Parish Clerk: Rosie Buggins-Allsop
01746 708019

MORVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

morville-pc.gov.uk
clerk@ morville-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of the meeting of Morville Parish Council held on

Monday 9 November 2026 at 7:00pm in Morville Village Hall

Present: Councillors BriggsThomas, G. Brown, Bullock, Cantrill, Davey, Moxon-Jones, Wilkes, and Yuille

Shropshire Councillor Hollyhead

Also present: Clerk

4 Members of the Public

26/184 WELCOME
The Chair welcomed Councillors and members of the public to the meeting.

26/185 RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies were received from Councillor R. Brown.

26/186 RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS)
There were none.

26/187 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION
A member of the public raised a matter included later on the agenda. The Chair confirmed that it would be considered under the relevant item. No further matters were raised.

26/188 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12 OCTOBER 2026
It was resolved to approve the minutes as a true record.

Proposed by: Councillor Yuille
Seconded by: Councillor Wilkes

VARIATION OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS
The order of business was varied to consider the planning application before the reports. See 26/193**.**

26/189 CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF 12 OCTOBER 2026 NOT INCLUDED ELSEWHERE ON THIS AGENDA
There were no matters arising.

26/190 REPORTS
a. SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S REPORT
Shropshire Councillor Hollyhead reported that the departure of the local highway's maintenance technician would affect the investigation of highways enquiries. Residents and Councillors were encouraged to continue reporting defects through FixMyStreet.

He also reported on the changes to planning decision-making proposed under the new National Planning Policy.

A meeting with Tanya Miles, CEO of Shropshire Council was proposed for Friday 4 December 2026, subject to sufficient interest. Councillors were invited to suggest specific, achievable matters for discussion.

b. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported that drainage problems outside Aston Eyre Church had been addressed following reports.

The Chair had sought advice from the Shropshire Association of Local Councils and contacted Shropshire Council regarding the historic HMRC liability. This would be considered later in the meeting.

c. CLERK'S REPORT

Correspondence

Correspondence had been received from Sulis Public Affairs about Tasley Garden Village, and a resident about HGV use, both of which will be discussed later in the meeting under 26/199 and 26/196a respectively.

Correspondence had also been received about metal detecting on local land which had been circulated to Councillors.

Consultation responses

The response to the Police and Crime Commissioner's consultation had been submitted.

Bank mandates

The removal of Councillor Pitchers from the Lloyds bank mandate had been confirmed. Changes to the NatWest mandate remained outstanding.

Website development

Content has now been added to 'Footpaths and Rights of Way' and 'Environmental Projects' pages of the website.

Environmental Maintenance

A potential environmental maintenance contractor had been contacted. A schedule of work was required before contractual arrangements could be prepared.

Broken bus stop sign

The damaged bus stop sign had been chased, but no response received.

26/191 FINANCE

a. Bank Reconciliation and Budget Monitoring

The bank reconciliation document was reviewed, confirmed, and signed by Councillor Wilkes.

b. Consider Budget Proposal for 2027/28 (Appendix B)

Members considered the draft budget proposal document, prepared using previous expenditure, forecast expenditure for the current year, known quotations, and an inflation allowance in line with Consumer Price Index where appropriate.

The proposed identification of earmarked reserves was explained. Members discussed the appropriate level of reserves, future environmental maintenance expenditure, and biodiversity projects.

AGREED: To defer a decision on the budget and precept to allow further consideration. The Clerk would prepare alternative budget scenarios for the next meeting.

Bank Signatories
The Clerk reported that three Councillor signatories remained and recommended adding a fourth.

RESOLVED: To appoint Councillor Bullock as an additional bank signatory on existing accounts, and on the new savings account previously agreed.

c. Payments for Approval:

i.	Clerk Salary	October	£566.30
ii.	Clerk Expenses	2026/27 Q2	£17.82
iii.	Jason Gough Computing	Microsoft Office 365 Backup – September (Invoice SI-127453)	£9.60
iv.	Jason Gough Computing	Microsoft Office 365 Licence – October (Invoice SI-127488)	£13.76
v.	Jason Gough Computing	Microsoft Office 365 Backup – October (Invoice SI-127519)	£10.80
vi.	HMRC	PAYE	£22.39
vii.	DM Payroll Services	October 2026 – March 2027	£81.00
viii.	Morville Village Hall	Room Hire	£264.00

Members reviewed the payment schedule.

RESOLVED: To approve the payments listed above.

Proposed by: Councillor Bullock
Seconded by: Councillor Cantrill

26/192 COUNCIL INFORMATION AND GOVERNANCE

a. Review and approve new policy documents

i. Standing Orders (Appendix C)
ii. Financial Regulations (Appendix D)
iii. Data Protection Policy (Appendix E)

RESOLVED: To approve the policy documents listed above.

Proposed by: Councillor BriggsThomas
Seconded by: Councillor G. Brown

26/193 CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATION 26/04135/PIP

The Chair invited Mr David Meredith to address the Council regarding his application for permission in principle for between four and six dwellings.

Mr Meredith explained that he farmed in Aston Eyre and wished to provide smaller, lower-cost homes to meet local housing needs. He suggested that incremental growth was important to sustain the parish and its services, referring to an example discussed at a

Country Land and Business Association meeting. He described the proposed site as an infill plot with good access to the B4368.

Mr Meredith highlighted the high asking prices of properties currently available locally and the difficulties these presented for younger people wishing to remain in the area. He explained that he employed 11 permanent staff, several of whom lived in the parish or nearby, and that three were currently seeking local housing.

Members of the public were invited to ask questions. No questions were raised at that stage.

Councillors questioned Mr Meredith about the previous refusal, changes in planning policy, the number and type of dwellings proposed, access, flooding, and foul drainage. He stated that changes in the national planning policy context, including provisions relating to infill development, supported reconsideration of the site.

Mr Meredith explained that the indicative proposal included a terrace of four two-bedroom houses, with the possibility of a further pair of semi-detached dwellings. Although an earlier illustration showed eight dwellings, the application sought permission in principle for between four and six.

Regarding foul drainage, Mr Meredith outlined the options of providing a separate treatment system or contributing towards improvements to the existing sewage treatment plant, subject to agreement with Shropshire Council. These improvements could include a reed bed on his land to provide further treatment before discharge into the brook. He also referred to the existing access road serving the treatment plant.

Mr Meredith acknowledged flooding and drainage issues in the vicinity, including runoff from surrounding hills. He referred to work already undertaken, further maintenance required by Shropshire Council, and his intention to clear existing drains to alleviate standing water on Beacon Hill Lane. He indicated that further drainage improvements could be undertaken in conjunction with the development.

The discussion with the applicant was then concluded, and the Council considered the proposal in principle. Members discussed the potential benefit of smaller homes for people living and working locally, the appropriate scale of development, and residents' concerns regarding access, flooding, and sewage treatment.

RESOLVED: To submit a neutral response to Shropshire Council, recognising the need for housing affordable to people living and working locally, while noting residents' objections and concerns regarding the scale of the development, access, flooding and foul drainage.

Proposed by: Councillor Moxon-Jones
Seconded by: Councillor Bullock

26/194 ENVIRONMENTAL MAINTENANCE

Members noted that a third cut and collect would not be required this year. The anticipated cost of future cutting and collection could increase from approximately £1,500 to £1,700, subject to confirmation.

Members discussed meeting the prospective maintenance contractor and preparing a defined schedule of work. Potential tasks included clearing surface channels and access to

gullies, cleaning signs and white gates, vegetation clearance, and appropriate footpath work.

The Clerk would prepare contractual documentation once the requirements had been established.

a. Proposal for use of CIL Funding – Ash Bridge Flooding Mitigation Update
Councillor received an update on discussions with Shropshire Council and the landowner about proposed flood mitigation works.

Further information had been received identifying an existing manhole and a 225 mm outlet. The landowner wished to inspect the infrastructure and establish the route and condition of the existing drainage before agreeing to further works.

Members noted that the funding under consideration was for new infrastructure rather than routine maintenance.

AGREED: To await the landowner's inspection and seek a further site meeting with the relevant parties to establish an appropriate scheme.

26/195 BIODIVERSITY

a. Restoring Shropshire's Verges Project (RSVP)
No further report was made. Related matters were considered under other agenda items.

b. Biodiversity/Natural Flood Management (NFM)
No further report was made. Related matters were considered under other agenda items.

26/196 ROAD SAFETY

a. Resident Request to Consider HGV use on Underton and Telegraph Lanes
The Clerk read correspondence from a resident raising concerns about the size, speed, and frequency of HGVs travelling to West Farm, the safety of other road users, the condition of the road and bridge, and mud on the highway.

The Council was informed that clay was being taken to the farm for pond repair and a possible further reservoir project. They noted that approximately 20 loads were being received daily and that the duration of the work would depend on the quantity required and weather conditions.

Members discussed vehicle movements, passing difficulties, speed, and the possibility of a one-way route.

The drivers would be asked to reduce their speed, and a site visit was offered to the resident.

b. Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs)
The Clerk had requested a quotation but had not received a response.

AGREED: The Clerk would approach alternative suppliers.

c. White Gates
No updates reported.

d. Bus Stop Sign

AGREED: The Clerk would make further enquiries about replacing the damaged bus stop sign, including whether the Parish Council could purchase a replacement.

26/197 FOOTPATHS

No updates reported.

26/198 VILLAGE HALL NOTICEBOARD

The Clerk presented a quotation for a replacement noticeboard measuring approximately 1400 x 1200 mm, at a cost of £1,595 plus VAT, including delivery.

The proposed board would provide separate sections for Parish Council and community notices, with one section locked and the other accessible for community use. that the quote received was £1,595.00 + VAT () for Board approx. 1400x1200 with delivery included.

RESOLVED: To purchase the noticeboard as quoted.

Proposed by: Councillor Moxon-Jones
Seconded by: Councillor BriggsThomas

26/199 CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM TASLEY GARDEN VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PUBLIC OPEN SPACES WITHIN MORVILLE PARISH BOUNDARY

The Clerk read correspondence from the development partners' representative asking whether the Parish Council would be interested in adopting public open space within the parish boundary. The alternative proposed arrangement was management by a management company funded through charges to residents.

Members requested further information about the precise area involved and the facilities or maintenance responsibilities proposed.

AGREED: That the Clerk would request a plan identifying the land within Morville parish and details of the proposed responsibilities

26/200 HMRC PAYE BILL

The Council considered the historic HMRC liability arising from the period of a former clerk's employment, comprising unpaid PAYE contributions and interest.

The Chair reported on advice sought from the Shropshire Association of Local Councils and discussions with Shropshire Council. The Clerk reported that available historic records were incomplete. Establishing precisely how payments had been calculated and distributed would require further investigation, and it might not be possible to establish a complete account.

Members discussed the Council's responsibility to account for public funds, the potential costs of further investigation or recovery action, and whether the concerns should be referred to the police or another appropriate authority. Concern was expressed that potentially relevant information should be referred to the appropriate authorities for assessment.

Councillor BriggsThomas requested that her concern about proceeding without confirmation that all the appropriate authorities had been informed be recorded in the minutes.

No conclusion was reached as to the cause of the discrepancies or whether wrongdoing had occurred.

AGREED: The Clerk would prepare a factual report summarising the available evidence, the liability, enquiries undertaken, and outstanding uncertainties. The report would be circulated to Councillors and considered at a subsequent meeting before deciding on further action, including any referral or publication,

The Council reaffirmed its previous decision to pay the HMRC liability. The Clerk would contact HMRC to obtain a payment reference and instructions required to make the payment, as the necessary reference was unavailable and the current Clerk does not have authorised access to the historic employer account.

26/201 PROPOSE ANY PARISH MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

There were no matters proposed.

NEXT MEETING: 11 January 2027.

The meeting was declared closed at: 20:32.