

ADDERLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Adderley Parish Council meeting on 24th September 2025
held at Adderley Village Hall and starting at 7.30 pm

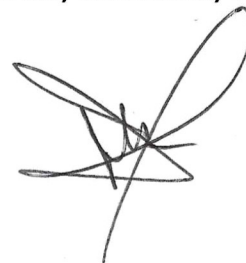
Present: Councillors M Coulon, A Swindale, P Shepley and J Crennell and Unitary Councillor M Myles-Hook
also J Evans (Locum Clerk)

Apologises: Councillor N Evans

1. **Welcome / Present / Apologises** – Councillors present as listed above.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – None
3. **Public Session** – There were 3 members of the public present who spoke about the following issues respectively:
 - Concerns regarding the non-compliance with planning laws. The resident detailed times when planning consent had been refused, building had gone ahead, a stop order had been issued but work had not stopped. They went on to question Shropshire Council's policy regarding this matter and suggested that there needs to be a real disincentive to deter people. Cllr Myles-Hook agreed to take this matter forward with Shropshire Council's Planning Dept.
 - Concerns about the Openreach cables that are opposite the houses along Green Bank as they in amongst tree branches and may be damaged during high winds. This matter was discussed and the Clerk will advise Openreach of the issue.
 - Adderley School. As this was not a Parish Council matter Cllr Myles-Hook agreed to take this forward.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 30th July 2025** - Prior to the meeting the Councillors had received copies of these minutes and it was resolved by the Council that they were a true and accurate records of proceedings.
5. **Clerk's update regarding on-going matters:**

The following updates were advised to the Council:

 - a. Since the last meeting the new Clerk had resigned due to ill health and the previous Clerk had returned on a Locum basis while the recruitment process was undertaken again. As this happened quite quickly and three Councillors had been given delegated power regarding the appointment and recruitment of a new Clerk, at a previous meeting, the Parish Council agreed with this course of action. The job advert for a new Clerk was published on 4th September and open for applications until 8th October and so far, there had been one applicant.
 - b. No further communication had been received relating to the proposed weight restriction on Hawksmoor Bridge.
 - c. An update from Shropshire Council advised that only Cllr Evans had completed his Online Register of Interests although Cllr Swindale had almost completed his. The Clerk suggested that, when Cllr Evans returned from holiday, the Cllrs could get together and have a workshop to complete these forms.
 - d. The Locum Clerk advised that she had not taken forward replacing the Council's laptop as she was leaving this for the new Clerk.
 - e. Cllr Coulon has been chasing the Armed Forces Covenant and this is almost ready for signing.
 - f. Cllr Crennell has been added to the Bank Mandate to replace the retired Cllr Paul Nash.
6. **Report from Unitary Councillor** – Cllr Myles-Hook continues to send out monthly reports, which the Clerk had circulates to Cllrs. Cllr Myles-Hook highlighted the financial problems that Shropshire Council are currently facing with the July figures indicating a £1m over spend and therefore a financial emergency being declared last week. He added that Shropshire Council's Chief Executive has left and they are currently looking for a replacement.



7. **Report from Committees by Adderley Parish Council Representatives** – Cllr Coulon reported that he had attended the informal zoom meeting for Council Chairs.

8. **Planning** – The following Planning Applications were considered and **comments agreed**:

None received

Determination of Planning

None reported

9. **Accounts**

a. **Expenditure** – For the Council to accept and approve the below detailed expenditure

Payee	Details		Net Amount	Vat Amount	Authority
T Seabridge	Grounds maintenance	Int Bk	£440.00	88	HA 1980 s 96
N Power	Electric supply for street lights	DD	£155.53	£7.78	PCA 1957 ss 3 (1)
N Power	Electric supply for street lights	DD	£97.06	£4.85	PCA 1957 ss 3 (1)
34sp.com	Website charges	DD	£7.50		LGA 1972 s 142
Unity Trust Bank	Monthly bank charges		£6.00		LGA 1972 s 111
Jane Evans	Locum Clerk's wages - Aug & Sept 2025				LGA 1972 s 112 (2)
	Total		£706.09	£100.63	

It was resolved by the Council that all these expenses were paid.

b. **Bank Reconciliation** – For the Council to receive and accept the Bank Reconciliation:

Balance brought forward £ 11,048.20

Income to date £ 15,899.12

Expenditure to date £ 12,212.50

Balance to be carried forward £ 14,734.82

Bank Balances as at 31st August 2025:

Current Account £ 1,234.82

Interest Earning Account £ 13,500.00

Adjustment for payments not yet authorised £ 0.00

Total of Reconciled Bank Balances £ 14,734.82

The Clerk advised that she would be completing and circulating the financial information for the quarter ending September next week and also completing the six-monthly VAT return which would be more than £1,000.

c. **Defib Maintenance Contract** – Cllr Coulon handed out detailed of this five-year service contract for the Defib and this was discussed after which it was agreed that Cllr Coulon would liaise with the company and report back at the next meeting.

d. **Internal Auditor** – The Clerk advised that the previous Internal Auditor had retired and she was trying to find another one for this financial year end.

10. **Highways & Environmental Health** – The Council discussed the following issues:

- The firing of gas cannons – A resident had contacted the Clerk regarding the very frequent firing of gas cannons from a nearby farm but Cllrs were pleased to advise that this had now ceased.
- Large Trees over hanging the A529 – Cllr Shepley highlighted the issue has tree limbs overhanging the A529 between Adderley and Market Drayton and it was agreed that the Clerk will contact the Shropshire Council contact about this.

- Metal work in hedging – Cllr Crennell advised that the metal fencing that was in the hedging north of Adderley School, on the right, was sticking out over the highway again, the Clerk will report this again.
- Reflectors on A529 between Adderley and Audlem – Cllr Coulon reported that some of these reflectors are missing, the Clerk will advise Shropshire Highways.
- Interactive sign by South Lodge – Cllr Shepley advised that as this sign has not been working properly for any length of time since it's installation then it should be either fixed or removed, the Clerk will contact Shropshire Highways about this again.
- Cattle crossing north of Adderley School – Cllr Shepley highlighted this matter and the Clerk advised that Shropshire Highways have asked for evidence of issues before they can take this matter forward.
- Dog Poo spray paint – The Clerk had emailed Shropshire Council to question if their approval was required to use spray paint on the highways, as she has not received a response, she will chase.
- Adderley Parish Council Interactive Sign – Cllr Coulon highlighted the need for a Councillor to take over responsibility of this device in the future.

11. Street Lighting – There was nothing to report.

12. Playground Report – The following quotes were discussed:

- Securing the benches – The Councillors considered the quotes received to secure the two benches inside the play area so that they could not be moved near the Vortex and agreed that concrete pads, with bolts, under each bench, costing £600 plus vat, would be the best option.
- Boundary fencing quote – The Councillors went outside to look at the gap at the bottom of the boundary fencing. Although this issue was not mentioned in the recent ROSPA report it had been highlighted by residents and so the Council agreed to the quote of £1,395.35 to get this done.
- Proposal for football facilities – As no proposal had been received this will be included in the agenda for the next meeting.

13. Benches – The Council considered the quote for removing and re-nervating the six benches that it owned around the village for £650 plus vat and agreed to go ahead with this work.

14. Library/Bus Shelter – The Council had not received an up-to-date quote for work to level the surface in front of the bus shelter and Cllr Crennell suggested that he take this forward for the next meeting, all agreed.

15. Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Evans continues to circulate any information he receives to the Neighbourhood Watch group and Councillors.

16. West Mercia Police Local Policing Community Charter – The Council reviewed their current priorities under this Charter, which were thefts (farms), thefts (dwelling) and speeding, and agreed these should remain the same. Cllr Shepley also asked if the Clerk could follow up the issues raised at the last meeting regarding the person that lived on the canal.

17. New Councillors – The Council discussed the need to co-opt two more residents to fill the vacant Councillor positions and Cllr Swindale will discuss this with various people at the next Saturday morning Village Coffee Morning and report back.

18. Correspondence – General topic notes and information bulletins from ALC/SALC/NALC/ Shropshire Council are circulated by email to Councillors between meetings and additionally the Clerk had received a request for the Parish Council to pay for the annual Christmas Tree. The Clerk explained that this expense had already been included in the agreed budget and the Council agreed.

19. Parish Matters – No further matters were raised.

Exclusion of press and public: That in accordance with s1(2) Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960, members of the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the



following items to be considered involves the likely disclosure of sensitive/confidential information

20. Clerk & Locum Clerk – The salary and temporary contract of the Locum Clerk were discussed and agreed along with the salary of the previous Clerk.

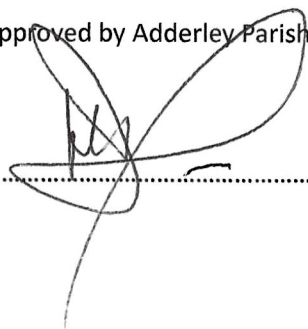
21. Agenda Items for next meeting to be held on Wednesday 22nd October 2025. No further items were raised.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.55 pm

Approval of the Minutes held on 24th September 2025

Minutes accepted and approved by Adderley Parish Council at a meeting held on 22nd October 2025

Signed by the Chairman

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