

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 4th June 2026 AT ST PETERS CHURCH, WORFIELD, 7PM

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

In attendance: Mr C Furnival (Locum Clerk) and D Husemann (Shropshire County Councillor).

Absent: Councillor I Dick.

28.2026/27 Chairman's Report

The Chairman welcomed all attendees and thanked the Locum Clerk for attending and taking the minutes. The Chair stated that Cllr S Edwards had received flowers from Councillors and passed on her thanks.

Cllr Husemann reported that issues relating to caravans have now been resolved.

29.2026/27 Apologies: Councillors S Edwards and K Rowenhurst.

Resolved that the apologies are noted.

30.2026/27 Declarations of Interests: As per Registers of Interests.

31.2026/27 Public Session: There were no members of the public present.

32.2026/27 Co-Options for the Vacancy for Ackleton Ward

Members were asked to consider any eligible applications for one vacancy for co-option for the Ackleton Ward and, if resolved, those named individuals to make their declaration of acceptance of office in the presence of the Proper Officer. However, there were no applications to consider.

33.2026/27 Reports from West Mercia Police: No reports were received.

34.2026/27 Reports from Shropshire Council

Councillor D Husemann discussed the report she had provided, a copy of which each Councillor had received. In her report she informed Councillors of:

- Recent events surrounding the illegal caravans at Stableford, related enforcement, environmental and resident concerns. On 21 May, Cllr Husemann personally visited the Stableford site to verify the latest situation and then reported back to EA that there were no caravans visible at that point. Work is continuing to ensure the site is returned to its original status prior to the caravans being on site.
- With regard to the concerns regarding alleged dog breeding activity at Roughton House Cottage, Planning informed me that a change of use was not required for 6 or less breeding dogs. I also sought advice about licencing and there may be a licence issued if a licence hasn't already been obtained.
- Cllr Husemann continues to push for pothole and highways improvements. Recent communications have been shared with the Chairs which evidence the very poor level of service we are receiving locally. She has raised this matter with the Leader of the Council and will discuss at a meeting with the Director of Highways.
- Rindleford bridge repairs have now been delayed until later in the year due to conditions imposed due to its listed status.

- The Council, Committee and Partnership Activity Meetings she had attended for which she provided a brief report.
- Future Priorities.

The Chair thanked Councillor D Husemann for the work carried out, especially with regard to the illegal caravans at Stableford and for her report.

35.2026/27 Minutes of the Full Council meetings

- I. To approve the accuracy of the minutes taken at the Annual Parish Meeting held on 7th May 2026.
Resolved that the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.
- II. To approve the accuracy of the minutes taken at the Annual Council Meeting held on 7th May 2026.
Resolved that the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

36.2026/27 Matters arising from Minutes: There were no matters arising.

37.2026/27 Financial Reports

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

38.2026/27 Planning

- a. Councillors considered the following planning applications:
 - i. 26/01732/FUL
Proposed Stables And Equestrian Premises West Of, Chapel Lane, Quatford, Bridgnorth, Shropshire.
Change of use of land to equestrian, construction of stabling, manege and (agricultural) storage building.
Resolved to Support, subject to officer review regarding emergency access arrangements.
 - ii. 26/01932/TCA
Coppice1no Alder & 1no Western Red Cedar (felling) within Worfield Conservation Area Lower Hall, Main Street, Worfield, Bridgnorth, Shropshire.
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. 26/01189/FUL
2 Brewers Lodge, Stanlow, Wolverhampton, Shropshire, WV6 7HZ.
Proposal: Two storey side extension.
WRPC supported this application.
Shropshire Council granted permission on 18th May 2026.

39.2026/27 Policies

Councillors were asked to review and adopt the Grant Application Policy for this Parish Council.
Resolved that the Grant Application Policy for this Parish Council is adequate.

40.2026/27 Devolution of Services

Councillors discussed any proposed devolution of services from Shropshire Council. The Locum Clerk provided an overview of statutory and non-statutory services that are being looked into at his local council as Shropshire Council commit to reducing their non-statutory services. Town and Parish Councils need to consider what they want services to look like in their respective parishes or accept to have only statutory services provided in the near future. Shared Service Agreements with neighbouring councils could be a viable, cost-effective arrangement.

Members noted that the Clerk should ask Shropshire Council to separate statutory and non-statutory services in the recent spreadsheet of services that they provided to the parish council.

Cllr Hodson noted Stanmore Country Park needed to be considered in these service management discussions.

41.2026/27 Neighbourhood Governance

Councillors were asked to discuss the email received from Shropshire Association of Local Councils with regard to the Neighbourhood Governance proposals through the English Devolution and Community Empowerment (EDCE) Bill and the effect it could have on Parish and Town Councils.

Resolved to note the contents of the email and defer it to the next Council meeting for future discussion.

42.2025/26 Shropshire Council Local Plan 2046

Councillors discussed this Council's response to the consultation on Shropshire Council's Local Plan 2046. It was noted that responses are to be submitted by 15th July 2026.

Resolved that the Planning Committee is to draft and submit a response prior to 15th July.

43.2026/27 Grass Cutting Russell Close

Councillors discussed the ownership and responsibility of grass cutting at Russell Close.

Resolved that the Clerk undertakes Land Registry searches to ascertain ownership of land at Russell Close

44.2026/27 Reports from Parish Councillors and Outside Bodies

Cllr G Timmins informed members of the theft at Royal Oak Island and local concerns raised.

Cllr J Crowther raised concerns that the visibility splay has not being cut at Dalicot Lane and that he had reported this on Fix My Street. The Clerk is to write to Cllr Huseman regarding this.

Cllr D Hodson raised concerns about the potholes at Barry's Island potholes and that highways inspection has been completed. Members were informed of ongoing concerns relating to pollution levels from Swancote and Stanmore Industrial Estate. This should be followed up with the EA and SC respectively.

Cllr G Tudor informed Councillors that Worfield Village Hall has been holding some successful events and that heating costs remain a concern. A litter bin has been installed, and a defibrillator map update was suggested.

Cllr E Aldridge raised concerns regarding burning waste at Bradeney House.

Cllr G Humphries informed those present that the new Headteacher of Worfield Primary School is continuing to seek funding and would like to record their thanks for the £1,000 provided by the Parish Council through grants awarded.

Cllr D Plain stated that work is ongoing to improve village visibility through war memorial and village hall initiatives.

45.2025/26 Date of next meeting

The Chairman informed Councillors that the next Council meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd July 2026 at St Peter's Church, Worfield commencing at 7pm.

The meeting finished at 2030hrs.

Copies of signed minutes are kept on file which will be retained by the Parish Council.