

**MINUTES**  
**CARDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MEETING**  
**held in Cardington Village Hall on**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026**  
**Following the Annual Meeting**

**Present:**

C'Ilr Tonks (Chairman), C'Ilr Norris (Vice-Chairman); C'Ilr Davies; C'Ilr Seabury; C'Ilr Maydew, C'Ilr Lowe, C'Ilr Watkins, C'Ilr Pennington; C'Ilr Rogers  
Clerk : Mrs J Griffiths

2 Members of the public attended the meeting

**Acceptance of Apologies**

All Councillors were present at the meeting.

**1. Public Comments Limited to 15 minutes**

There were no public comments at this stage. However, at the end of the meeting one member of the public asked that the Parish Council to keep electors aware of any progress regarding devolution of services and the effect this would have on electors. .

The Chairman assured the member of the public that the Parish Council continues to report on this topic and if they were to take on any services the electors would be consulted and made aware of the financial and other implications,

**2. Minutes Meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

It was the proposed by C'Ilr Lowe, seconded by C'Ilr Pennington and unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January provided a true and accurate record of the meeting. The Chairman then signed a copy of the Minutes,

**3. Matters arising from the Minutes – Clerk to report for information only**

There were no matters arising that were not covered on the Agenda.

C'Ilr Lowe told the meeting that the training session, Fundamentals for Councillors, which the Clerk had booked him to attend on 16<sup>th</sup> January had been cancelled.

**4. Correspondence**

The Clerk circulated the following correspondence between meetings:-

- SALC Weekly Briefings
- RSN Weekly Newsletters
- Community Grants Available for Churches/Village Halls etc. - circulated on 8.1.26
- Chairs Network Meeting 25.3.26 at 6pm via Zoom. circulated 15.1.26
- Chairs Network Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> January circulated 21.11.25
- Buckingham Palace Garden Party 12.5.26. Nominations required by 13.,2.26 Circulated on 16.1.26
- Broadband & Mobile Phone Connectivity Briefing Circulated 3.2.26
- Severn Trent Community Flooding Team – Phil Mark willing to meet with Parish Councils. Circulated on 3.2.26
- Partnership Devolution Workshops. Ludlow Session on 27.1.26. Attended by the Chairman. Circulated on 10.2.26.

- SALC 2026 Training Programme. Circulated 13.2.26
- Invitation to Shropshire Hills Forum on 29.4.26 at Clun Memorial Hall Circulated 10.2.26
- Keep Britain Tidy – Great British Clean Up 13<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> March. Circulated 13.2.26
- Church Stretton Neighbourhood Plan Consultation from 16.2.26 – 31.3.26. . Circulated 15.2.26
- Village Restoration Project Conference to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> March at the Silvestor Horne Institute, Church Stretton. Circulated 1.3.26
- Rights of Way extension of temporary closure order footpath No. 102A. Circulated 26.2.26. C'llr Watkins told the meeting that walkers were now using his bridge too access this footpath until repairs to the bridge on footpath 102A are completed

## **5. Finance**

### **(a) Accounts due for payment**

The following accounts were due for payment

- HMRC Tax due on Clerk's salary £124.30. Cheque No. 100055
- Clerk's salary amount due £620.98 less £124.30 Tax plus Postage £6.96 total payable £503.64. To be paid BACS
- RJD Tree Surgery £1,360.00 to be paid by BACS.

It was proposed by C'llr Rogers, seconded by C'llr Lowe and unanimously agreed that the above accounts be paid.

### **(b) Bank Reconciliation**

The Clerk circulated copies of the Bank reconciliation and bank statement prior to the meeting showing a balance held at bank, after payment of the above accounts amounting to £12,663.40. It was proposed by C'llr Seabury , seconded by C'llr Norris and unanimously agreed that this provided a true and accurate financial record. The Bank Statement and Bank Reconciliation were then signed by the Chairman..

## **7. Planning**

### **(a) Decisions on previously discussed applications:**

There were no outstanding decisions

### **(b) Applications considered between meetings**

No applications were received between meeting.

### **(c) Clerk to report any other planning before matters including any new planning applications received just the meeting.**

No other planning applications had been received.

## **8. Highway Matters**

An e mail was received from Shropshire Council on 17<sup>th</sup> February saying "the Grove Farm Culvert has been identified via a combination of local engineering judgment and asset management data as needing essential maintenance. The site forms part of a countywide programme of schemes, scheduled to deliver the work in the most efficient and cost-effective way. To ensure the safety of both road users and our workforce, a road closure will be in place during the works. We hope this investment will be welcomed as positive news for the local area, though we do appreciate that any work of this nature may cause some disruption. The works are currently scheduled for

June 2026, and we will share exact dates and timings once they are confirmed”.

The Parish Council are unsure if this work is the remedial work Shropshire Council had identified and the contractors have to complete before the account for the works is fully paid. At the Annual Meeting which preceded this meeting Shropshire C’lIr Stanford had agreed to contact the Highways Department and report back to the Parish Council.

At the November meeting the Clerk was asked to contact Shropshire Council to request an additional grit bin at the bottom end of Gilberries Lane and also ask that the existing grit bins in the Parish are replenished. The Clerk has not received a reply to the email. C’lIr Lowe told the meeting that he had also logged the request for the grit bin on Gilberries Lane on FixMyStreet. The Chairman told the meeting that the grit bin at Cardington Moor had been filled but no other bins in the parish seem to have been replenished.

Prior to the January meeting the Clerk had circulated an e mail from the Event Secretary for the Hills Ford Stages Motor Rally, which is a closed road motorsport rally organised by Cheltenham Motor Club. This rally is going to be taking place over the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> September 2026, within many areas over Shropshire County. As some of the roads that will be closed are within Cardington Parish, they wanted to make sure we were informed as soon as possible. Shropshire Council will close roads, within our Parish, on the 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2026 between 06.00 and 20.00 (6am and 8pm). A map showing the proposed route was included with the e mail. At the January meeting the Clerk was asked to contact them and ask if they could attend the March Meeting to further explain what is involved.

Kim Butcher and David Mills from Cheltenham Motor Club attended the Annual Meeting, which was held before this meeting, and explained the route and how the Rally would be organised and managed.

Further discussion took place and it was proposed by C’lIr Lowe, seconded by C’lIr Watkins that a representation would be prepared by the Clerk and Chairman and circulated before the consultation period ends on 12<sup>th</sup> March.

Following the meeting the following was circulated to all Councillors for approval:

“Two members of the Cheltenham Car Club attended the Annual Parish Council Meeting and explained the route and the arrangements for the Hill Ford Rally on 20<sup>th</sup> September which affects our Parish.

This was then discussed at the Parish Council meeting which followed. It was unanimously agreed that there would probably be very limited benefit to businesses and although some of the community would be enthusiastic supporters, others would object possibly on environmental grounds and a few would be greatly inconvenienced. Concerns were raised about the existing poor road surface, especially on Gilberries Lane, and the risk it would be damaged further. For the community to be really supportive we would ask Shropshire Council to commit to invest some of its income from this event into repairing and redressing the road surface of the chosen route either ahead or immediately after the rally”.

## **8. Churchyard**

The contractor has now carried out the work to the trees in the churchyard as quoted and the account paid at this meeting.

C’lIr Norris told the meeting that he had contacted some local wood turners to ask if they wished to purchase the lengths of Yew left on site, so far with no success.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that other tree work, such as removing young saplings and trimming back overhanging branches and reshaping trees and bushes ,

would be required and could probably be carried out by Councillors. Some of this work is carried out on the Annual clean up day before Remembrance Sunday.

## **9. Flood Protection**

The Clerk had circulated an e mail from Severn Trent Community Flooding Team on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. It stated that Phil Mark was willing to meet with Parish Councils. This was circulated on 3.2.26.

Phil Mark is new in his role with Severn Trent and is the Community Liaison Officer for Severn Trent. He is checking all Severn Trent assets to ensure they are not damaged. The Chairman and C'lr Watkins had met with Phil Mark and were confident he was enthusiastic in his new role with Severn Trent. He had agreed to check the records regarding the sewage plant in the parish and report back to the Chairman if this was affected during recent flooding. To date the Chairman had not heard back from Phil Mark. However, a further meeting has been scheduled for April.

At the meeting he also confirmed that Severn Trent were putting money into the countryside to build pools and retain water.

He also confirmed that Severn Trent always had tankers on standby to empty sewerage treatment plants if heavy rain is forecast.

## **10. Councillors' e-mail addresses.**

The Clerk told the January meeting that the Parish Council were not compliant under new digital compliance rules, especially with Assertion 10 on the 2025/26 AGAR now covering accessibility. All Councillors should have a dedicated Parish Council e mail address. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact ICT Vision and ask them to set up individual gov.uk e mail addresses for Councillors. The Clerk contacted ICT Vision on 7<sup>th</sup> January and instructed them to set up the gov.uk e mail addresses.

The Clerk told the March meeting that ICT Vision had now confirmed that gov.uk e mail addresses have been set up. The Clerk had circulated to all Councillors instructions how to set up the gov.uk e mails on their devices.

## **11. Devolution and Partnerships**

On 27<sup>th</sup> January the Chairman attended the Partnership Devolution Workshop held at Ludlow.

He told the meeting that six Town Councils, including Shrewsbury, Broseley and Bridgnorth are taking on services previously provided by Shropshire Council and will be used as pilots. At this time no Parish Councils were taking on services. The Chairman told the meeting that if the Parish Council took on the management of services such as street cleaning, gully emptying etc there would not only be the financial implications but also the management of services, evaluating tenders and insurance liabilities.

The Chairman told the meeting that the community need to be aware of the implications, especially significant increases in the precept, if the Parish Council took on any of the services.

## **12. Shropshire Council Report – C'lr Stanford**

C'lr Stanford reported to the Annual Meeting ahead of this meeting and was not present at this meeting.

## **13. Date of next meeting – 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026 (Annual General Meeting)**

Before the meeting closed C'lr Maydew told the meeting that the glass had fallen out of the Plaish Notice Board. The glass was not broken and the Clerk was asked to

contact Mr. Secrett to ask if he could put the glass back into the doors of the notice board.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.32pm