

PONTESBURY PARISH COUNCIL



Full Council Meeting held at The Pavilion on Monday 8th December 2025 at 6.30pm

PRESENT

Councillors: D Fletcher, M Trow, G Moss, D Gregory, A Hodges, K Day, A Windows and N Hignett

Clerk of the Meeting: Debbie Marais

Public present: One

124.25 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs J Pritchard, L Jones, S Wallace-Johnson, S Davies, D Jones and R Evans

125.25 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations – None

126.25 Public Questions and Comments – a resident wished to raise the following concerns/comments

- The crown on the front of the newsletter for the King's Award is the St Edward's crown but King Charles uses the Tudor crown
- Concern about the new entrance to Spring Lea and request for better signage both ways alerting drivers to the fact that traffic may slow for caravans entering and leaving the site

127.25 Minutes of Council

After a proposal from Cllr Hignett, seconded by Cllr Windows, all in favour, it was **RESOLVED to APPROVE** the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th November 2025.

128.25 Shropshire Council Member Report Shropshire Councillor Nick Hignett gave a verbal report including:
FINANCES-the Council's financial position has worsened with a projected overspend of £50 million. SC have applied to the government for special financial support but will not know the outcome of their application until February.

There is a cabinet meeting on Thursday to consider a number of issues. Cllrs Hignett/Evans will report back to the next meeting.

129.25 Police Report – Cllr Fletcher read out a written report from PC Rich Walters about activities the local team have been involved in including:

- The team have been attending areas where concerns about speeding had been raised – including down Hall Bank from School Green and by the Plough garage.

Some speed calming measures were suggested. A resident commented that speeds into the village from Habberley had already reduced.

- The team have spoken to residents of Wray Dr who say that they feel safe and live living in the area, there were one or two issues that were raised.
- PC Walters had attached the local team surgery dates in the area – Clerk to forward to councillors
- A member of the team will attend the meeting with Housing Plus and residents on Thursday 11th December. The team thanked Cllr Fletcher for all his hard work supporting residents and co-ordinating meetings. Cllr Hignett was hoping to attend the meeting as well.

130.25 Planning Committee - Cllr Hodges gave a verbal report which was **NOTED**. Cllr Fletcher wished to thank Cllr Hodges for all his hard work and commitment to supporting the Planning Committee.

131.25 Finance & General Purposes Committee

131.25.1 After a proposal from Cllr Trow, seconded by Cllr Windows, all in favour, it was **RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the FGP meeting held on 23rd October 2025**

131.25.2 After a proposal from Cllr Day, seconded by Cllr Hodges, all in favour, it was **RESOLVED to approve the actuarial revaluation by Shropshire County Pension Fund as recommended by FGP committee at their meeting on 4th December 2025.**

132.25 Facilities Working group

132.25.1 After a proposal from Cllr Gregory, seconded by Cllr Trow, all in favour, it was **RESOLVED to approve the quotes received for the ongoing monthly Legionella testing/biennial Water Risk Assessment to be carried out for the public toilets and a maximum budget of £1500 for the remedial works recommended in the Water Risk Assessment for a check valve and a new water heater and to delegate authority to the FWG to organise these works and ongoing checks.**

132.25.2 After a proposal from Cllr Hignett, seconded by Cllr Gregory, all in favour, it was **RESOLVED to approve a maximum budget of £4000 for the tree work recommended in the tree inspection survey carried out in September 2025 and to delegate authority to the FWG to organise the work being done.**

132.25.3 After a proposal from Cllr Trow, seconded by Cllr Windows, all in favour, it was **RESOLVED to approve delegated authority to the FWG to draw up a specification for the renewal of the ground's maintenance contract for parish council managed land which needs to be let by 1 April 2026, to organise contractor visits and to obtain quotes to bring back to the March 2026 council meeting.**

132.25.4 After a proposal from Cllr Trow, seconded by Cllr Hignett, all in favour, it was **RESOLVED to approve delegated authority to the FWG to carry out maintenance on the bench on Pontesbury Hill with a maximum budget of £250**

133.25 Statutory Business and Finance

133.25.1 Income of £1992.86. This was **NOTED**.

133.25.2 After a proposal from Cllr Trow, seconded by Cllr Hodges, all in favour, it was **RESOLVED to approve payments of £18,070.93 as attached.**

133.25.3 After a proposal by Cllr Day, seconded by Cllr Windows, all in favour, it was **RESOLVED to approve a transfer of £20,000 from CCLA to Unity account for December and January payments**

133.25.4 the new IT policy for the council to satisfy Assertion 10 requirements of the Small Authorities Proper Practices, was deferred to January 2026 meeting

134.25 Health & Safety Matters – Cllr Gregory raised concerns about the small number of solar lights on the Minsterley to Pontesbury cycleway that had been working when he last went past. Cllr Fletcher responded that these lights were activated as bikes and pedestrians approached on the cycleway and shouldn't be activated by passing cars and so shouldn't be on all of the time and noted concerns that with a series of days with little sunshine these were not very bright. Clerk has contacted the contractor about these issues and would circulate his response.

135.25 Parish Council Strategic Plan 2026-29. After a proposal from Cllr Windows, seconded by Cllr Hodges, all in favour, it was **RESOLVED to approve the updated Strategic plan as reviewed at a meeting on 24th November 2025 by councillors.**

135.25.1 a working group was set up to look at combining the parish council, Pavilion and Neighbourhood Plan websites. Cllrs Trow, Fletcher, Windows would work with Clerk/deputy to consider this and report back to full council.

136.25 CIL Neighbourhood Fund Allocations Review. After a proposal from Cllr Day, seconded by Cllr Windows, all in favour, it was **RESOLVED to approve** the following changes to CIL Neighbourhood Fund allocations:

136.25.1 £10,000 from the allotment allocation to be added to the Play Area refurbishment Earmarked Reserve

136.25.2 £8,000 from the allotment allocation to be used in 2026-27 for streetlight column replacements

137.25 Request for funding for Green Day to be held on 2nd May 2026.

It was agreed to support this request in principle and to ask for a detailed request giving breakdown of costs and any match funding to come to full council in the new year

138.25 Clerk's Report - A report from the Parish Clerk was received and **NOTED**. Cllr Hodges update the councillors about the new drain to alleviate flooding, by Cruckton School. Cllr Hodges had concerns about effectiveness of the new drain and would report his concerns on FixMyStreet.

139.25 Parish Business the following parish business was reported:
Cllr Windows asked about any follow up about the Old Railway Line linking Pontesbury and Shrewsbury. This would be covered by the working group set up to look at traffic calming and road safety set up following the November meeting. This group will meet in the new year.

140.25 Date and Time of Next Meeting. The next parish council meeting will be held on Monday 12th January 2026 at The Pavilion at 6.30pm
The meeting closed at 7.25pm

Signed:
Chairman Pontesbury Parish Council

Date: