

**MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF DITTON PRIORS PARISH COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON
Thursday 9th April 2026 at 7:30pm in the small hall of the Village Hall, Ditton Priors**

1. Public Session

2 members of the public were present.

a A representative on behalf of the Brown Clee Health & Wellbeing Society enquired about speaking to the Council regarding an update on their progress and was informed that this would be more appropriate at the Annual Parish Meeting.

b The same parishioner also represented the Village Hall and asked if the Council would like to suggest wording for a plaque acknowledging the support of the parish council. She also spoke about a grant application which would be dealt with under agenda item 8e.

c A parishioner queried the increase in the precept and requested more detailed expenditure figures to be published.

2. Acceptance of apologies

All Councillors present

3. Declarations of interest

None

4. Shropshire Council report

Shropshire Councillor G Hollyhead was not present

5. Approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th March 2026

It was RESOLVED to sign and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th March 2026.

6. Road closures –

Road Closure: Ashfield Road

Start Date: 4th June 2026

End Date: 5th June 2026

Purpose: Road closure (STW) Boundary box install

Works Promoter: SEVERN TRENT WATER LIMITED

Works Promoter Ref: LB9141201-000014238851-01

Enforcement pattern for Ashfield Road:

All the time

Noted

7. Planning

a Reference: 26/00901/FUL (validated: 06/03/2026)

Address: 17 Hillside, Ditton Priors, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 6TP

Proposal: Erection of two storey extension and alterations
Applicant: Mr. and Mrs. R. Cowell

View online at: <http://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=TBFWZZTDGVL00>

Council supported the application

b PLANNING REFERENCE - 26/01166/FUL

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED - Replace existing conservatory, repoint west gable and replace front canopy.

LOCATION: - 4 St Johns Court, Ditton Priors, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 6TQ.

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Whalley

View the application directly online: <http://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=TCH3S3TDHCY00>

Council supported the application

c Planning permission granted for Little Explorers

Noted

8. Finance:

a Invoices to pay.

Mrs Jayne Madeley	FPO	£601.22	
Pension Shropshire Council	FPO	£256.04	
Waterplus	DD	£10.99	due 07.04.26
Focus	DD	£17.99	due 30.03.26
Michael Jones	FPO	£180	
Ditton Priors Village Hall	FPO	£35	due 10.04.26
HMRC PAYE		£601.28	due 23.04.26

It was RESOLVED to pay the items highlighted in yellow. Due to insufficient funds in the bank account, it was decided that the Clerk would speak to JM regarding postponing her payments until the precept arrives. Pension reduced to £156.64. It was RESOLVED to amend the budget by virement, moving £500 from Projects to Churchyard Maintenance.

b Bank Reconciliation

	Dr £	Cr £
Balance b/f - 1 April 2025	14,020.08	
Receipts	26,586.66	
Payments		31,230.11
Balance c/f		9,376.63
	<u>40,606.74</u>	<u>40,606.74</u>

Bank reconciliation

	£	£
Balance per statements:		
Current account		838.63
savings account		8,538.00
long term deposit		-
		9,376.63

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| c CIL money loan/overdraft | No action |
| d Consider grant to St John's PCC | An update is required. Clerk to contact. |
| e Consider grant to the Village Hall | Are they match funding. Clerk to contact. |
| f Update from Finance Committee | Intention to meet in the next 3 weeks |

9. Update from Recruitment Working Group

Cllr Fox explained the process for the advertisement of the vacant position on SALC and Facebook. Documents relevant to the recruitment were presented and some amendments were made. The new Clerk will start on 1st June 2026.

10. Consider interim IT policy – RESOLVED to adopt and review in 3 months.

11. Bridgnorth and Shifnal Area meeting report

Clerk explained that the EMG is being raised to £1000 but other parishes want it raised to £1500. No firm decision has been made yet. A few larger Council have signed up to devolvement but it is not useful to small parishes.

12. Highways Act 1980 section 56 this was discussed briefly

13. Defib contact Bent Lane

This is The Circuit, Clerk has access to the online account.

14. Asset register

The finance committee will update this prior to the next meeting.

15. Correspondence

- a Telephone box Station Road - update noted
- b Safer Neighbourhood Team – have priorities changed? This was updated. Clerk to email
- c Whatsapp group - It was explained that this could be useful to general questions but must NOT be used for Council business. Clerk to send out draft communications policy.

16. Item at Chair's discretion

- a Clerk to chase Shropshire Verges
- b The Clerk and Cllr Gregory left the room whilst there was a discussion about the temporary Clerk being remunerated.
- c The Chair stated that he will be standing down and resigning at the next meeting

17. Date of next scheduled meeting Thursday 14th May 2026

18. Staffing matters - confidential

Pursuant to 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960), it is resolved that because of the business to be transacted the Public and Press leave the meeting.