

ASTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Councillor Kate Lloyd

Clerk: Lisa Harris

Email: clerk@astleyshropshireparishcouncil.gov.uk

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Held on 17 September 2025 at Astley Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors E Bedell, K Lloyd (Chair), H Mardell, S Robinson, K Sumner, D Williams and Shropshire Councillor B Mallon

Clerk: Lisa Harris

3 members of the public were present

39.25 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor R Peate.

40.25 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

- a) Councillor Lloyd declared a pecuniary interest in 46.25 and would leave the room during consideration.
- b) There were no applications for a dispensation regarding disclosable pecuniary interests

41.25 Public Participation Session - a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for the public to speak, with a strict 5-minute limit per speaker. Members of the public may speak on matters appearing on the agenda. However, if a matter does not appear on the agenda, a written request should be submitted to the Clerk no later than 2 working days before the meeting.

Having notified the Clerk in advance of their intention, a member of the public asked that some maintenance work be carried out on the noticeboard in Upper Astley as notices are getting damp due to rainwater ingress.

42.25 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 July 2025

The minutes of the previous meetings had been circulated.

It was proposed by Councillor Lloyd and seconded by Councillor Mardell and **resolved (without opposition)**

that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 July 2025 be accepted as a true record.

The minutes were signed accordingly.

43.25 Clerk's report on matters arising since the Parish Council Meeting on 14 May 2025

- Updated website as necessary with relevant community information e.g. upcoming road works, Project Gigabit and fly tipping.
- As there is no funding available from Shropshire Council to provide any dog waste bins, a "Clean Streets, Happy Feet!" initiative has been introduced by the Dog Warden team. The aim is to remind people to pick up any mess left behind by their dog. A stencil has been supplied and the correct paint purchased. The stencils will be trialled within the Parish, if a need is identified, to determine efficacy.



- Emailed Shropshire Council's Highways asking for an update on the A53. Received a response that WSP have received the priced scheme from Kier, and the costs are currently being reviewed. Once this has been finalised/agreed, Kier will then be instructed to programme the works in, order the necessary signage, etc.
- The request for the quarterly parish priority list relating to the Community Charter had been received from West Mercia Police. Following a full discussion the priorities were agreed as being Speeding, Anti-Social Driving and Thefts (Dwelling).

ACTION: Clerk to return the completed parish priority list to Shrewsbury Rural East.

A parishioner has expressed an interest in becoming involved in a Community Speed Watch Scheme. Community Speed Watch is a community driven road safety initiative, coordinated by West Mercia Police but managed and run by volunteers in the community. It involves trained volunteers from the community monitoring the speeds of vehicles with approved, hand-held speed measurement devices. Where vehicle speeds are found to be inappropriate, a letter is sent to the registered keeper by the police with the aim of encouraging them to reduce their speed when driving in the future.

The scheme was introduced to enhance West Mercia Police's speed enforcement strategy by addressing community concerns in areas that do not meet either speed or collision criteria for police-led enforcement.

A Community Speed Watch scheme is initiated when "speeding traffic" has been identified as a community road safety concern by a parish council or safer neighbourhood team. However, a number of criteria must be met before a scheme can be established:

- The area must have a 30mph or 40mph speed restriction.
- Speed data collected by West Mercia Police must show that speed levels in the area do not meet the national industry requirements for police enforcement.
- No other enforcement activity is currently in place.
- There must be at least six volunteers in each Community Speed Watch scheme.
- Speed checks must be conducted by at least three volunteers at any one time.
- The monitoring sites are selected by the Police and must meet stringent criteria.

Attempts had previously been made to set up such a group but there had been insufficient interest from the community. It was therefore decided to put out a call for volunteers in Hadnall & Astley News. If there was sufficient volunteer interest, then the Parish Council would look at the feasibility of setting up a Community Speed Watch Scheme.

ACTION: Clerk to include a call for volunteers in the Parish Council's "advert" in the next issue of Hadnall & Astley News.

44.25 To receive reports from

a) Shropshire Councillor

Councillor Brendan Mallon presented the following report:

Shropshire Council Financial Emergency

You may by now be aware that Shropshire Council has declared a “Financial Emergency” as a result of the forecast for Quarter 4 of the current financial year. The shortfall is circa £900,000 and whilst this may not appear to be a huge amount of money, it would put SC in an illegal financial position by the end of that year. The purpose of the declaration is to facilitate emergency measures to bring us back into a legal financial position by March. This needs to happen because the result of maintaining this illegal position would be the imposition of a ‘Section 114’, whereby external administrators come into the council to impose drastic cuts to non-statutory services such as libraries and leisure centres. I shall be attending cabinet to gain greater understanding of the circumstances and potential remedial measures. Rest assured I will be doing my best to represent the needs of Astley and the other parishes of Tern in the upcoming months.

600 House Development by Battlefield Roundabout

I have been made aware by my Battlefield colleague of a huge proposal by Manor Oak Homes to build 600 houses by the Battlefield roundabout (see accompanying image below). Clearly, with the ongoing chronic shortage of critical infrastructure and services around North Shrewsbury, this plan should raise concerns for the adjacent parishes. This land had originally been earmarked for commercial development, however the applicant is attempting to gain a change of use. The applicant requested a screening opinion on whether an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was required. The Local Planning Authority's decision was that it was not, concluding that the proposed development would not have significant effects on the environment. We are still waiting for the developer to submit a “Pre-Application” before we can bring you any more information. As more information becomes available, I will of course let you know, but in the meantime, I would encourage awareness of this among your residents.

A53 Works

I have now received confirmation that this work has been approved and is currently sitting with the WSP / Kier contractors. My next step will be to ascertain what timeline they are working to and report this back to you.

Brendan Mallon
Councillor for Tern

b) RAF Shawbury

No report was available at the meeting.

45.25 Current financial matters

a) Payments

Payee	Description	Amount
Miss L Harris	Clerk's expenses August/September	£ 53.93
Miss L Harris	Clerk's salary August/September	£ 832.84
HMRC	PAYE on Clerk's salary August/September	£ 208.20
E.ON	Maintenance Contract 2025/26	£ 44.26
Astley Village Hall	Venue hire 2024/25	£ 150.00
Astley Village Hall	Venue hire 2025/26 (1 of 2)	£ 75.00
TOTAL		£ 1364.23

It was proposed by Councillor Lloyd and seconded by Councillor Mardell and **resolved (without opposition)**

that the above accounts be approved for payment.

b) Bank reconciliation to 10 September 2025

The bank was reconciled at £14,663.08, being the online banking balance on the date the

meeting agenda was prepared. The bank reconciliation was agreed and signed accordingly.

46.25 Planning

1. Decisions to note

a. Ref: 25/02047/FUL

Address: Haughmond Villa Ebrey Wood Astley Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 4DD

Description: Erection of single storey orangery

Validated: 13 Jun 2025

Status: Granted

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

b. Ref: 25/02560/CPE

Address: Wynnstay Group Plc

Description: Application for a Lawful Development Certificate of existing use to constitute lawful commencement of granted planning permission 24/01062/OUT

Validated: 10 Jul 2025

Status: Lawful

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

[Councillor Lloyd temporarily left the room]

2. Planning applications for consideration

a. Ref: 25/02862/LBC

Address: Church House Astley Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 4BP

Description: Reinstatement of a historically sympathetic front porch, erection of a garage and secure store In place of a storm-damaged open car port, insertion of conservation window in an unobserved valley between two roofs

Validated: 04 Aug 2025

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

b. Ref: 25/02861/FUL

Address: Church House Astley Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 4BP

Description: Reinstatement of a historically sympathetic front porch, erection of a garage and secure store In place of a storm-damaged open car port, insertion of conservation window in an unobserved valley between two roofs

Validated: 04 Aug 2025

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

[Councillor Lloyd rejoined the meeting]

c. Ref: 25/03057/TCA

Address: 15 Astley Court Astley Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 4DG

Description: Reduce crown by up to 2 metres of 1no. Acer within Astley Conservation Area

Validated: 19 Aug 2025

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

d. Ref: 25/03199/AMP

Address: 5 Albrightlee Hall Barns Albrightlee Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 4FA

Description: Non Material Amendment to planning application 25/0166/FUL – Adding two roof lights, one to the new single storey extension and one to the existing.

Validated: 28 Aug 2025

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

No comments or objections were made to the planning applications for consideration.

47.25 To receive any relevant updates from parish councillors

- Councillor Bedell:
 - Reported that checks had been performed on the defibrillators and confirmed that both appliances were ready to use as and when required. The Circuit has been updated.
 - Had been made aware of a number of incidents of fly tipping in and around the Parish. Checked on FixMyStreet and found that reports had been made with notifications from Shropshire Council that the rubbish would be cleared within 5 working days. Advised the Clerk who chased with Shropshire Council and the fly tipping in this parish has now been cleared. Will be liaising with the Environmental Enforcement Officer to discuss prevention measures moving forward.
 - Received a complaint from a local resident about the speed at which some vehicles are exiting the Greenfields Hydro Centre on to the bridleway. Emailed the Chief Executive of Conover College to make them aware and received a positive response confirming the problem will be sorted and staff will be spoken to.
- Councillor Sumner:
 - Attended the recent Village Hall Committee Meeting, acting as the Parish Council liaison. The Committee has now issued the invoices to the Parish Council for venue hire in 2024/25 and for the first half of 2025/26 and extend their apologies for the lateness of this due which was due to the current vacancy for a Treasurer. The next quiz night is on 19 September. A winter Frost Fair has been planned to take place on Saturday 15 November. The carpark extension is a work in progress. A positive move has been the rejoining of the Village Hall Association which provides the opportunity to apply for grants and the sharing of information. A request was made to be given access to the Parish Council's website to update the Village Hall information. The Clerk explained that this was not possible as the Parish Council now had an official government domain (.gov.uk) which was only to be accessed by the Proper Officer i.e. the Clerk.
- Councillor Lloyd:
 - Finally set up with chair@astleyshropshireparishcouncil.gov.uk email account
 - Will be attending RAF Shawbury's Annual Reception on 25 September, representing Astley Parish Council.

48.25 Highway matters

Nothing beyond what already mentioned.

49.25 Correspondence

Nothing beyond what already mentioned.

50.25 Future agenda items

- Clerk will be presenting the half year budget review at November's meeting in advance of finalising the 2026/27 budget/precept in January. Any unplanned expenditure for 2025/26 e.g. donation to church clock repair, will be agreed.

ACTION: All councillors to give thought to any potential costs for 2026/27 (e.g. defibrillator consumables, bus shelter maintenance, noticeboard repair) in advance of the meeting.

51.25 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 19 November 2025, 7.00pm at Astley Village Hall

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending and the meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Signed by Chairman:

Date: 19 November 2025