

CHESWARDINE

PARISH COUNCIL

Attendance

Chairman: Cllr A Thomson

Councillors: Cllr W Gandy, Cllr J Hislop, Cllr S Lewis, Cllr M Pound, Cllr N Stallard

Also Present: Cllr Bentley - attending in his capacity as both a member of the Parish Council and as the Unitary Authority Ward Councillor.

Apologies: Cllr B Maskell, Cllr N Partridge

Clerk: Mr Wayne Salisbury

Other: None **Public:** 1

Minutes of the Meeting of Cheswardine Parish Council held at the Parish Hall on Tuesday 15th July 2025

Meeting started at 7:01 p.m.

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed all Council members and the member of the public to the June meeting of Cheswardine Parish Council.

The Chair shared that they had recently attended the North Shropshire Area Committee meeting, which included discussions on the proposed contractual changes to PCSO work hours. The Chair informed that they would attend the next Chairs meeting, which is due to be held on the 11th September.

2. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Maskell and Cllr Partridge

3. Declarations of Interest

- Cllr Bentley declared an interest relating to their role as a unitary councillor for Shropshire Council.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on the 17th June 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5. Policing Matters

Representatives from the Police were not in attendance.

The Chair advised members that a newsletter from the policing team had recently been shared and that they also had a conversation with a PCSO on Tuesday 8th July, who attended the Parish Hall to update Police contact details.

Cllr Hislop raised issues at the bowling green about individuals entering the area, and that they advised that this is reported to the police.

Cllr Stallard raised concerns of PCSOs attending Council meetings if their shift hours are amended and the necessity of this agenda item.

6. Public Participation

A member of the public was in attendance and addressed members to inform them of their recent housing need assessment application to seek permission to build an affordable dwelling so that he can remain in the village. The resident shared that their application is currently being considered by Shropshire Council and that he was required to speak at the Parish Council meeting as part of the validation for their application.

7. Shropshire Unitary Councillor's report

Cllr Bentley shared a report with members ahead of the meeting, which is included in the appendix to these minutes on pages 823 – 826.

Additional updates included:

- Funding for neighbourhood plans which had been cancelled at the Chancellors Funding Review has now been reintroduced in a slightly different format that will go specifically through Shropshire Council
- Written to the PCC regarding PCSO hours and stopping coverage after 8 pm.
- 70 projects totalling £4.3B are being reviewed by the government, which includes the Northwest Relief Road.
- Meeting of the full council is scheduled for 17th July.

Cllr Pound queried the timelines for reducing the speed limit in Soudley.

Cllr Bentley responded that they are working on this by contacting residents and building up a report, but that there are no timelines currently. Cllr Bentley added that the Police are happy to enforce restrictions as long as the Council agree there is a need.

8. Reports from Parish Council Representatives – To receive reports from.

a) Parish Hall

No report was received.

b) Bus service

The Chair advised that details regarding the bus service will be shared with members by email.

9. Playing Field, Playground and Car Park

To receive any updates, discuss any matters relating to and make any required decisions.

Cllr Hislop queried if the playground inspection report had been received. The Clerk advised that they are chasing this and will update members once it is available.

Cllr Stallard raised concerns over issues that are happening on the bowling green and could they transfer to the playing field.

9. Wildlife Garden

Cllr Hislop reported that Phase 4 of the project had now been completed and that bird boxes were in place, with thanks extended to the Youth Club for their involvement.

Cllr Hislop also noted that positive feedback had been received from residents and confirmed that the new litter bin had been ordered and was awaiting delivery.

Cllr Hislop proposed that a small wooden sign be installed at the site to acknowledge that the garden was established by the Parish Council. The Clerk presented options and costs for potential signage.

The Chair suggested that Venables Oak Timber Merchants might be willing to provide a wooden sign and offered to write to them to enquire.

RESOLVED: to purchase a wooden engraved sign for the wildlife garden at a cost of £51.00, should a sign not be supplied by the local timber merchant.

Cllr Hislop added that this space should not yet be added to the grounds maintenance contract as it currently needs to be completed by hand.

The Chair thanked Cllr Hislop and Cllr Bentley for their hard work on the wildlife garden.

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11. Highways/Environmental Health matters

Cllr Pound enquired about any update on “Red Barns”, to which Cllr Bentley shared further information.

12. Clerk’s Report

The Clerk’s report was received by members, which detailed updates on actions since the last meeting, including the external audit submission and appraisal meeting preparation and attendance. Updates on future actions included quarter 1 VAT reclaim and preparation for the September meeting following the August recess and holiday.

Updates were shared on the playground inspection report.

Correspondence had been received since the last meeting regarding the Tag Lane plantation.

Cllr Pound enquired if the reply had been sent in response to the correspondence entered in the June meeting. The Clerk confirmed that it had, and that no further correspondence had been received.

13. Planning (Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Sched 1, para 8)

a) To consider the following planning applications.

Reference	25/02327/FUL
Address	Cheswardine Hall Lodge Chipnall Cheswardine Market Drayton Shropshire TF9 2RJ
Proposal	Single storey side/rear extension following demolition of existing single storey annexe to side of existing dwelling
Deadline for Comments	31 st July 2025
25/02327/FUL Single storey side/rear extension following demolition of existing single storey annexe to side of existing dwelling Cheswardine Hall Lodge Chipnall Cheswardine Market Drayton Shropshire TF9 2RJ	

Reference	25/02328/LBC
Address	Cheswardine Hall Lodge Chipnall Cheswardine Market Drayton Shropshire TF9 2RJ
Proposal	Single storey side/rear extension following demolition of existing single storey annexe to side of existing dwelling
Deadline for Comments	31 st July 2025
25/02328/LBC Single storey side/rear extension following demolition of existing single storey annexe to side of existing dwelling Cheswardine Hall Lodge Chipnall Cheswardine Market Drayton Shropshire TF9 2RJ	

RESOLVED: that the following comment is submitted to the local planning authority. (for both 25/02327/FUL and 25/02328/LBC)

- Cheswardine Parish Council supports this planning application.

b) To consider any planning applications which have been received since the publication of this agenda.

Reference	25/01937/VAR
Address	Hayward Barn Goldstone Cheswardine Market Drayton Shropshire TF9 2NA
Proposal	Variation of Condition No.2 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 21/03423/FUL to amend the design.
Deadline for Comments	31 st July 2025
25/01937/VAR Variation of Condition No.2 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 21/03423/FUL to amend the design. Hayward Barn Goldstone Cheswardine Market Drayton Shropshire TF9 2NA	

RESOLVED: that the following comment is submitted to the local planning authority.

- Cheswardine Parish Council supports this planning application.

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14. Authorisation of payments

RESOLVED: the schedule of payments for July 2025 correctly states the invoices presented and that **£635.65** is approved to be paid. **£670.73** has been paid under 6.6 and **£8.00** has been paid under 6.9 iii. (as detailed on page 819)

15. Budget Review

RESOLVED: that expenditure and income against the budget for the 1st quarter of the 2025 - 2026 Council year is approved. (as detailed on page 820-821)

16. Accounting Audit

RESOLVED: To approve the presented accounting audit for the 1st quarter of the 2025 - 2026 Council year as completed by Cllr Bentley. (as detailed on page 822)

17. Bank Reconciliation

RESOLVED: that the bank reconciliation summary is an accurate reflection of payments and receipts against the bank balances as of 30th June 2025. (as detailed on page 822)

18. Noticeboard Purchase

It was agreed that the purchase of a new noticeboard would be deferred to the September meeting.

It was noted that the community hub will be the best location for the new noticeboard and that a wall-mounted model will be considered.

19. Shropshire Council – Call for Information

Members discussed the request to complete the survey, and it was agreed that the survey will be set up as a shared document so that members can add their feedback. The Chair will collate all comments so that it can be submitted to Shropshire Council.

The Chair shared details of the Shropshire Together conference, which will be held on the 25th July. With no other members expressing an interest in attending, the Chair confirmed that they would represent the council at this event.

20. Odd Jobs Contractor

The Chair advised members that the Council had a previous contractor who completed tasks, but that they are no longer available.

It was agreed that the Council would pursue finding a new odd jobs contractor and that the clerk would add a post to the Council website and Facebook page to request expressions of interest from interested individuals with a view to considering further at the September meeting.

It was noted that the Council would be looking for a contractor who has their own tools and equipment to complete any tasks and that they would be required to hold their own liability insurance.

The Clerk will also liaise with the Parish Hall to enquire who they are using to complete any minor tasks.

21. Defibrillators

RESOLVED: To rescind the resolution made at the June meeting regarding the purchase of a new defibrillator. (In line with Standing Order 7A, 4 members gave notice that this item was reconsidered).

Meeting concluded at 8:45 pm.

Chairman..... Date.....

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Schedule of Payments - As resolved under Item 14.

Cheswardine Parish Council Schedule of Payments

15th July 2025

	Date of Debit or Cheque Raised	Recipient	Purpose	£	£	Payment Method	Power of expenditure	Scribe
1	16/07/2025	W Salisbury	Clerk Salary - July	419.66		BT - Unity Trust	LGA 1972 S 112	Yes
2	16/07/2025	HMRC	Tax & Contributions on Clerks salary - July	104.80		BT - Unity Trust	LGA 1972 S 112	Yes
3	16/07/2025	HMRC	Employer NIC - Month 3	16.12		BT - Unity Trust	LGA 1972 S 112	Yes
4	16/07/2025	W Salisbury	Giff Gaff - Phone Monthly Payment - June	6.00		BT - Unity Trust	LGA 1972 S 111	Yes
5	16/07/2025	W Salisbury	Mileage (17th June - 38 miles x 0.45 8th July 38 miles x0.45)	34.20	120.92	BT - Unity Trust	LGA 1972 S 111	Yes
6	16/07/2025	W Salisbury	Clerk Homeworking Expenses (01/04/25 to 30/06/25)	20.00	60.20	BT - Unity Trust	LGA 1972 S 111	Yes
7	16/07/2025	Cllr Jill Hislop	Thomson & Morgan - Bulbs for Wildflower Garden	34.87		BT - Unity Trust	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss9 & 10	Yes
Total				635.65				

Payments made as resolved under the approved payments list 5.5b								Scribe
8	08/07/2025	BT	Parish Hall Broadband - 1st to 30th June	35.84		DD - Unity Trust	LGA 1972 S 133	Yes
9	04/07/2025	North Salop Wheelers	Bus Service Payment (up to 11/06/25)	10.50		BT - Unity Trust	LG Rating Act 1997 s26-29	Yes
10	04/07/2025	PG SKIPS	Rubbish Removal - Skip Emptied 20/06/25	33.13		BT - Unity Trust	Litter Act 1983 ss.5	Yes
11	04/07/2025	Shropshire Plant Hire	Grounds Maintenance - June 2025	424.00		BT - Unity Trust	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss9 & 10	Yes
12	04/07/2025	Kompan	Playground Inspection - May 2025	167.26		BT - Unity Trust	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss9 & 10	Yes
Total				670.73				

Payments made under Financial Regulations 5.5a to avoid late payment								Scribe
Date of	Recipient	Purpose	£	£	Cheque	Power of expenditure		
30/06/2025	Unity Trust Bank	Bank Charges (Cash Deposit)	2.00		Bank Charge	LGA 1972 S 111		Yes
30/06/2025	Unity Trust Bank	Bank Charges	6.00		Bank Charge	LGA 1972 S 111		Yes
Total				8.00				

Invoices checked and verified at the meeting held on 15th July 2025

Cllr N Bentley 15/07/25
Cllr - Proposer - Sign & Date

Cllr J Hislop 15/07/25
Cllr - Secunder - Sign & Date

DEPOSITS RECEIVED		
June	2025	
Date	Total	From
16/06/2025	£3,929.76	VAT Reclaim Q4
30/06/2025	£253.48	Unity Trust Bank Interest
	£4,183.24	

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Budget Review Quarter 1 - As resolved under Item 15.

	Budget 2025-2026			Actual - Q1 1st April - 30th June 2025			
	Cost Centre	Payments	Receipts	Payments	Receipts	Variance	Notes
	Administration Fixed						
150	Audit Fees	£720.00		£432.00		£288.00	Only internal audit charged at this point.
160	Affiliation Fees - SALC	£600.00		£584.56		£15.44	
170	Insurance (General)	£700.00		£824.93		-£124.93	Selected quote increase was higher than budgeted amount.
220	Hall Broadband	£600.00		£104.21		£495.79	
230	ICO GDPR Fee	£40.00				£40.00	
260	Allotment Rent	£400.00				£400.00	
	Total	£3,060.00		£1,945.70		£1,114.30	
	Administration General						
100	Clerks Expenses	£600.00		£89.30		£510.70	
110	Other (Non Fields) Labour	£200.00				£200.00	
120	Room Hire						
130	Training	£250.00				£250.00	
140	Councillors Expenses	£150.00				£150.00	
180	Defibrillator Maintenance	£3,000.00		£312.00		£2,688.00	
190	Website Costs	£500.00				£500.00	
200	Legal Fees						
210	Crime Prevention Schemes						
240	Planning Fees						
250	Admin Other	£500.00		£20.00		£480.00	Unity Trust Bank Charges
270	Stationery/Advertising	£100.00		£19.99		£80.01	
280	IT Services & Equipment	£100.00		£84.99		£15.01	Microsoft 365
290	Printer						
470	Bus Costs	£600.00		£55.50		£544.50	
471	Waste Bin Top Up Charge	£320.00				£320.00	
472	CCTV Maintenance	£600.00				£600.00	
475	Scribe Software	£500.00		£414.72		£85.28	
	Total	£7,420.00		£996.50		£6,423.50	
	Adminstration - Salary & Overtime						
90	Clerks Salary & Overtime	£6,214.00		£1,258.78		£4,955.22	
476	Tax / National Insurance	£2,000.00		£362.96		£1,637.04	
477	Salary Contingency	£800.00				£800.00	
	Total	£9,014.00		£1,621.74		£7,392.26	
	Assets (Fixed Equip)						
370	Fixed Asset Purchase	£5,000.00				£5,000.00	
478	Playground Equipment	£5,000.00				£5,000.00	
479	Benches	£1,000.00		£792.61		£207.39	Picnic Benches - Wildlife Garden
	Total	£11,000.00		£792.61		£10,207.39	
	Earmarked Reserves						
420	Fixed Equipment						
430	Neighbourhood Fund						
440	Other						
	Total	£0.00		£0.00		£0.00	
	Elections						
380	Election Costs	£2,600.00				£2,600.00	
	Total	£2,600.00		£0.00		£2,600.00	

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Budget Review Quarter 1 - As resolved under Item 15. (Cont.)

	Grants						
390	Grants (Other)	£1,500.00				£1,500.00	
400	Parish Hall					£0.00	
	Total	£1,500.00		£0.00		£1,500.00	
	Other Contingencies						
450	Various	£1,000.00				£1,000.00	
	Total	£1,000.00		£0.00		£1,000.00	
	Playing Fields						
320	Contract Labour	£3,700.00		£923.00		£2,777.00	Shropshire Grounds Maintenance
330	Playing Field Expenses (Other)	£600.00				£600.00	
340	Playground Inspection (Annual)	£500.00				£500.00	
350	Equipment Maintenance	£600.00				£600.00	
481	Wildlife Garden	£1,500.00		£1,079.28		£420.72	
482	Waste Collection	£400.00		£96.10		£303.90	
	Total	£7,300.00		£2,098.38		£5,201.62	
	Community						
473	Annual Community Meeting	£200.00		£136.75			
474	D Day Celebrations						
480	VE Day	£500.00		£364.80			Fundraising Payment
	Total	£700.00		£501.55			
	Street Lights						
300	Street Light Maintenance	£500.00					
310	Energy Supply	£1,350.00		£263.38			
	Total	£1,850.00		£263.38			
	Receipts						
10	Precept		£24,446.00		£24,446.00	£0.00	
20	Bank Interest		£500.00		£253.48	£246.52	
30	Grants						
40	Neighbourhood Fund						
50	Allotment Rent		£400.00			£400.00	
60	Recreation Field Hire					£0.00	
70	Sundry Income				£388.64	-£388.64	£23.84 National Grid Wayleave / £364.80 VE Day Fundraising
80	VAT Reclaim		£5,000.00		£3,929.76	£1,070.24	Q4
460	Bus fares						
		Payments	Receipts	Payments	Receipts		
	GRAND TOTAL	£45,444.00	£30,346.00	£8,219.86	£29,017.88		

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Accounting Audit Quarter 1 - As resolved under Item 16.

Completed by Cllr Bentley.

VOUCHER / PAYMENT NO	DATE OF ENTRY	SUPPLIER / RECIPIENT	£ AMOUNT	DATE CASHED / PAID	INVOICE UPLOADED AND CORRECT	ENTRY APPEARS ON THE SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS
1	03/04/25	D Naggington	700	04/04/25	Yes	Yes 04/04/25
2	03/04/25	Your Green	79	04/04/25	Yes	Yes 04/04/25
6	07/04/25	BT Business	32.53	07/04/25	Yes	Yes 07/04/25
9	13/04/25	W Salisbury	17.10	16/04/25	Yes	Yes 16/04/25
11	16/04/25	MedUK Group Ltd	246	16/04/25	Yes	Yes 16/04/25
25	13/05/25	Microsoft	84.99	14/05/25	Yes	Yes 14/05/25
18	13/05/25	JDH Business Services	432	14/05/25	Yes	Yes 14/05/25
36	10/06/25	PG Skips	33.13	11/06/25	Yes	Yes 15/04/25
39	10/06/25	NS Print	19.99	30/06/25	Yes	Yes 18/06/25
38	10/06/25	Giff Gaff	6	30/06/25	Yes	Yes 18/06/25
34	27/05/25	Starboard Systems Ltd (Scribe)	414.72	30/06/25	Yes	Yes 18/06/25
40	16/06/25	MedUK Group Ltd	66	30/06/25	Yes	Yes 18/06/25

Bank Reconciliation 30th June 2025 (Quarter 1) - As resolved under Item 17.

A	Bank Reconciliation at 30/06/2025		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2025		35,239.98
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2025 - 30/06/2025		29,017.88
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2025 - 30/06/2025		64,257.86 8,219.86
	Cash in Hand 30/06/2025 (per Cash Book)		56,038.00
B	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash 30/06/2025	0.00	
	Unity Trust Instant Access 3687 30/06/2025	54,267.96	
	Unity Trust Current 3674 30/06/2025	1,770.04	
			56,038.00
	Less unrepresented payments		
			56,038.00
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
	Adjusted Bank Balance		56,038.00
	A = B Checks out OK		

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Report from Shropshire Council Unitary Councillor - As received under Item 7.

Cllr Neil Bentley Unitary Councillor Report | Cheswardine Division

JULY 2025

OVERVIEW

The council finances for year 2024-25 closed with an overspend of just over £34m with £4.8m in reserves. The administration will aim to close the current financial year with a safe £15m in reserves. Senior officers will continue to provide the administration with monthly updates and have agreed with the Transformation and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel to provide specific financial modelling earlier so that the panel have time to be more proactive in their scrutiny.

The Spending Review as outlined by the Chancellor earlier in June has created more financial strain for the council having removed some grant options which rural counties benefitted from. However, we await the full funding formula review which could potential be more beneficial to rural counties.

All funding for Neighbourhood Plans has also been removed with immediate effect as part of the funding review. This will have implications for planning across the country. Shropshire Council are working at pace to secure a Local Plan 2025-45.

West Mercia PCC John Campion has outlined that with the current financial constraints, PCSO service may no longer be available after 8pm. The Liberal Democrat administration is opposed to this move and have written to John Campion to express our concerns, especially regarding rural crime.

On 9th June I attended an online meeting with the Highways Senior Officer Andy Wilde who shared some interesting facts & figures for Shropshire which I have included at the end of this report for your reference. The team are working on a Local Transport Plan (LTP4) but are waiting for central government to release their LTP4 before the document goes to full council.

The administration is having productive conversations with central government regarding the financial liability of the North West Relief Road project which, as outlined in our manifesto, we intend to cancel completely and explore alternative and more cost effective provisions for the Shrewsbury network. This NWRR project has currently cost £39m with a predicted overall cost of £215m. To progress, Shropshire Council would need to borrow at least £128m (the original overall cost of the project was £74m).

I have started an initial report into the possibility of changing the speed limit through Soudley and Mill Green. I will be liaising directly with residents regarding this over the next few months.

You should have received an email letter from Cllr David Minnery requesting input from parish/town councils about our Shropshire Plan. All responses are welcome to help us shape the direction in resetting our relationship. The survey can be found here: [Call for Information: Town and Parish Councils June 2025 Survey](#)

SURGERIES & PUBLIC MEETINGS

No meetings planned as yet.

Cllr Neil Bentley – Liberal Democrat Councillor Cheswardine Division
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Updated: 25/06/25

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Report from Shropshire Council Unitary Councillor - As received under Item 7. (Cont.)

CASEWORK

Casework	Issue Raised / Portfolio	Actions
Dodecote Drive, Childs Ercall	HIGHWAYS: Road condition and promises made by previous administration and not acted on.	- NB raised with CEO as bad practice. - Email chain forwarded to highways portfolio holder. - Resident updated - Highways have confirmed that they have this road on their schedule and will confirm actions.
Ollerton Business Park, Childs Ercall	PLANNING: Various planning applications have been passed yet conditions not met (esp highways)	- Resident communication shared with planning portfolio holder. (03/06/25) Emma Green (<i>Planning Enforcement Leader</i>) has replied directly to a resident concern outlining the stages for legal involvement.
A41 Safety	HIGHWAYS/POLICE: Update on the installation of average speed cameras along the A41.	(26/05/25) Letter received from Mark Pritchard MP outlining that money has been secured but requires Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Councils to complete a 'Route Study' which has been actioned by contractor Amey. (04/06/25) Shropshire Highways: "I can confirm that Amey on behalf of Telford & Wrekin are making some final amendments, namely including some final comments. Although we have not had a date confirmed we are anticipating the report will be available in the next month or so".
A41 Closures	Concerns raised from Goldstone Hall & The Wharf regarding financial impact on the current and planned closure (Aug)	(03/06/25) email to Telford & Wrekin Highways portfolio holder expressing concerns and requested sight of an impact assessment.
23/03138/FUL Mixed 28 Residential Dwellings Childs Ercall	PLANNING: This has gone to 'recommendations/committee'	(09/06/25) I have contacted the case officer regarding the general position of this application having been made aware of community concerns.

UPDATES

There are currently no specific updates.

PARISH COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS

Here are questions posed by parish councillors across the division and updates/answers at present.

Question	Answer / Outcomes
Speed testing on Childs Ercall roads?	(09/06/25) I have forwarded the email chain to the senior officers and requested an update.
Eaton On Tern Solar Farm - Will residents benefit financially?	
Will SC develop their own definition of sustainability that	Answer from Cllr David Walker: Thank you for the suggestion. Unfortunately, whatever we do has to be compatible with national policy. It can't run counter

Cllr Neil Bentley – Liberal Democrat Councillor Cheswardine Division
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Updated: 25/06/25

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will be taken forward to be used in the new local plan?	to it. But I appreciate the argument and we will be trying to make sure the plan covers our needs better.
Why are pickup vehicles classed as restricted at recycling centres?	Answer from Waste Management: Providing we are talking about a 4x4 with a pickup/goods rear, then these are allowed into the recycling centres, but they do have to book and are limited to 12 visits per year. Generally, these vehicles are often used by traders to bring illegal waste into sites and so are limited in visits to help reduce trade waste abuse. Further information on vehicle restrictions can be found on our website: https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/recycling-and-rubbish/household-recycling-centres/household-recycling-centre-bookings/van-and-trailer-restrictions/
Green bin revenue raised v cost of fly tipping.	This is a scheme we are looking into as a whole administration and I hope to provide figures in the near future.
Rural Bus Service	For context: Bus Service (No.2) Bill is currently on the 2nd reading in Parliament which will allow great power and funder for bus services operated by local authorities. Answer from Cllr Rob Wilson & Cllr Robert Jones (portfolio for transport) "Our general plan is, as set out in our manifesto, to work towards bringing buses back under public control. The Bus Services (No. 2) Bill is going to be crucial to how we achieve that as it will enable us to consider different models for franchising and allow us to move away from the current model focused on commercial viability and subsidy dependency." Cllr Heather Kidd (Leader) and Cllr Rob Wilson (Transport) have written a joint letter to Julia Buckley MP (Shrewsbury) asking for her to encourage Government for additional funding to support the needs of Shropshire Transport as currently we received £4m in additional funding for buses, 53rd lowest out of 73 allocations. Helen Morgan MP (North Shropshire) will continue to fight for additional funding and recognition for improved services across the whole of Shropshire.

HIGHWAYS: Facts & Figures

- 3,206 miles of road (70% minor roads)
- 868 miles of footway
- 2,583 miles of verge
- 95,667 gullies
- 19,935 lamps
- 127 signalised junctions
- 1,514 bridges
- Circa 700 issues being logged via FixMyStreet per week.
- 25 Gritters - responsible for 28% of the road network (mostly A & B roads)
- 1,200 grit bins: each visited and mapped. All filed over spring/summer ahead of winter need

Financial Year 2024/25:

- 80% of potholes filled in house
- 96% are repaired on 1st visit
- 40 completed surface dressing projects

Cllr Neil Bentley – Liberal Democrat Councillor Cheswardine Division

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07440 423327

Updated: 25/06/25

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Financial Year 2025/26:

- 40 more surface dressing projects covering ½ million square meters of road (£10/spm)
- Three dedicated in house 'pothole' teams introduced by the new administration (north, middle, south)
- A529 Safer Road Scheme Hinstock to Adderley due to complete Autumn 2025

The council currently has two highways contractors: Kier (2018-2026) and WSP (2023-2028).