

	MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SHELSLEYS PARISH COUNCIL Held in the Village Hall on 10th March at 7pm in the year 2026
	Present: Chairwoman, Val Jones, Karen Metcalfe, Laura Taylor, John Stinton, Dave Bates, , and Sean Hinton.
	In attendance: One member of the public and the Clerk.
6.1	Apologies: Louise Hutton, Jean Hammond and Carole Warren (accepted). County Councillor Justin Bowen and District Councillors Pam and Paul Cumming.
6.2	Declaration of Interest: None.
	Public Question Time: No questions.
6.3	Minutes: The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on January 13 th 2026 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairwoman Val Jones.
6.4	Midland Automobile Club: The forthcoming season was discussed including Supercar Fest and Bike Bonanza. The members agreed that no issues were raised but the item will be on the next agenda when it is hoped a representative from the MAC will be able to attend.
6.5	District and County Councillors' Reports: A written report from the County Councillor was circulated to the councillors, by email prior to the meeting, there were no comments.
6.6	Highways and Footpaths: The Lengthsman's worksheets have been received and accepted. New Mill Bridge flooding and road surfaces. The clerk reported to the agent for the Winnington Estate who would inform the land tenant of his responsibility. Also reported to Highways which in an email dated 13 th Feb said drains would be cleaned in next 4 weeks. It is understood some of the gullies have been cleared. The lengthsman will be again be asked to clear ditches by and above the Birche in order to stop water flowing along Fetterlocks Lane. The poor state of the road surface by the Shelsley bungalows was again been reported to Highways. An incomplete filling of the damaged edge to the lane is insufficient and the assistance of County Councillor Bowen will be sought. A letter received from Traffic Management regarding the speed limits along Pard House Lane and Stanford Road stated that there will be no change to the limits. Overhanging saplings and branches in the hedges on Fetterlocks Lane are causing problems. The landowner to be contacted Camp Lane will be closed for surface patching from April 19 for up to four days.

	Footpaths. The footpath sign at The Grange is down and needs to be reinstated. The 2006 footpath closure dates at the Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb have been received.
6.7	Urgent Decisions: Grant to The Shelsleys Village Hall Management Committee £1216.50 (invoice to be provided). Hire of the Village Hall £22.00
6.8	Planning: MHDC decision M25/01547/LB The Hop Barn The Green WR6 6SA approved.
6.9	Correspondence for Information and Circulation: All correspondence for information delivered via email has been circulated including Clerks and Councils Direct. Local Government Reorganisation letter received from MHDC no comment. Open Spaces. After discussing the protection of common land within the parishes it was agreed to pay £45 subscription for one year.
6.10	Village Hall: A group for local women to meet has been set up to promote entertainment, education and enjoyment. A informal bi-monthly meeting will be arranged. It is understood grants for promoting community groups are available and this will be pursued. The new roof for the village hall will shortly be installed.
6.11	Graveyard flowers: Kate Hurst Church Warden kindly attended the meeting to explain the Church in general and All Saints' proposal to have sustainable home grown flowers and to cease the use of floral foam (oasis) and single use plastics in places of worship and graveyards. The use of moss will be promoted instead for use by florists and undertakers. Plastic and artificial flowers degrade over time in sunlight and foam is consumed by animals. Planting of bulbs and annual flowers on graves is instead to be encouraged. Many graves are visited occasionally by families which have moved away and cannot attend to the graves regularly. Fresh flowers are then not considered appropriate and the question whether this is to be denied was raised. The sensitivity of plots should be respected. Maintenance of the graveyard was discussed when the possibility of a quarterly tidying of dead or damaged flowers could be removed. Also raised was the possibility of the new guidance being effective for new graves only allowing established graves to be tended as currently. A question was raised as to the legality of removing tributes without permission and whether owners of the plots could be contacted. This will be followed up.
6.12	Mobile signal: WCC is able to provide a device which will boost mobile signal in the area where reception is poor. The ideal place would be sited at the village hall for which permission is required. It is also hoped that provision can be made in other parts of the parish.

6.13	IT Policy: It was agreed to adopt the Policy details of which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.						
6.14	Progress Reports: New email addresses and website creation are still being arranged. The server requires a monthly payment of £3. This payment was agreed and the clerk will add to expenses.						
6.15	Finance: The following payments were agreed: <table border="1" data-bbox="225 539 1409 651"> <tr> <td>Lengthsman</td><td>£552.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Open Spaces</td><td>£45.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total</td><td>£597.00</td></tr> </table> A sum of £280.00 received from WCC in respect of the lengthsman.	Lengthsman	£552.00	Open Spaces	£45.00	Total	£597.00
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6.16	County Association of Local Councils: To consider attendance at forthcoming training events (previously emailed) and information received. The new councillor was advised of the training available. Clerk to forward details.						
6.17	Councillors' reports and items for future agenda: The possibility of placing benches (Legend on a Bench) in the parish was discussed. It will be an agenda item in May. The April Parish Walk will be on April 28th Future walks and volunteers to arrange them to be discussed.						
6.18	Date of next and future meetings: The Annual Parish meeting will be held on May 12th at 7pm in the Village Hall followed by The Annual Meeting of The Parish Council. Future meeting dates are July 14 th September 8 th (or 15 th) November 10 th						
	The meeting concluded at 20.50 J Speyer March 11th 2026						