

Clunbury Parish Council

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Ordinary Meeting of Clunbury Parish Council 4th September 2025

MINUTES

Present: Cllr. Croxton – Chair, Cllr. Davies., Cllr. Harding, Cllr. Morgan, Cllr. Bailey, Cllr. Wall, Cllr. Jones, Cllr Lewis.

In attendance: Unitary Councillor Walmsley Paul Mulligan – Locum Clerk, Seven members of the public.

Seven members of the public

Meeting opened: 19.30

1. Public Participation

A period of up to 15 minutes for members of the public to ask questions or submit comments.

Members of the public raised four issue during this session.

- Access to the local graveyard via a gate that is currently locked.
- Car and pedestrian access to the graveyard that is causing concern to the neighbouring house by restricting their access.
- The proposed changes to the speed limit through Twitchen is seen as counter productive for one end of the village where there would be an increase in the speed limit on a road that already presents a range of hazards.
- The lack of vehicle activated speed calming signs in Clunton
Councillors were able to respond to the above as part of the meeting agenda.

2. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies should be submitted to the Parish Clerk in advance of the meeting.

Cllr. Branah-Taylor sent his apologies.

3. Declaration of Members' Interests

To receive declarations of personal, prejudicial and pecuniary interests from members relevant to items under discussion at the meeting.

None declared

4. Confirmation of previous minutes

To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2025.

Unanimously resolved accept the minutes of 26th June 2025 as a true and accurate record.

5. Matters arising from minutes not Included in this agenda.

None

6. Update from Unitary Councillor.

Cllr. Warmsley reported that pothole repairs throughout the County have increased by 50% since the new administration was elected in May. The highways backlog has also reduced, as has the telephone response time for contacting the County Council. There remains concern regarding the financial budget at County level, with spending heading towards a crises level. This may lead to a reduction in non-statutory services such as library provision. It was noted there is significant expenditure is on social care particularly for the fostering of children outside the County.

7. Climate and Environmental Group.

Cllr. Wall referred to his report and led the council through his key points (see attached). There were no matters arising.

It was confirmed that the anticipated felling of an ash tree in Twitched has been avoided and the tree has been pruned.

Environmental act 2021

Shropshire Local Nature Recovery Plan.

It was agreed to refer the issues above to two additional meetings. An initial discussion between the relevant agencies on Thursday 18th September at Clunton. An extra-ordinary Council meeting on Clunton 6.30. Thursday 9th October at Clunton. Both meeting to start at 18.30.

8. Financial Update

Update on banking arrangements and balances

Finance details were previously distributed. Expenditure and balances were reviewed. There were no matters arising.

9. Highways.

Road junction at Purslow

Utility Pole - Discussion took place regarding repositioning of a utility pole within the parish that is impacting on the site-line for traffic emerging from a junction. Members were informed that the cost of moving the pole was significant and beyond the reach of council funds.

Purslow Junction Mirror – Members were informed that the landlord of the Hundred Public House has agreed that a no parking sign can be attached to the post that supports the traffic mirror. He is also making an effort to discourage customers from causing further obstruction with parking.

Resolved to purchase a no parking sign for the post of with a £20.00 budget. Cllr.Wall to action.

Speed restrictions through Twitchen - It was noted that the original consultation had taken place to approve the adjustment of the speed limit through the village several years ago and that the changes were due before April 2026. Discussion took place regarding the section of the road that would have an increase in the speed limit from 30 – 40 mph. Members were sympathetic to the previous comments from residents from local to the area. There was also a recognition that the area of where the limit is to be increased is a hazardous pinch point for traffic. Cllr. Warmsley noted that police enforcement intervention was unlikely because of to the nature of the road. Due to

the apparent shift in sentiment from the original survey, he undertook to revisit the original plan with Highways and report back to the Council at the next meeting.

10. Flooding in Clunton and stream clearance.

A meeting outside the Council, has recently taken place with the aim of setting out a plan for the area. A written statement is expected from Highways outlining how the work will be actioned with a focus on the bridge. Cllr. Warmsley will monitor and feedback to members.

11. Plans for the Crown Inn

It was reported that the Crown Inn will close in the very near future. It is hoped that new tenants will be found to take over the business.

12. Kempton Phone Box

It was agreed that the removal of the phone box is unacceptable in circumstances where due notice was given for the box to remain. A range of correspondence has taken place between the parish/county council and BT, but no resolution has been reached. Efforts will continue to reinstall the kiosk.

13. VAS Sign Installation Update.

It was confirmed that the VAS signs are in place and functioning in Kempton

It was noted that the mobile VAS sign that has been jointly purchased with Clungunford had not been effectively utilized in the parish and would be useful in Clunford. The lack of a post was limiting but it was suggested that the sign could be attached to a post already in place. It agreed that Clungunford Parish Council will be contacted and the VAS sign retrieved.

14. Agricultural Fields East of Clunton.

Comments were made at the continued poor state of the environment on the fields. Cllr. Warmsley confirmed that county planning representatives had visited the site and were unable to take action at present. Members emphasised that, in their view, some aspects of how the environment was being treated is unacceptable.

15. Cemetery Access.

Cemetery Gate Access – Reference was made to the members of the public's enquiry about access to the cemetery via a gate that is currently locked. The issues was clarified when Members were informed that the right of way (footpath) that leads to the gate was removed a number of years ago and therefore there is no public access to the gate across the field. The matter is currently in the hands of the regional planning department and the Council is awaiting the outcome.

General Cemetery Access – Members referred to the comments from the public previously noted. They were understanding of the issues, particularly regarding parking. It was agreed that Members would meet with residents on site, to further discuss the issues, with consideration to additional signage and alternative parking sites.

16. Grant request from Parish Newsletter.

Members considered grant requests from two local publishers of parish newsletters.

Resolved by majority to donate £75.00 to the Parish Post and £75.00 What's On

The Clerk to action.

17. Emergency Planning

It was recognised that this was an important matter that would need more time and would be deferred to the next meeting. It was agreed that the Chair would contact the Mayor of Clun to discuss the matter with a view of setting up a networking meeting across the area. Cllr. Warmesley will follow-up regarding the availability of resources.

18. Items for next meeting not included in above.

None tabled.

19. Date of Next meeting

Extra-ordinary meeting – 9th October 2025 – Clunton Village Hall – 18.30

Ordinary meeting - 6th November 2025 – Clunton Village Hall – 18.30.

Meeting Closed: 21.45