
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 18 NOVEMBER 2025

LEIGHTON VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors A Bain, M Budgen, S Jones, M Thorn (Chair), W Vernon and Shropshire Councillor S Coleman

Clerk: Lisa Harris

In attendance: No members of the public were present

60.25 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor S Dawes.

61.25 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

- a) No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared.
- b) There were no applications for a dispensation regarding disclosable pecuniary interests

62.25 Public Participation Session - *a period of 20 minutes will be set aside for the public to speak, with a strict 3-minute limit per speaker. Members of the public may speak on matters appearing on the agenda. However, if a matter does not appear on the agenda, a written request should be submitted to the Clerk no later than 2 working days before the meeting.*

No members of the public were present.

63.25 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 September 2025

The minutes of the previous meetings had been circulated.

It was proposed by Councillor Bain and seconded by Councillor Thorn and **resolved (without opposition)**

that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 September 2025 be accepted as a true record.

The minutes were signed accordingly.

64.25 Clerk's report on matters arising since the Parish Council Meeting on 16 September 2025

- Returned the completed parish priority list to Shrewsbury Rural East, West Mercia Police.
- Received update from Shropshire Council's Network Officer (Central) on the Section 278 works (Benthall Grange housing development) - Much Wenlock Road, Buildwas: "Further to my previous correspondence regarding the next phase of Highway Improvement works on Buildwas Road and Buildwas Bank, I would like to update you as these works have not commenced as originally scheduled which has caused some frustration and confusion. Shropshire Council officers are

awaiting confirmation from the developer Harworth regarding the revised start date. Once we have this information it will be passed to residents and other stakeholders. We would like to thank you for your patience over the last two months.”

- Advised by Elections at Shropshire Council that following May’s elections there were a large number of Councillors throughout the county who have not completed their Register of Interests online or have outstanding corrections that need to be made. Councillors are reminded of the legal requirement to complete their forms.

65.25 To receive report from Shropshire Councillor

Councillor Coleman provided a brief update:

- Shropshire Council is awaiting the result of a request for Exceptional Financial Support, in a loan of £60M. This is in the hope of avoiding having to issue a Section 114 Notice – an official declaration that an authority is unable to balance its budget to meet its spending requirements. Without government help, Shropshire Council said it would need to consider its position and could not rule out the issue of a Section 114 Notice until it hears. This would result in commissioners being brought in to run Shropshire Council and would undoubtedly lead to cuts in non-statutory services.

66.25 To receive any relevant updates from parish councillors

- Councillor Dawes was unable to attend the meeting but had provided the following updates in advance:
 - Together with Councillor Jones, has continued to work on an Emergency Response Plan for the Parish. Draft information was circulated to the Councillors prior to this meeting. Councillor Jones has contacted Shropshire Council for input and a video call is being arranged to discuss further. Consideration of what will be published on the website (Item 69.25) is to be postponed until advice has been received from Shropshire Council.
 - At the July meeting (minute 43.25) it was discussed whether additional environmental maintenance work in Eaton Constantine in the vicinity of the church is required. Councillor Dawes advised then that she had received written confirmation from the foreman at Raby Estates stating that they will take responsibility for cutting the overhanging hedge on the main road at the bottom of the church path. However, they have now cut the hedge at the bottom of the field adjacent to the church but have not dealt with the overhang on the public pavement. It was agreed that no further action was required regarding the Raby Estate and that if the overhang became an issue then the Parish Council would engage its Environmental Maintenance Contractor to carry out this work.
 - Shropshire Council have responded regarding the FixMyStreet report about the damaged Eaton Constantine Village sign formerly located on the bend beneath the village hall. It is being collected and will be repaired and reinstalled.
 - Together with Councillor Vernon, had surveyed the Eaton Constantine/Upper Longwood area and had suggestions as to where road safety signs were required. Councillor Bain also had recommendations for Garmston.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Highways at Shropshire Council to request a site visit.

- Councillor Vernon:
 - Circulated a Nature Recovery and Re-wilding document which covered a variety of different initiatives which potentially could be undertaken. To be discussed further at January's meeting, hopefully with input from outside agencies.
- Councillor Jones:
 - The next meeting of Ironbridge Power Station Redevelopment Liaison Group is taking place 19 November. Will report back on this at January's meeting.
- Councillor Thorn:
 - Contacted by the Projects and Marketing Manager, Culture Leisure and Tourism at Shropshire Council regarding increasing the accessibility of the River Severn meander viewpoint at Leighton. With funding from Defra, through the National Landscape team, Shropshire Council has developed a project to increase the accessibility of 10 viewpoints for people who live with different disabilities. The viewpoint at Leighton has been identified as a potentially suitable site and, as the owners of the bench, permission was being sought from the Parish Council for suitable signage to be placed on or near the bench. It was agreed that any such proposal be supported.

[Councillor Coleman left the meeting]

67.25

Current financial matters

a) Payments

Payee	Description	Amount
ICO	Data protection fee	£ 47.00
HMRC	PAYE on Clerk's salary October/November	£ 173.56
Miss L Harris	Clerk's net salary October/November	£ 682.70
Miss L Harris	Clerk's expenses October/November	£ 55.99
TOTAL		£ 959.25

It was proposed by Councillor Thorn and seconded by Councillor Jones and **resolved (without opposition)**

that the above accounts be approved for payment.

b) Bank reconciliation to 11 November 2025

The bank was reconciled at £19,722.46, being the online banking balance. The bank reconciliation was agreed and signed accordingly.

c) Half year accounts and review

The Clerk presented the receipts and payments account up to the end of September 2025 and a projection to the end of the year. Costs for the full year are projected to align with the budget for 2025/26. The precept to be claimed from Shropshire Council and the 2026/27 budget will be discussed in full at January's meeting.

68.25

Planning

1. Decisions to note:

a. Ref: 25/03890/DIS

Address: Redbrick Cottage 8 Lower Longwood Eaton Constantine Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 6RB

Description: Discharge of Condition 4 (Bat and Bird Boxes) relating to Planning Permission 24/03988/FUL

Validated: 16 Oct 2025

Status: Granted

Application can be view on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

b. Ref: 25/01725/LBC

Address: Yew Tree House Garmston Eaton Constantine Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 6RL

Description: Discharge of conditions 3 (exterior services), 5 (roof materials), 6 (rooflights), 7 (brickwork bond and type), 8 (joinery) and 11 (decorative finishes) on planning permission 25/01725/LBC

Validated: 27 Oct 2025

Status: Granted

Application can be view on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

2. Planning applications for consideration:

None

No comments were recorded on the above planning applications.

69.25 To consider what to publish on the Parish Council website regarding guidance in the event of an emergency

Deferred until full discussions with Shropshire Council have taken place.

70.25 Correspondence

Nothing beyond what already mentioned.

71.25 Future agenda items

- Budget/precept setting for 2026/27

72.25 Date of next meetings

Tuesday 20 January 2026 at 7.00pm – Leighton Village Hall

Tuesday 17 March 2026 at 7.00pm – Leighton Village Hall

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending and the meeting closed at 8.29pm.

Signed by Chairman: Date: 20 January 2026