



Minutes of a meeting of Atcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 8th January 2025 at 7.30pm in Atcham Memorial Hall

Cllr Dixon opened the meeting by expressing condolences to the family and friends of Jim Hone, who died recently. She said how much he did for the village over the years and that we had lost a very well-respected member of the community.

25/001 REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE and APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Present: Cllrs Laura Dixon (Chairman), Simon Adney, Gareth Jones, Martin Ruston, Rob Trow.

Apologies: Apologies were accepted from Cllr Stephen Cook and Keith Daley.

Clerk: Alison Utting

Also: SC Cllr Claire Wild, Stuart Groves (Brunning & Price), and 8 members of the public.

25/002 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Adney declared an interest in item 25/008(a) and left the room for the duration of that item.

25/003 MINUTES - It was resolved that the Chairman should sign the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 13th November 2024 as a true and correct record of that meeting.

25/004 PROGRESS REPORT

- a) **Road safety measures at Emstrey Bank** – Actions still pending (see 24/084 November minutes). A follow-up meeting to be scheduled once the solid white lines have been installed.
- b) **Mytton & Mermaid extra car park** – See item 25/008(a).
- c) **Parking restriction road markings** – SC Cllr Wild reported that the formal application for the TRO (double yellow lines and no parking in bus laybys) will be

published in the newspaper next week. If there are no objections, the work should progress in the spring.

- d) **Change of website and email (to gov.uk)** -The application has been submitted to the current provider (Hugo Fox). No progress as yet.
- e) **Bollards (The Glebe)** – Have now been installed to prevent parking on the grass.

24/005 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

It was asked what **staff parking arrangements** (pub) were being made, now that building work has started at the farm and therefore the parking arrangement there has ended. Stuart reported that B&P are looking into an alternative arrangement.

It was asked why the **new notice board** is not being used. Keys have now been obtained and the board will be used shortly.

Thanks were expressed to Cllr Dixon for her work on planting the concrete tubs, and members of the Malthouse Committee were also thanked for their excellent work outside the hall on Malthouse Lane.

A resident raised questions about whether the pub car park attendants are being proactive enough in preventing **parking on Malthouse Lane**. Cllr Jones, who works as a car park attendant, assured the resident that customers are clearly warned of the risks to their vehicles from building traffic but it was emphasised that it is a public road and car park attendants have no powers to prohibit parking there. Cllr Dixon reiterated that the parish council has taken steps to alleviate the problem and that the parking restrictions will be in place soon.

A resident complained about **speeding traffic** through the village (main road). Cllrs replied that they are looking into getting new/upgraded VAS signs which will allow data monitoring.

Resurfacing of B4380 was raised again. As previously stated, it is in the SC schedule for 2025-26 financial year.

Drainage issues at the front of the pub were raised again. Stuart reported that B&P have done all they can to alleviate the problem. Cllr Wild reported that gullies on main road have been cleared. Residents urged to report any drain blockages on Malthouse Lane using fixmystreet.com.

25/006 SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Claire Wild briefly reported on the effects of the new devolution measures, summarising that Shropshire Council will need to combine with another council because an authority will need >£500,000 residents.

25/007 ANY OTHER REPORTS – None.

25/008 PLANNING

a) The parish council considered the following planning application:

Reference: **24/04428/FUL**

Address: South Of B4380, Atcham (Cross Houses Lane)

Proposal: Creation of new car park

After discussion, the parish council voted to support the application, with the following comments:

Atcham Parish Council supports this application as it will provide much needed parking to alleviate problems affecting residents in the centre of the village.

The Parish Council is particularly concerned that the following issues are fully addressed in any application that is approved for this site:

1. Flood management
2. Public safety (river)
3. Ecological impact
4. Screening and landscaping used effectively to minimise the visual impact of the car park, particularly as it is in close proximity to the historic Old Bridge and the church.
5. Lighting of the car park and pedestrian egress should be adequate for safety but also suitable for the setting.

b) There were no further **planning applications** received in advance of this meeting.

c) There were no new **planning decisions** published in advance of this meeting.

24/093 FINANCE

a) Council noted the following **payments** made since the last meeting:

Amount	Details	Power to spend
345.62	Clerk's salary (Dec)	LGA 1972 s112
80.00	PAYE (month 9)	LGA 1972 s112
11.99	Website fee	LGA 1972 s142
424.64	Plastic bollards (The Glebe splay)	Open Spaces Act 1906
1540.00	Grounds maintenance (2024)	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9 and 10
51.70	Streetlight maintenance contract	Parish Councils Act 1957 s3. Highways Act 1980 s301

Council agreed to make the following **payments**:

Amount	Details	Power to spend
TBC	Clerk's salary (Jan)	LGA 1972 s112
19.35	Clerk's expenses	LGA 1972 s112
TBC	PAYE (month 10)	LGA 1972 s112
11.99	Website fee	LGA 1972 s142

The following receipts were noted: £17.23 bank interest.

- b) Council approved the **accounts** and **bank reconciliation** to date.
- c) Council noted that the mid-year **check of internal controls** was carried out by SA on 13/11/2024.

25/010 BUDGET

Council agreed the proposed budget for 2025-26 (Prop: SA, Sec: GJ, unanimous).

25/011 PRECEPT

Council agreed to request a precept amount of £6006 for 2025-26, which represents a 0% increase for average Band D households.

25/012 PARISH MATTERS – None.

25/013 CORRESPONDENCE

Training opportunities available (SALC, etc.). Cllrs to notify Clerk if they wish to attend.

B&P and St Eata's notified us in advance of the use of marquees for the funeral.

A resident emailed to thank the council for installing the bollards at The Glebe.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 12th March 2025 at 7.30pm.

Meeting dates for the rest of 2025: 14th May, 9th July, 10th Sept, 12th Nov.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

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