



**MINUTES**  
of the Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
at 6.30pm at The Pavilion

**Present:** Cllrs M Hughes (Chair), G Knowler, R Lewis, R Lloyd, H Plumb and J Thomas  
**Absent:** Cllr J Lane

51/25-26

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr Lane and accepted by a unanimous vote.

52/25-26

**INTERESTS & DISPENSATIONS**

- (a) No Declarations of Pecuniary Interest were made by those present and none had been received.
- (b) No requests for Dispensation had previously been received and none were presented.

53/25-26

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

- (a) A member of the public raised concern that the car parks of the Everest Hall and The Pavilion are often used when there are events at the other venue and that the walk from one to the other along the road takes place in complete darkness. This is dangerous as pedestrians may trip on unseen obstacles or not be visible to drivers reversing out of driveways on either side.
- (b) Sam Walmsley, Shropshire Council Ward Councillor, gave an update on the financial situation at Shropshire Council. This remains critical, especially now that grant support from central government for the next 3 years has been confirmed: the level of grant being offered will require the Council to increase Council Tax by the maximum permitted (4.99%) over the same period. Shropshire's grant settlement, in line with many rural councils, is much less favourable than that being offered to metropolitan councils and an appeal has been submitted, actively sponsored by local MPs. In the meantime, Shropshire Council is waiting for confirmation from central government in respect of the Exceptional Funding Support that it has requested; and is continuing to look at ways in which it can operate more effectively given the severe financial constraints it is facing. The minutes and papers of the Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee provide full details (<https://shropshire.gov.uk/committee-services/ieListDocuments.aspx?Mid=6345>).

54/25-26

**MINUTES**

- (a) Council noted the minutes of the Council Meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025. It was **MOVED AND RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to approve them as a true record of the meeting. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

55/25-26

**TO DISCUSS THE SAFETY OF PEDESTRIANS WALKING BETWEEN THE EVEREST HALL AND THE PAVILION CAR PARKS**

Councillors discussed the matter, having heard previous representations from a member of the public. It was **AGREED** that the Council would write to the Everest Hall and The Pavilion committees pointing out the issue and requesting that they ask event organisers to inform people attending events that they may wish to bring torches with them. Cllr Hughes also agreed to write an article for the next issue of the *Llanfair Times* on the matter.

56/25-26

**PLANNING**

- (a) Councillors supported the planning application but raised concerns about the potential increase in road traffic on narrow, unlit roads and the risks of inappropriately fast driving speeds, particularly at the junction at The Vedw. It was **AGREED** unanimously that the Council write to Shropshire Council expressing these concerns and requesting additional road-calming measures at that junction.
- (b) The Clerk explained that there was an existing policy to cover this situation but that it was overly complex and onerous. He recommended that a simple process replace it whereby if there were no objections from councillors to an urgent planning application circulated by email that he be authorised to respond, taking into account any comments for councillors. It was **AGREED** unanimously to accept this recommendation.

57/25-26

**TO AGREE THE 2026/27 BUDGET AND PRECEPT** (financial report FR06.2025-26)

- (a) It was **MOVED AND RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to move any underspend against the 2025/26 Budget at year end to General Reserves. It was **MOVED AND RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to accept the Budget for 2026/27 as set out in the financial report.
- (b) It was **MOVED AND RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to set the Precept for 2026/27 at £6,896.

58/25-26

**TO AGREE THE COUNCIL'S INSURER FOR 2026/27**

It was **MOVED AND RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to retain Zurich Municipal as the Council's insurer for 2026/27.

59/25-26

**HIGHWAYS**

- (a) The Clerk reported on discussions regarding the use of Community Service groups to assist with footpath maintenance.
- (b) It was **MOVED AND RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to purchase a small grit bin in the current financial year, to be sited at or close to the Everest Hall. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk progress the purchase, capped at £110 (ex VAT).
- (c) Cllr Lloyd reported that he was now in possession of a gritter from Shropshire Council. Cllrs Plumb and Thomas reported two areas of serious deterioration on local roads; they agreed to report these on FixMyStreet and to send details to Cllr Walmsley so that he could pursue the matter with Shropshire Council Highways officers. Councillors commented on the work by Highways in clearing roads during the recent snows and it was **AGREED** that the Clerk would write to Shropshire Council offering a vote of thanks.

60/25-26

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

- (a) In the absence of Cllr Lane, it was **AGREED** to postpone discussion of this item until the next meeting.

61/25-26

**FINANCE** (financial report FR07.2025-26)

- (a) Council noted the bank account balance and reconciliation. Cllr Hughes confirmed that he had accessed the bank account and that the balance of £5,430.54 stated on the reconciliation was correct.
- (b) No income had been received since the last meeting.
- (c) Council ratified the payment of the Clerk's salary for December 2025 and noted the direct debit payment of £143.86 made to HugoFox on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2025.
- (d) It was **MOVED AND RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to approve the following payments:

| <b>Payee</b>       | <b>Description</b>                     | <b>Amount</b> |
|--------------------|--|---------------|
| J McVicar          | Payroll for Month 10                   | £316.33       |
| Zurich Municipal   | Public Liability & Indemnity Insurance | £241.00       |
| Shropshire Council | Charges for May 2025 Elections         | £125.00       |
| The Pavilion       | Hire of room for January meeting       | £10.00        |

- (e) Council noted the Budget Comparison, showing a total spend to date of £5,114.31, representing 70% of the 2025/26 budget.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) Council noted the correspondence from Shropshire Council on the Winter Outreach Wellbeing initiative. The Clerk had arranged with the Everest Hall for the WOW van to be located in the hall car park on 11<sup>th</sup> February. It was **AGREED** to advertise the event on the Council website and on the noticeboard. Councillors agreed to promote the event within the parish.
- (b) The Clerk presented an email from one of the LWCT trustees, whose term of office comes to an end next month. The trustee is willing to stand for a further term. The Clerk asked councillors to advertise the vacancy within the parish; it will also be advertised on the Council's website. It was **AGREED** that the Chair would call an Extraordinary Meeting in February to consider all applications, including that from the outgoing trustee, and to make an appointment.

Business being concluded, the Council meeting was declared closed at 8.08pm.

DRAFT