Cressage Bridge has been repaired, there are still some concerns about erosion on road edges.
- Complaints about the bus service and its impact on college students have settled down with the service now running regularly and on time
- An application for 4 self-build houses on the Eagles Inn car park site is now going to appeal against Shropshire Council's decision
- Flooding, notably on Kenley Road and Dooms Lane, Harley, has been reported to Shropshire Council. Remedial works should progress when conditions allow.
- Concerns about parking on Sheinton Road are ongoing, however, the situation has eased with thanks to the school and surgery for the reminders given to car users to be considerate in the parking habits

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- Trees, shrubs and hedges overhanging on to footpaths, roads and verges has been an issue in Cressage with residents being reminded of their responsibility of need impeding road users
- The annual play area inspection has highlighted that it might be time to replace the rubber matting, upgrading play equipment will be part of future discussions
- Bidding for funding to enhance the village gateway through the Police Commissioner's fund has been shelved, but the t Parish Council has re-affirmed speeding through the village as a community concern via the Policy Community Charter
- The three concerns registered through the Police Community Charter are speeding, road safety and out-building theft
- Some clearing has taken place on the Severn Way footpath near Cressage Bridge. Parish Councillors have considered forming a working party to maintain and improve footpaths and would like residents to consider this as an option.
- Savings on street lighting has been looked into and research will continue.
- The Parish Council has set up a Facebook page for information. Information is also available on its website <https://www.cressageharleysheinton.co.uk>

Cllr Todd thanked the Parish Councillors for their support over the year

5. Shropshire Council Report

Shropshire Cllr Claire Wild noted that she had received a lot of correspondence about the the Schools Library Service. She explained that it is a trading service that is shared with other authorities, Powys, Telford, Worcestershire and Staffordshire. Other authorities do not contribute to the cost at this time, if all contributed £5K to £10K there would be a surplus. Currently 65% of Schools in Shropshire use the service; it is used for curriculum teaching as well as for book loaning.

Shropshire Council will be running a consultation on the future of the service until 6th June 2024.

6. Reports from Village Organisations

A report was given from the head teacher of the school: Thanks was given to the Parish Council for the £500 grant towards the purchase of a bench.

The Village Hall reported that the facility is now open and is being hired out, some users have gone elsewhere because of Covid and the long closure, but it is doing OK. The next issue to deal with is the car park, as it lies above the damp-coursing line. Fundraising is planned.

7. Open forum where members of the public may raise any subject for the exchange of information and general discussion.

i) Broadband

A member of the public asked if there had been consultations in Cressage regarding the plans of broadband company Kloud 9, he was advised that there had been a session in the Village Hall. Cllr Claire Wild advised speaking to the Connecting Shropshire team at Shropshire Council.

ii) Flooding the Play Area

A member of the public raised the issue of standing water in the Under 11s Play Area.

The Chairman, Cllr Victoria Todd, said that the works had been done to clear the drains and that this may need to be looked into again.