

**Minutes of the meeting of Morville Parish Council held on
Monday 13 July 2026 at 7:00pm in Morville Village Hall**

Present: Councillors BriggsThomas, G. Brown, R. Brown, Davey, Moxon-Jones, Pitchers, and Yuille
Shropshire Councillor Hollyhead

Also present: Clerk
2 members of the public

26/124 WELCOME
Councillors and members of the public were welcomed. The Chair introduced the new Clerk.

26/125 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies were received from Councillors Bullock, Cantrill, and Wilkes.

26/126 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS
No interests were declared

26/127 PUBLIC SESSION
The Council was informed of the recent death of Pat Roe, a former Parish Clerk. Details of the funeral would be circulated when available.

26/128 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS
a. Ordinary meeting held on 8 June
Concern was expressed that part of the discussion concerning a planning application had not been fully reflected. It was acknowledged that the minutes had been prepared under challenging circumstances.

The minutes were approved, with three councillors voting in favour, none against, and three abstaining. Proposed by Councillor Pitchers and seconded by Councillor Yuille.

b. Extraordinary Parish Council meeting
The minutes of the extraordinary meeting, principally concerning the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, were approved. Proposed by Councillor Yuille and seconded by Councillor Pitchers.

26/129 MATTERS ARISING
It was agreed that future minutes should clearly identify actions and matters requiring follow-up. This would allow outstanding matters to be addressed systematically at subsequent meetings.

26/130 SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S REPORT
The Council received an update on the proposed demolition/redevelopment of Shirehall.

The Local Plan questionnaire closes on Wednesday 15 July, but there will be further questionnaires, possibly four or five, along the process.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported on work undertaken following the resignation of the former clerk after the June meeting.

The Chair attended a meeting on the Shropshire Local Plan with Shropshire Council and had forwarded documentation to the rest of the Parish Council members.

The Council noted that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return had been submitted and that confirmation of receipt had been obtained. Recommendations arising from the process remained to be addressed. It was agreed that:

- the AGAR recommendations would remain on the agenda until completed;
- the Clerk and Councillor Pitchers would work together to ensure that the recommendations were implemented; and
- the outstanding administrative work should be completed before the end of the calendar year, with progress reviewed ahead of any interim audit.

The Chair gave a longer introduction to the new Clerk and informed the Council that she has initially committed to assisting Morville Parish Council for 12 months because of her other responsibilities.

It was agreed that:

- the arrangement would be reviewed after approximately six months;
- recruitment and succession planning would remain under review;
- the new Clerk would contact the former Clerk to arrange the transfer of Council records, equipment, passwords and other materials;
- access to the website and other systems held by former councillors or officers would be removed; and
- the Clerk would prepare a calendar of statutory deadlines, recurring Council business and annual administrative requirements.

PARISH CLERK'S BUSINESS**a. Report**

The new Clerk had no report to give.

b. Financial Matters**i. Annual Audit and AGAR**

This was discussed under the Chair's report.

ii. Income and Expenditure Account

Postponed pending Clerk handover.

iii. Bank Reconciliation

Postponed pending Clerk handover.

iv. Payments

The schedule of payments for June was considered.

A query was raised regarding the calculation of the former clerk's holiday pay. Relevant correspondence would be forwarded to the new Clerk so that the calculation could be checked.

Subject to confirmation of the holiday-pay calculation, the June payments were approved. Proposed by Councillor Moxton-Jones and seconded by Councillor G. Brown.

The Council noted that its insurance premium of £678 was due for renewal but did not appear on the list of payments. The Clerk agreed to contact the insurer, once the relevant records and login details had been received, and action payment.

v. CIL Money

A potential Community Infrastructure Levy project was presented to mitigate flooding near Ashbridge. (Proposal appendix A)

The proposed scheme would seek to reduce or manage water flowing from nearby fields, which regularly causes flooding across the B4368.

The Council noted that:

- the estimated cost was approximately £16,000, using most of the available CIL money;
- the scheme appeared to meet the definition of an infrastructure project;
- it would potentially benefit a substantial part of the parish;
- external flood-management funding had previously been explored without success;
- Shropshire Council and relevant landowners would need to be involved;
- proper design work, checks for underground services and other infrastructure would be required; and
- a transparent procurement process, including appropriate quotations or tenders, would be necessary.

Concerns were expressed about the management of any overspend and it was agreed that this would be addressed should the Council decide to proceed with the project at a later date. It was agreed that Councillor Yuille should continue investigating the project, obtaining further technical information and indicative costs. Any final proposal would return to the Council for approval before expenditure was committed.

The Council would also confirm the deadline by which its CIL funds had to be spent.

Possible alternative projects, including solar panels or other improvements at the village hall, could also be considered if formal proposals were submitted.

c. HR Matters

i. Parish Clerk

The Council confirmed that the temporary clerk arrangement would proceed, and the position would be reviewed after approximately six months so that the Council had sufficient time to advertise or make alternative arrangements if necessary.

ii. Councillor Vacancies

No expressions of interest had been received for the two councillor vacancies.

The vacancies had been advertised through Facebook and the parish magazine.

It was agreed that:

- the vacancies should also be clearly advertised on the Council website; and
- councillors should continue encouraging suitable local residents to become involved in the Council.

d. Miscellaneous

i. Replacement Noticeboards

The Council discussed the condition and cost of replacing its noticeboards.

The existing noticeboard at the village hall remained usable but had a worn backing board and was difficult to use. The noticeboard at Monkhopton might only require refurbishment.

Previous estimates of approximately £350 appeared to have been unrealistic, with suitable replacement boards costing from approximately £700 to over £2,000, depending on size and material.

Preferences discussed included:

- A slightly larger board with space for more A4 notices;
- weather protection;
- either a wooden board appropriate to the village-hall setting or a modern metal/acrylic board;
- a glazed front; and
- a latch rather than a lock, allowing local notices to be displayed.

It was agreed that Councillor BriggsThomas would obtain quotations and present options at the September meeting.

ii. Schedule of Parish Council Meetings

The Council considered whether meetings should continue monthly or return to a bi-monthly schedule. It was recognised that monthly meetings had been useful while the Council was dealing with administrative difficulties and planning matters.

The clerk advised that monthly meetings would assist while outstanding records, procedures and administrative matters were brought up to date.

It was resolved that:

- meetings would be held in September, October and November;
- no ordinary meeting would be held in December;
- the frequency of meetings would be reviewed in January, with the possibility of returning to a bi-monthly schedule; and
- extraordinary meetings could still be called where urgent planning or other matters required a decision.

Proposed by Councillor BriggsThomas and seconded by Councillor Yuille.

ENVIRONMENTAL MAINTENANCE

a. Consider a proposal from Councillor Yuille

The Council discussed minor environmental maintenance work, including:

- cleaning obscured road and speed signs;
- cutting back vegetation;
- clearing footpaths; and

- removing and properly disposing of cut material.

Councillor Yuille had identified a possible contractor who could undertake minor work on a trial basis. The Council had previously approved expenditure of up to £100 per month for this type of work.

It was agreed that:

- Councillor Yuille could arrange suitable minor works within the approved budget;
- the contractor must hold appropriate insurance;
- maintenance requirements should be identified and recorded at each meeting;
- Councillor Pitchers would check whether the arrangement complied with the Council's current Financial Regulations and update them accordingly for adoption by full Council; and
- the Clerk would review whether the Financial Regulations and Standing Orders published on the website were current and whether recently issued model documents should be adopted.

Proposed by Councillor Moxon-Jones and seconded by Councillor Pitchers.

b. The Lengthsman and approval of work

Discussed under previous heading.

26/134

BIODIVERSITY PLAN

a. Restoring Shropshire's Verges Project (RSVP)

The report had been prepared and placed on the Council website. (Appendix B) Councillors could submit questions before or at the September meeting.

b. Community Flood Group

Discussed under CIL heading.

c. Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) Plan

Discussed under Draft Local Plan heading.

26/135

ROAD SAFETY REPORT

Detailed discussion of the following items was deferred to September:

- speed-indicator devices; and
- village white gates.

26/136

FOOTPATH COMMITTEE

Detailed discussion relating to footpaths was deferred to September.

26/137

IT AND WEBSITE

Detailed discussion relating to IT and the website was deferred to September.

26/138

DRAFT LOCAL PLAN

The Council discussed Shropshire Council's initial Local Plan scoping consultation. Concern was raised about a possible development site on agricultural land opposite or near the entrance to Morville Hall.

It was noted that the current consultation was an early scoping exercise rather than a formal consultation on individual sites. The detailed site-specific response prepared by Councillor Yuille would be retained and could be submitted at the appropriate stage of the Local Plan process.

It was stated that Councillors and residents could complete the online questionnaire individually. They did not have to answer every question.

26/139 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

No current planning application required a formal decision at the meeting.

It was agreed that planning-application emails circulated by the clerk should clearly state the consultation-response deadline.

26/140 PARISH MATTERS

There were none.

26/141 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

There were none.

NEXT MEETING: 14 September 2026.

The meeting was declared closed at: 20:27.