

Worfield & Rudge Parish Council
Chairman: Cllr E Aldridge
Vice Chair: Cllr G Timmins



Clerk/RFO: Mr R Morgan
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MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 3rd September 2026 AT ST PETERS CHURCH, WORFIELD, 7PM

Present: Councillors E Aldridge (Chairman), I Dick, S Edwards, R Greaves, J Goulding, D Hodson, G Humphries, D Plain, R Taylor, G Timmins, G Tudor and M Writtle.

In attendance: Mr R Morgan (Clerk) and local residents.

60.2026/27 Chairman's Report: The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that she would provide reports on actions and meetings held as items came up on the agenda for discussion.

61.2026/27 Apologies: Councillors J Crowther, K Rouwenhorst and D Husemann (Shropshire County Councillor).

Resolved that the apologies are noted.

62.2026/27 Declarations of Interests: As per Registers of Interests. Also, Cllr D Hodson – Item 64.2026/27.

63.2026/27 Public Session

Local residents provided an update to Councillors on events that have taken place regarding the land and caravans at Stableford. The Council empathised with the residents and the issues they are experiencing. It was suggested that the residents write to the Police and Councillor D Husemann to inform them of recent events at Stableford and thanked them for providing the information to Council.

64.2026/27 Grant Application Friends of Stanmore Country Park

Councillors considered an application for a grant from Friends of Stanmore Country Park (FOSCP). Councillor D Hodson left the meeting whilst this item was being discussed.

Resolved to award FOSCP a grant of £450.00

Councillor D Hodson rejoined the meeting.

65.2026/27 Co-Options for the Vacancy for Ackleton Ward

There were no applications to consider and the Clerk was asked to continue advertising the vacancy on the Council's social media.

66.2026/27 Reports from West Mercia Police

Councillors received a copy of the report provided by the Police for incidents occurring in all of the Worfield, Claverley and Rudge areas for August 2026. Apologies were provided that the data had not been broken down just to cover Worfield.

Emotional Domestic – 1 report
Duplicate logs – 3 reports –
Adult protection – 2 - Referrals made

RTC – 5 – No injury
RTC – 1- Injury not life threatening
ANPR – 6 – 1 – seized
2 – Couldn't find

2 – Went off force and passed to West Mids
1 - found and arrested

Failed to stop – 1 – Police forced to abandon
Failed to Stop - 1 – Untrained Officers abandoned

Drink Drive – 1 – Passed over to West Mids
Reports of Dangerous driving – 2 - Off force – passed to West Mids
Phone activation RTC – No crash - phone left on roof
Drive in accordance of licence – 1 – Dealt with, car seized
Danger on Road – 1 – Dealt with and cleared
Reports of Drug Drive – 1 – Could not find – added to Police hotlist
Car broken down – RAC called

Dangerous Dog – 3 – Reported and referred to Dog handlers to investigate
Livestock in Road – 3 – Dealt with and returned
Animal Welfare – 1 – Police powers used and passed to RSPCA

Threats To Kill – Adult protection referral and Mal comms crimed and investigated
GBH – 1 – arrested and charged
GBH – Victim only – no complaints made - refused

Burglary of outside building – 1 – Forensics and investigated
Sus behaviour – 1 - Intel submitted
Banking protocol – 1- Crimed and investigated

Reports of Drug Deal – ID'd – Intel submitted
Fly tipping – 1- Dealt with and reported
Sus circs – 3 - No crime reported/recorded
Historic theft – 1 – Investigated and currently with an Officer in charge
Dropped 999's – 1 - Attended as close as mapping allowed – nothing found.
o receive any reports from the local SNT.

67.2026/27 Reports from Shropshire Council

Each Councillor received a copy of a report from Councillor D Husemann pertaining to events in August. Issues this period included:

- Worrying incidences of criminality in the area over the past few weeks. The Chair informed Members that due to the inability to obtain satisfactory responses from the Police she and Councillor D Husemann had met with the local Police Inspector to discuss communication and co-operation and to find ways to improve this going forward.
- The enforcement team has been notified regarding the arrival of additional caravans at the Stableford site, which remains subject to an existing enforcement notice.
- The Russell Close grass cutting issue was raised. Residents have raised concerns about overgrown council-owned land, fire risk during dry weather, and the impact on neighbouring properties. Shropshire Council informed her that they had instructed Kier to progress recruitment of two full-time equivalent staff and hire additional equipment to maintain land transferred from STAR Housing, with work expected to begin once staff were appointed.
- Councillor D Husemann stated she has also followed up road closure information for the unnamed road between Chesterton and the B4176, Chesterton, where carriageway repairs are scheduled to include kerbing, signposts and ironworks. She asked for clarification on the exact road affected so that residents and local contacts can be given accurate information.

68.2026/27 Minutes of the Full Council meetings

To approve the accuracy of the minutes taken at the Council Meeting held on 2nd July 2026.

Resolved that the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

69.2026/27 Matters arising from Minutes: There were no matters arising.

70.2026/27 Financial Reports

- a. To approve the schedule of payments for July 2026.
Resolved that the schedule of payments for July 2026 are ratified and accepted as a true record.
- b. To approve the schedule of payments for August 2026.
Resolved that the schedule of payments for August 2026 are ratified and accepted as a true record.
- c. To receive the bank reconciliation as at 31st July 2026.
Resolved that the Bank Reconciliation as of 31st July 2026 is ratified and accepted as a true record.
- d. To receive the bank reconciliation as at 31st August 2026.
Resolved that the Bank Reconciliation as of 31st August 2026 is ratified and accepted as a true record.
- e. To receive the financial budget summary as at 31st August 2026.
Resolved that the financial budget summary as of 31st August 2026 is noted.

71.2026/27 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) Conclusion of Audit 2025/2026

Each Councillor received a copy of the external auditors' report regarding this Council's AGAR for year ended 31st March 2026. The Clerk explained what measures had now been put in place to ensure that the Risk Management Arrangements are satisfactory and reviewed annually.

72.2026/27 Budget Considerations 2027/2028

Councillors were asked to consider any projects that may require budgeting for in the financial year 2027/2028. Councillors asked if money received from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) could be spent on flood defence projects. However, members were informed that Natural England is investigating carrying out work to ease flooding from the River Worfe and other local rivers. The Clerk was asked to send Councillors a summary of what CIL money can be spent on.

The Chair was asked if the Smartwater Scheme was still ongoing or had it finished. Councillors were informed that PC N Hall is attending the meeting in October to discuss options available with the remaining kits. The Clerk informed those present that PC Hall had erected 2 Smartwater signs at Russell Close, and 2 A1 named signs at each end of the parish on the main A454.

It was suggested that money is spent on doing up the bus shelter at Green Lane, The Hobbins as it is very overgrown.

73.2026/27 Planning

- a. To consider the following planning application and note those decided since the last meeting:
 - i. 26/03135/LBC
Ewdness House, Oldington, Worfield, Bridgnorth, Shropshire.
Removal of chimney to the front elevation.
Resolved to support this application.
- b. Councillors were informed of the following planning application decisions made by Shropshire Council since the last Parish Council meeting:
 - i. 26/00720/LBC
Worfield C Of E School, Main Street, Worfield, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV15 5LF.
Replacement of oil-fired heating system with low carbon Air Source heat Pump system.
WRPC supported this application.
Shropshire Council granted permission on 28th July 2026.
 - ii. 26/02038/LBC (validated: 01/06/2026)
The Fold, Chesterton Farm Barns, Chesterton, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV15 5NX
Installation of two Air conditioning units
WRPC supported this application, however it was withdrawn on 17/08/2026.

74.2026/27 Reports from Parish Councillors and Outside Bodies

Cllr G Timmins was asked if he could chase up the invoice to the Parish Council for the use of the room at St Peter's Church. He informed Councillors of the ongoing work at the Petrol Station on A454 but was concerned that no planning application had been received. The Clerk was asked to contact Shropshire Council Planning to ask if an application had been submitted. The Parish Council can also approach the garage and ask what the plans are for the site.

Cllr D Hodson informed Councillors that the grass at Russell Close had now been cut and that he had recently reported two trees that had recently fallen over blocking Brook Lane at a dangerous height to drivers. These were removed very quickly. Cllr Hodson reported that he had a successful meeting with the head of Health and Safety at Grainger and Worrall Ltd, Stanmore Business Park with regard to complaints regarding smells coming from the site. The business had been compliant in investigating emissions but he stated he could still detect a low-level smell. However, if the smell is coming from other businesses how are they going to be pinpointed as to where they are coming from as the problem is that the smells are intermittent. The site owner has asked the landowner if solar panels can be erected in the car park and has asked the Parish Council if it could help support this. Following on from discussions and meetings held, residents and Swancote Energy now have a good working relationship.

Cllr G Humphries informed Councillors that the school was holding a Scarecrow Festival on 4th October with the Church. The event will take place at Worfield Primary School between 11am and 4pm to show off the creations. It was agreed that the Parish Council enters a scarecrow into the competition and Cllr G Tudor stated that she could get straw and old clothes. Queries were raised as to where people attending the event were going to park.

Those present were informed that the Headteacher had invited Members to a meeting with her at the school and it was agreed that **Cllr J Crowther** makes the first contact with her on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr R Taylor informed Councillors that data traffic strips had been placed across the road at Hallon. The Clerk has asked Shropshire Council Highways what they were for and if the data could be shared with the Parish Council. He is awaiting a response.

Cllr I Dick stated that the dog training at Shipley Quarry had now ceased operating.

Cllr M Writtle provided an update on Roughton Lodge stating that work was still carrying on there even though it is a Listed Building. He has had no response from Shropshire Council but this may be due to officers being on holiday. A report has been provided by Kembertons Planning Company, but it is up to Shropshire Council to check and enforce anything illegal. He was asked to send the report to Councillor D Husemann. He also informed those present that a new fence has been erected at Worfield Golf Club following a recent burglary and new faster broadband is available at Roughton.

Cllr D Plain informed Councillors of the closure of Bank Way on 14th September. The Clerk was asked to put this on its social media. He also informed those present of speeding vehicles coming into Worfield and suggested that drivers are reminded that there is a school in the village. It was suggested that a Speed Indicator Display Sign could be purchased using CIL money and erected at the entrance and exit to Worfield informing drivers of the speed limit and the school. The Clerk was asked to investigate the cost and legalities of installing a sign.

Cllr K Rouwenhorst informed Councillors in her absence via email that two items have been raised by Hilton residents:

The pathway from Hilton to Wyken is very overgrown and it is used regularly by children walking to Worfield School, residents running for exercise, and elderly people taking a gentle walk. The Clerk was asked to report this to Shropshire Council requesting that it is cleared.

In response to the question what the building is that is being built next door towards Wyken from the old peoples home, Councillors were informed that it is a house and that planning permission was granted in 2020.

She also informed Councillors that Hilton Brook is constantly being managed during this horrific rainy time and so far the work put into the brook earlier in the year by removing debris, is working.

75.2026/27 Date of next meeting

The Chairman informed Councillors that the next Council meeting will be held on Thursday 1st October 2026 at St Peter's Church, Worfield commencing at 7pm.

The meeting finished at 2055hrs.

Signed:

Date:

DRAFT