

**Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of Morville Parish Council held on
Monday 3 August 2026 at 7:00pm in Morville Village Hall**

Present: Councillors BriggsThomas, Bullock, Davey, Moxon-Jones, Wilkes, and Yuille
Shropshire Councillor Hollyhead

Also present: Clerk
18 members of the public

26/142 WELCOME

The Chair welcomed Councillors and members of the public to the Extraordinary Meeting.

26/143 RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors G. Brown, R. Brown, and Pitchers.

26/144 RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS)

No interests were declared

26/145 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Proposed Monkhopton Estate Classic Vehicle Event

Matthew, the Estate Manager, attended the meeting, accompanied by Adrian Rhoden, to provide further information about a proposed classic vehicle event at Monkhopton Estate.

It was explained that the event would take place on fields at the top of Froggy Lane, currently used for camping under the permitted 60-day arrangements.

The proposed event would take place over the weekend of 12 and 13 September 2026. The first day would be for exhibitors of classic vehicles, with the event open to the public on the second day.

The organisers stressed that the event was intended to be a relatively small and informal classic vehicle gathering rather than a festival, and an opportunity for people to meet and socialise, helping to promote a community atmosphere. There would be no bands or large-scale entertainment.

Questions were raised regarding:

- traffic movements and access along Froggy Lane and back-up onto the main road through the village;
- the effect on residents' access to their properties;
- the effect of emergency vehicle access;
- parking arrangements;
- stewarding and traffic management;
- the number of exhibitors and visitors expected;
- possible noise and music;
- camping by exhibitors; and
- the proposed finishing times.

The organisers advised that exhibitors would be booked in advance via Eventbrite tickets meaning that exact numbers of exhibitors would be known prior to the event, and that stewards equipped with walkie-talkies would be positioned to direct traffic and minimise

congestion. Visitors would be directed straight through to the event site with the aim of preventing stopping or waiting on the access road. The site had capacity for approximately 1,000 people, although fewer were anticipated, with an estimated overall attendance in the region of 500-700.

It was anticipated that the public event on Sunday would finish at approximately 4:00pm. Those camping on the Saturday night would be asked to keep noise to a minimum by 10:00pm. There would be no organised live music, although individual car radios or similar personal music could not necessarily be prevented.

The organisers advised that they had spoken to those residents considered most directly affected and would continue to manage the event to minimise disruption.

The Council thanked the representatives for attending at short notice and answering the questions put to them.

26/146 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13 JULY 2026

It was resolved to approve the minutes as a true record.

Proposed by Councillor Yuille and seconded by Councillor BriggsThomas.

The motion was carried by those members present who had attended the meeting

26/147 CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF 13 JULY 2026 NOT INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA

There were no matters arising. Outstanding matters would be considered at the next ordinary meeting in September.

26/148 CONSIDER THE PLANNING APPLICATION 26/02645

The Council considered planning application 26/02645 for the proposed provision of two indoor padel courts within an existing agricultural building.

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the applicant and members of the public to participate in the discussion.

Applicant's Presentation

The applicant outlined the proposal. He explained that bookings would be made electronically, with customers receiving an access code to enter the building. The facility would therefore generally operate without permanent on-site staffing, although the applicant and others associated with the facility would attend regularly.

The applicant initially indicated anticipated operating hours of approximately 7:30am to 9:00pm. During later discussion reference was made to operation until approximately 10.00 pm, while members noted that the application documentation appeared to provide for wider hours. It was therefore considered that the intended hours should be clarified.

The applicant advised that:

- there would be two courts accommodating up to eight players at any one time, with up to 16 onsite during any session crossover;
- the barn would be fully enclosed while the courts were in use, with acoustic curtains installed internally, and existing roller shutter doors remaining closed;
- limited external lighting, such as low-level light bollards to assist people parking and entering the building, would be required;

- landscaping and additional tree planting for environmental and screening reasons formed part of the proposal;
- CCTV would cover the interior and exterior of the building;
- the gates, which stand approximately 10m back from the road, would be closed outside of operating hours;
- facilities including two toilets, two showers, and changing rooms would be provided together with a sewage treatment system;
- a small social/waiting area would also be included which may include vending facilities; and
- there were no plans for outdoor courts or a wider leisure development.

The applicant also explained that an agreement had been reached in principle with the landowner to provide a pedestrian route across adjoining land for the benefit of Morville Primary School. Free use of the facilities would be made available to the school at agreed times.

Noise and Acoustic Mitigation

The Council noted that noise was the principal concern raised by the public during the meeting.

Members and residents questioned whether noise generated inside the building could reverberate within the barn and escape through the uninsulated roof structure.

The effectiveness of the proposed acoustic curtains in preventing noise travelling outside of the building was discussed.

Questions were raised regarding:

- the level of noise generated by padel;
- the specification and acoustic performance of the proposed curtains;
- how high the curtains would extend;
- whether curtains would also cover or screen the roller shutter doors;
- whether the existing single-skin construction of the barn could allow noise to escape;
- whether the applicant had researched the effectiveness of comparable acoustic treatments at other indoor padel facilities; and
- whether additional mitigation might be required.

The applicant advised that a specialist acoustic company had recommended the curtain system and that similar arrangements were used at other indoor padel facilities he had visited. He agreed to investigate whether further specification and supporting information could be supplied.

It was suggested that an independent Proportionate Noise Assessment should be undertaken and that appropriate mitigation measures should be secured before the facility became operational. Councillors explained that such an assessment could be suggested as part of the Parish Council's submitted response, although the Parish Council could not demand it. Shropshire Councillor Hollyhead stated that he would contact Shropshire Council to request a Proportionate Noise Assessment be carried out.

Concerns were also raised regarding the proximity of neighbouring residential properties. It was noted that the nearest residential property was approximately 100 metres from the face of the barn.

Parking and School Use

Parking provision shown with the application allowed for 44 vehicles within the existing area. This was calculated by the applicant's highways advisor. The applicant stated that the intention was not to encourage public parking and that the parking area could potentially provide overflow parking for the school and community during specific pre-arranged events, such as parents' evening or sports days.

Concern was raised that providing a large number of parking spaces could itself encourage additional use of the site, potentially resulting in increased traffic and noise, alongside unauthorised use and antisocial behaviour.

It was considered that the parking arrangements and the control of access to the parking area required careful consideration.

The proposed benefits to the school were also discussed, including:

- use of the padel facility;
- pedestrian access between the school and the facility; and
- possible use of the parking area during pre-arranged school events.

Concern was expressed that these benefits were currently based on informal arrangements and might not continue throughout the life of the development.

It was suggested that, should planning permission be granted, any benefits offered to the school should be formally secured so that they remain available in the longer term.

A Section 106 agreement or other appropriate mechanism was discussed as a possible way of protecting these arrangements.

Traffic, Access, and Highway Safety

Concerns were raised regarding the entrance and exit onto the main road. Specific concern was expressed that the access was located close to a point where vehicle speeds change when entering or leaving the village, as excess speed is already a concern in the village.

The applicant advised that the Highway Authority had considered the access, visibility splays and related highway matters.

It was noted that there might be a requirement to reposition the existing village gateway features by approximately ten metres to improve visibility from the access.

The applicant advised that any signage would be modest and positioned on existing fences, rather than consisting of large or intrusive signs.

Security, CCTV, and Management

Questions were raised regarding the management of the facility if it was not permanently staffed, particularly in relation to:

- unauthorised parking;
- antisocial behaviour;
- vehicles using the parking area outside of the operating hours; and
- misuse of the car park.

The applicant confirmed that CCTV would be installed internally and externally and that the site would be monitored. The gates would be closed when the facility was not operating.

Sewerage and Welfare Facilities

The applicant advised that the proposed welfare facilities would include:

- two toilets;
- two showers; and
- changing facilities.

A water treatment plant would be installed outside the building.

Concern was raised regarding the potential noise generated by the water treatment plant, particularly if equipment would be required to operate continuously, given the quiet rural location. The applicant advised that the plant was proposed to be positioned at the rear of the building, on the opposite side to the village.

The applicant advised that treated clean water would be discharged towards the brook, with waste material removed from the treatment system as required.

Landscaping, Screening, and Headlights

Concern was expressed regarding vehicle headlights affecting neighbouring properties when navigating the car park.

The applicant advised that tree planting was proposed along the boundary to provide screening.

It was suggested that the landscaping should be sufficiently substantial to provide effective screening and that consideration should be given to appropriate fencing where required.

Councillors specifically considered that the planting should include suitable fast-growing trees or other effective screening, rather than relying solely upon small whips which would take many years to mature. Appropriate species and planting sizes should therefore be considered as part of the landscaping arrangements.

Hours of Operation

The applicant indicated anticipated operating hours of approximately 7:30 am until 9:00/10:00 pm.

It was noted during public participation that the planning documentation appeared to refer to potentially wider operating hours.

It was considered whether the intended hours of operation should therefore be clarified and, where appropriate, controlled by planning condition.

Following the conclusion of questions, the public participation element of the meeting was closed, and the Council considered its formal response.

Council Discussion and Resolution

Members recognised that the proposed development offered a number of potential benefits to the community, including:

- opportunities for recreation and exercise;
- potential use by the school;
- additional facilities for community events; and
- possible wider economic benefits to the village.

They also recognised the concerns of residents, particularly those living closest to the proposed facility, including:

- noise and potential disturbance
- traffic increases and speeds
- parking
- management of the site
- discontinuation of benefits for the school.

Following discussion, it was agreed that appropriate conditions and safeguards should be included in the Parish Council's response to Shropshire Council.

Shropshire Councillor Hollyhead informed the Parish Council of the 'call in' process for planning applications at Shropshire Council and how it is assessed.

Members considered whether the Council should make 'no comment' on the application or formally 'support' it subject to appropriate stipulations.

Vote: two councillors voted favouring 'no comment', and two favouring 'support'.

The chair exercised the casting vote in favour of 'support', subject to the concerns and safeguards discussed during the meeting being included in the Council's response.

It was subsequently resolved that Morville Parish Council support the planning application 26/02645, subject to appropriate comments and stipulations being submitted to Shropshire Council requesting that the Planning Authority gives consideration to the following matters:

1. a suitable professional noise assessment should be carried out and appropriate noise mitigation secured before the venue begins operating, including consideration of the specification and effectiveness of the proposed acoustic treatment;
2. securing the proposed benefits and access arrangements for the school, both facility and pedestrian access, potentially through a Section 106 agreement;
3. the scale and management of the proposed parking provision should be carefully considered, including the use of CCTV and other measures to prevent uncontrolled or inappropriate use of the parking area;
4. the impact of traffic movements and any increase in traffic on the safety of the site access and surrounding roads;
5. landscaping should provide effective screening using appropriate species and planting sizes capable of establishing meaningful screening within a reasonable period; and
6. intended hours of operation should be clarified and appropriate limits imposed where necessary.

The Parish Council's written comments would be prepared taking account of the discussion at the meeting and circulated before submission to Shropshire Council.

Proposed by Councillor Yuille and seconded by Councillor Bullock.

The motion was carried, with 3 in favour, 0 against, and 2 abstentions.

It was agreed that Morville Parish Council would carefully monitor the progress of the application and any subsequent work.

26/149 PROPOSE ANY PARISH MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

No matters were raised for inclusion on the next agenda.

NEXT MEETING: 14 September 2026.

The meeting was declared closed at: 20:00.