

SHAWBURY PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON TUESDAY 8 TH. JULY 2025 AT 7.00pm.

PUBLIC SESSION

There were 4 members of the public present.

Present:

Mr. M. Roberts (Chairman)

Mr. J. Vernon (Vice Chairman)

Mrs. J. Manley

Mr. P. Fenton

Mr. A. G. Foster

Mr. K. Pickering

Mr. T. Davies-Moss

Cllr. A. Williams Shropshire Council Division: Shawbury

In Attendance:

The Parish Clerk (Mr. D. Evans)

25/198 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting. Chairman proposed that the Council move to point 9 on the agenda, for planning 25/02210/OUT, applicant Mr. Robert Pinches.

25/199 Apologies:

Apologies received from Mr. C. Forshaw, Mrs. J. Herbert, Mr. D Thomas Cooper.

No apology received from Mr. W. Moss-Jones

25/200 Disclosure of Personal or Prejudicial Interests

No interests were declared.

25/201 Planning application 25/02210/OUT

Cllr. Roberts invited Mr. R. Pinches to present his planning application for land adjacent to Park House, Shawbury, SY4 4NP-5 dwellings and vehicular access.

Mr. Pinches stated that electric transformers on site may remain in situ, and brick-built building, a pump room, maybe demolished. Mr. Pinches further stated that the site is a brownfield site and that it is within a 30 MPH area of the village. Cllr. Roberts asked about groundworks and underground items being removed, questioned the ownership of the grass verge, roadside, southbound on the A53 (towards Shrewsbury) as this is where any access would be to the site/homes if constructed. Cllr. Roberts raised a 'deceleration lane' for safety purposes at the site entrance. Mr. Pinches stated that a 'bell mouth' entrance would be formed if planning permission granted. Once more, safety concerns were raised as despite this being a 30 MPH zone, it is on the edge of the village and very few vehicles comply with the 30 MPH speed limit. Cllr. Roberts felt that there were road traffic matters that were not satisfied, such as whether or not the 30 MPH zone was actually legally enforceable.

Cllr. Manley asked if there would be a footpath installed for the residents to access the development, Mr. Pinches replied there was a footpath; Cllr Manly asked once more if there would e a footpath, on the southern side of the road, A53 direction of Shrewsbury. Mr. Pinches said it could be included as part of the planning. Clerk, Mr. D. Evans to raise as part of the Council response to planning application.

Cllr. Manley raised if redundant equipment was being left in situ, a gravity pipe, sewerage pump.

Mr. Pinches believed that the pump and old equipment would be left in situ as it had previously been used Smithers (a company based in Shawbury).

Cllr. Roberts requested that a 'run off/deceleration lane' and footpath be added to the application and if the ownership of the pump was Severn Trent or not to be discovered. Council position was neutral.

25/202 Minutes of Meeting held on 10th of June 2025

The Chairman confirmed that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th of June 2025 were approved and signed as a true record, in the presence of Vice Chairman Cllr. J. Roberts and Cllr. A. Foster at an emergency meeting on the 24th of June 2025. This was undertaken as the Parish Council banking signatories required updating with the Council's bank, and this was an exceptional action. Full Council agreed that it was a necessary measure and that the signed minutes had been distributed.

The minutes of the meeting having been circulated were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

25/203 Matters arising

- a) Cllr. Roberts confirmed that all responses to the Call for Information and Open Letter from A. Wagner were to be returned to the Clerk for collation and return by 1st of August 2025.
- b) Cllr. A. Foster raised that the street signs inspected by the Clerk had not recorded those street signs that required remedial actions. Clerk response was that the following signs had been inspected and photographed, and the photos distributed: White Lodge Park, No Ball Games (old NSDC) Park Avenue, Church Close, Leasows Park, Church Street leading to Poynton Road, Poynton Road, River Gardens, Shawbury entrance to village on Wytheford Rd, Willow Place, Bridge Wat and Oak Drive. The only two signs identified as needing repair are Bridge Way and Oak Drive. Cllr. Foster was requested to provide photographs of any issues he believed required intervention; as the Clerk had reported on this matter.
- c) Nobridge walkabout with Clerk: No cut by fruit trees as no strimming guards in place to protect bark. Three trees have died due to no water, Cllr. J. Vernon stated that six trees are dead, agreed that no cut will take place at location. It was confirmed that the trails through the Glebe would be cut at one metre either side, there is not a cutting schedule as this would be an additional cost to the Council. Nobridge agreed to a request from Cllr. Pickering to remove excess cut material at the bottom of the burial ground, by the boundary. Cllr. Vernon asked who is responsible for weedkilling, not known, to be confirmed. Overhanging trees were raised as an issue in proximity to the trails-confirmed that Nobridge do not undertake tree works. Access to Trees suggested for the tree management, or RAF personnel using Council tools; Clerk raised the tree survey which had been submitted. Matt Thorpe to cut back trees, location to be confirmed with Cllr. J. Vernon and also clean the 20 M.P.H. sign by doctors surgery.
- d) Playgrounds, contractor, Ray Parry was unable to meet with Clerk at agreed time due to medical reasons. Clerk e-mailed a schedule of actions identified in the play area report that require attention.
- e) Cllr. Roberts proposed a policy for a debit card authority, limit of single transaction £250.00 or multiple transactions to a value of £250.00 per month. Proposed by Cllr. Manley and seconded by Cllr. Davies-Moss.

25/204 Correspondence

Members discussed the correspondence received by the Clerk since the last meeting. Sports England letter and attached audit documents appear to relate to a football field on Poynton Road, which is historical, this football field is not a Council asset or under the control of the Council; the Clerk had spoken with Tracie Howells and the correspondence has been forwarded to Shawbury Football Club.

Neighbourhood Plans & Campaign Pack-neighbourhood plans are to have funding withdrawn following an announcement by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG); after March 2025 no new applications for grants can be made and learning and support will cease with immediate effect. Cllr. Manley requested what the difference was between an NP and a Parish Plan; Clerk response that an NP is a statutory planning document, and a Parish Plan was a community wide plan for the Parish and not just planning. It was agreed by all that the Clerk will send the letters of response to Helen Morgan M.P.

25/205 Accounts

A discussion was held regarding the Council finances. It was noted that payments were outstanding for the following:

PAYEE	AMOUNT
-------	--------

Mr. Mike Varndell	£1050.00
Mr. Matthew Thorpe	£1133.24
Mr. Matthew Thorpe	£800.00
HMRC	£1226.39
Mr. Richard Bailey	£284.00
Mr. D. Evans (Clerk salary)	£2382.96

It was further discussed that the Council was unable to pay Parish Online for the new website and until the payment was made the new website would not be available on-line. In 2021 there were alterations to the persons authorized as signatories on the accounts held by the Parish Council; despite changes to the members of the Council the signatories were not updated. In October 2024 the bank contacted the Parish Clerk (former Clerk) for an update and a move to digital banking; this did not occur.

Bank Signatories—it was agreed by all that Cllr. Roberts, Cllr. Vernon, Cllr. Foster and Clerk Mr. D. Evans would be added to the Natwest (Royal Bank of Scotland) accounts. (As per point 25/202)

25/206 Exchange of Information

- a) The Clerk raised the defibrillator and the cost of replacement. The defibrillator requires replacement at a cost to the Council of £1000.00 and that the defibrillator requires re-siting, as the premises which it is mounted on has been sold (privately owned property). Due to the Co-Op retail premises also being redeveloped there are limited locations, in the centre of the village where the apparatus could be mounted. It was recommended that the Public House, the Elephant and Castle is approached for permission to mount the defibrillator. Cllr. T. Davies-Moss will liaise with the landlord.
- b) The Clerk reported that he had populated fields on the new council website, with the Councillors gov e-mail addresses; and phone numbers, some councillors were content to have their mobile phone numbers published and others were not, as some councillors had made apologies it was agreed that the Clerk will finalize a list.

Highways

- c) Cllr. Pickering raised that the 20 MPH signs were obscured by vegetation and this required cutting back.

Streetlights

- d) Cllr. Roberts requested an update on the possible installation of streetlights at Carradine Lane. The Clerk reported that two electrical contractors had been contacted; these contractors had suggested to the previous Council Chairman (P. Sharpe) that they could undertake the work. The contractors are unable to complete works required due to compliance reasons. The Clerk also stated that a planning application would need to be submitted for the installation of 'low-level' street lighting. Cllr. Roberts asked if the Housing Association (believed to Shropshire Rural Housing) would be able to assist, with a power supply to Carradine Lane.

25/207 Reports received from:

- a) **Police.** Incidents recorded in April: Violence/sexual-7. Anti-social behaviour-2. Public order-3. All other crime-2. Cllr. Roberts raised ASB and the opportunity for children and young people to engage in good activities, specifically areas of land that the Council could use. Cllr. T. Davies-Moss raised that the result of the social media 'survey' had seen a 90% response to upgrading the BMX track. The Clerk reported that, as per the lease of the land from the Diocese of Lichfield (the Glebe & Moat, including the BMX track) permission of the landlord

would have to be gained before any alterations to the BMX track. Cllr. Roberts raised as an item, the purchase of the land from the landlord (Diocese of Lichfield)

b) **RAF.** The Clerk stated that no report had been received from the RAF.

c) **Shropshire Council:**

Shropshire Councillor A. Williams reported that Cabinet Holders had been requested to review local plans by the 10th of July 2025.

- a) Cllr. Roberts required clarity on local plans and Cllr. A. Williams responded that a five-year land plan limits the county to construction of 1000 homes: Cllr. Roberts highlighted that Shawbury had been made aware of a proposal to build 130 homes, this was not a part of the original local plan.
- b) Cllr. A. Williams reported that policy delivery was being reviewed as a role at the next cabinet meeting; further reported that health vaccination rates across Shropshire had declined and a campaign was in progress to improve vaccination rates.
- c) Highways: potholes on Shropshire roads have been spray-paint 'marked' as part of the Council's attempts to remedy the poor state of Shropshire's roads.
- d) There is a shortage of foster parents and SC had implemented a drive to recruit more foster parents.

25/208 Planning

Discussion of consultation: a proposed development of homes at Aries Drive/Poynton Road by Shingler Homes. Cllr A. Williams stated she would speak with an SC employee, Eddie West for advice around CIL after Cllr. Roberts raised questions around the amount of CIL that could be paid as part of the development and how much the PC would receive and what this could be used for; whilst the PC understood that CIL was used for infrastructure it was felt that more detailed information was required.

Cllr. A. Williams also raised sewerage and the engagement of Severn Trent at the development; all agreed that water and waste management at the proposed site needed a thorough and more detailed explanation, backed up by the finances to ensure that the culvert and stream by the school did not become a flood issue in the future.

The primary school is oversubscribed and the PC sought assurances as to how the development would make provision for extra child places and classroom size at the school.

Cllr. Roberts proposed that a public meeting should be held for the community of Shawbury to manage expectations, in particular the timeframe involved the development-anticipated to be four to four and a half years for the completion of works.

It was recommended that the village hall could be used for a public meeting and the community informed by social media.

Cllr. J. Vernon wanted information on the footpath to run from one end of the village to the other and access being left for the brook/stream.

Cllr. Pickering requested information on why there will be only one access road to the development. Cllr. Roberts responded that the developer had originally wanted to construct a second access road but this was rejected by the Head Teacher of the school (believed to be a previous post holder and not the current Head).

CIL payment for the roundabout on the A53 Shrewsbury Road/Aries Drive was raised as a failure; the roundabout was constructed as part of the first development of Aries Drive and is 'off-set', which in effect means that it fails to operate as a roundabout, due to the fact that traffic heading in either direction does not have to reduce speed when approaching the roundabout as it can be passed by vehicles without any requirement to slow down.

25/01731/FUL 3 Birch Drive, Shawbury, SY4 4HZ replacement porch extension-fully agreed that no objections.

25/209 Committee and any other reports.

Cllr. Roberts stated that he had been unable to attend the last committee meeting but would be attending the next Chairmans meeting.

25/210 Press matters.

The Chairman requested that the Clerk co-ordinates reports to the parish newsletter.

25/211 AOB

Cllr. Roberts proposed that any other business be adopted as part of the monthly parish council meetings; this proposal was due to the speed with which information is now shared and available, and that waiting a month to deal with matters, which could be dealt with swiftly by AOB should be the standard operating procedure. Agreed by all.

Cllr. J. Vernon raised a pedestrian crossing at the school, Poynton Road, Glebelands (north) junction. The Clerk reported that an application had been submitted to Shropshire Council Traffic Engineering department on the 30th of June 2025 and no response had been received so far. It was further discussed that one of the issues at the location is unsupervised children crossing the road when the school opens and closes.

Proposal from Cllr. Roberts for the co-option of Mr. C. Vernon for the vacant parish councillor seat. Unanimous agreement for the proposal. Clerk to advertise the position and receive applications, closing date for applications 24th July 2025.

Cllr. J. Manley offered apologies in advance for the Parish Council meeting of 12th August 2025.

Date and Time of Next Meeting.

Tuesday 12th August 2025 at 7.00pm

Approved as a true record of the Meeting

Signed:  (Chairman)

Date: 12 AUG 2025