

Cressage, Harley & Sheinton Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held at Cressage Village Hall on Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllrs Laura Christmas, Robert Davies, John Esp, Matthew Murray, Victoria Todd (Chairman), Shropshire Councillor Claire Wild, 7 members of the public, and the Parish Clerk (Vanessa Voysey)

23.74 Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

23.75 To note Apologies

An apology was received and accepted from Kal Parkash (alternative commitment)

23.76 To note Declarations of Pecuniary Interest or consider dispensation requests.

There were none at this time

23.77 Public session.

A parishioner asked if the Parish Council would be making a response regarding the closure of the church at Cressage. A sign about it had been placed on the church noticeboard, and the process of review had started 6 years ago, but it was felt that as a practical Victorian working church with no sponsor its fate had been sealed from the start. Cllr Victoria Todd said that the Parish Council had received information about the closure, but did not think that it would have any sway on the decision, and said that in her personal view it was a 'fait accompli'. Whilst there was agreement on this point, there was concern that there would be another empty derelict building in the village alongside the Eagles.

A resident raised a concern about the width of the carriageway at Sheinton Common, where cones had been put in place around works on the highway. Cllr Matt Murray said that a drainage problem was being worked on with Shropshire Council and that this was a temporary measure. Cllr Claire Wild confirmed that this was an ongoing issue, floods and drainage is a works area that is under pressure and very busy.

It was noted by residents present that an additional coach service put in place to assist with reported pressures on the bus service to Shrewsbury within the last ten days. This had been successful.

23.78 Council to consider and agree the Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th October 2023

It was proposed, seconded, and resolved to agree the Minutes from the meeting held on 10th October 2023 as a true record

23.79 Shropshire Councillor's Report

Cllr Claire Wild reported that preparatory works were due to take place on Cressage Bridge on 5th and 6th December. Repairs are due to take place between January and May, including the carriageway.

Cllr Rob Davies requested that issues regarding footpaths be pursued, issues had been reported and acknowledged but no work had been done as yet.

23.80 Planning matters:

- i. **Decisions to note** there were none at this time
- ii. **Determine response to any new Planning Applications**

22/05214/EIA - Farley Quarry: Restoration of part of Farley Quarry by means of the recycling of construction, demolition and excavation wastes and the engineered placement of the rejects from the recycling process to raise levels in the Quarry to create a restoration landform, together with ancillary activities and improvements to the site access.

This item was noted, a response would be too late as it had been heard by the Southern Planning Committee on the afternoon of the Parish Council Meeting

23.81 Highways matters:

Councillors reported that a pothole on Severn Way had been logged on Fix My Street.

Cllr Victoria Todd said that she would be following up matters regarding the visibility of the Give Way sign on Station Road. Cllr John Esp said that the request to straighten the 30mph sign on the A458 also needed a reminder.

23.82 Financial matters:

- i. It was proposed, seconded, and resolved to agree payment of the following invoices and charges:

Payee	Item	Amount	Date of Invoice
Clerk	Salary month 8	£gross 627.47	30/11/2023
HMRC	Tax month 8	£tbc	31/10/2023
Clerk	Travel November	£15.39	14/11/2023
Clerk	Dog waste bags	£9.99	12/10/2023
Water Plus (direct debit)	Pavilion Water	£19.53	22/10/2023
Ecotricity (direct debit)	Pavilion heat/light	£22.84	6/11/2023
SLB Groundcare	Monthly maintenance	£696.24	5/11/2023

- ii. It was agreed to note: receipts and expenditure to end October

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- iii. It was agreed to note Bank Reconciliation to end October
- iv. It was agreed to note Spend Against Budget to end October
- v. It was agreed to re-tender the Environmental Maintenance Contract
- vi. It was agreed to implement the Local Government Pay Agreement 2023

23.83 Other Parish Matters – to include report back from meetings/training courses attended

- i. A grant has been filed with the National Lottery Funding to cover the costs of updating the 11s play area with for more accessible equipment. A decision has not been made yet.
- ii. The requested replacement bin has not been in put in place, it was agreed that this needs a chase-up
- iii. Footpaths – there has been no update on footpath issues, Cllr Matt Murray suggested that if nothing had been heard by the end of the year that the Parish Council considers doing the work on the bridge and bills Shropshire Council for it
- iv. Streetlights: it was agreed that more information is needed on costings before considering taking any action. Cllr Matt Murray said he would follow this up. Cllr Rob Davies said that in the recent power cut there had been accidents, and that there was some public concern about safety issues if there were to be a reduction in street lighting. He advocated taking the matter to residents before making a decision.
- v. Parking on Sheinton Road: it was reported that for the present the situation has moderately improved
- vi. Bus service: an update on issues regarding Shrewsbury service was covered in the public forum
- vii. Village Hall Bookings – it was noted that Cressage Village Hall Committee had agreed to put up the cost to £15 a session from £10 a session. Cllr Victoria Todd questioned if the Parish Council could not get charged per session rather than per hour.

23.84 Items for consideration at next Council meeting, not for debate or decision

Draft budget

23.85 Date & time of next Council meeting – 12th December 2023 at Harley Village Hall at 7.00 pm