



Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Monday 6th October 2025 at 6.50pm in the Cleobury Country Centre, Cleobury Mortimer.

Present:

Cllr Geoff Hainsworth, Cllr Helen Smith, Cllr Tina Hobin, Town Clerk Mrs D McBride and Deputy Town Clerk Miss S Dolphin.

Cllr Hainsworth was nominated as Chair and duly welcomed everyone to the October meeting.

10.01.25 Apologies for absence.

There were apologies from Cllr David Abbatiello, Cllr Guy James and Cllr Sally Burns.

10.02.25 Declaration of interests.

There were no declarations of interest made.

10.03.25 Public Participation Session.

Unitary Councillors Pamela and David Davies plus two members of public were present. Comments were made regarding the amount of time the traffic lights have been on the main road near Hungry Hill Farm and disappointment that the work to fix the infrastructure issue is not due to take place until between June and December next year.

10.04.25 Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 1st September 2025.

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 1st September 2025, duly signed by the Chair.

10.05.25 Matters arising from the Minutes / Update since last Council meeting.

- a) Council noted receipt of the Town Clerk's Office Report.

Primary School Fence Proposal

Since the last open meeting in St Mary's, there was a meeting with school representatives where various options were discussed. Currently Shropshire Council is looking at the legal implications of a fence in relation to the lease with the school and the deeds of the land.

Cleobury Sports Centre

We have received numerous emails and correspondence from residents with regards to the potential closure of the Sports Centre. The Chair of the Friends of Cleobury Sports Centre has requested a further meeting with Council members over the next couple of weeks. It was noted that a social media post referred to a possible £45,000 increase in the precept to help keep the Sports Centre open next year. It has been clarified that all options regarding the operation of the Sports Centre need exploring before any consultation goes out regarding the budget and precept for 2026-27.

Remembrance Sunday

This year's event is on Sunday 9th November. Any Councillors attending are to meet in the Talbot Car Park at 10.25am ready to parade with the uniformed and voluntary organisations. A councillor will be required to lay a wreath.

Christmas Lights

Prysmian have completed the required works to the street lighting column at the Wells to enable access to electricity for the Christmas Lights in Church Street.

South Shropshire Youth Forum

We have received a request through the Grant Award Scheme for monies to continue funding outreach youth work. A councillor will visit the Youth Forum and report back. This report ensures we meet audit requirements to monitor and evaluate the spending of public money and help inform Council members when assessing the latest application for funding.

Severn Trent Treatment Plant

Cllrs Abbatiello, James, Hainsworth, Smith, Burns and the Clerk attended a Site Meeting at the new Severn Trent Treatment Plant at Townsend on Wednesday 24th September. Following a presentation in their office there was a guided tour of the site. Severn Trent and their contractor will attend a meeting with the Town Council towards the end of November to provide an update on progress.

Charter Day Service

Cllrs Abbatiello, Smith, Hobin and the Clerk attended the Charter Day Service on Sunday 14th September at St Mary's Church.

Initials.....DA.....



- b) Committee and Working Group Reports:
- i) The Employment Committee was not quorate so the meeting did not go ahead.
 - ii) The Christmas Lights Working Group met on 8th September. A new lighting connection has been provided at the Wells. Existing supplies of lights and ancillary equipment have been checked. The Working Group will put up the lights on Sunday 16th November and take them down on Sunday 1st February 2026 (Candlemas). The Christmas trees will be taken down on Sunday 4th January.
- c) Councillor Updates:
- Cllr Smith had visited South Shropshire Youth Forum's meeting on the astro turf this evening and will send a written report through for consideration at next month's meeting.
- Cllr Smith reported a broken tree branch in the QEII Park – matter to be checked tomorrow.

10.06.25 Unitary Councillor's Report.

Unitary Councillor Davies had sent a written report which had been circulated. Cllr Davies has contacted Stuart Anderson MP who is doing what he can to bring forward the road repairs on the A4117 near Hungry Hill Farm. The Chair noted that the lack of a Post Office in Cleobury is a major inconvenience but appreciated Cllr Davies's efforts in chasing this up.

10.07.25 Financial Matters.

a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following invoices for payment:

Country Skills – Grass Cutting (September) - £2,240.00
Cleobury Country – Meeting Room Hire (August - September) - £57.60
Rialtas Business Solutions – Installation and upgrading accounts - £798.00
Prysmian – Supply of labels - £ 84.00
Morris Bufton – Service and repair to leaf blower - £97.81
PKF Littlejohn LLP – External Auditor's Fee - £504.00
Market Hall Trust – Room Hire (September) – 25.00
Cleobury Gardeners – Annual Insurance for Allotments - £605.23
The following invoices had been received after the Agenda was published:
Alan Guest Mowing Services – Road-side hedge-cutting of Love Lane Play Area - £60.00
Crystal Thought – Website hosting and support - £192.00
N Winward – Mileage and Safety workwear - £115.82
SALC – Training Courses – £90.00.

b) Council RESOLVED to approve the following debit card payments made:

The Range – Spray - £31.98
Survey Monkey – Annual Fee - £408.00
Morris Bufton – Strimmer wheels £26.00
Workplace Depot – Trailer ramps - £91.18
Amazon – Office supplies and equipment - £131.96
Lloyds Bank – Petty Cash top up - £200.00
WHSmith – Stationery - £17.89
Tools Today – Chainsaw trousers, padlock - £222.05
Cleobury Café – Refreshments - £26.20
Mumfords – Tools and office equipment - £116.53.

c) Council considered the External Auditor's Report and noted the Conclusion of Audit for 2024-25. The External Auditor noted that the Council is taking action to address the recommendations in the internal auditor's report concerning Council Reserves, Fidelity Insurance and Cemetery administration.

10.08.25 Planning Matters.

a) New Planning Applications:

1. Reference: 25/03015/TCA
Address: 38A Lower Street Cleobury Mortimer Kidderminster Shropshire DY14 8AB
Proposal: Fell 1no. multi-stemmed Leylandii within Cleobury Mortimer Conservation Area
Applicant: Mr Christopher Smith.
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the proposal.

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2. Reference: 25/03410/FUL (validated: 12/09/2025)
Address: Talbot Stores, 2 - 3 Talbot Square, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8BQ
Proposal: Installation of an automated teller machine
Applicant: NCR (NCR, 9th Floor 5 Merchant Square , Paddington, London, W2 1BQ).
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the proposal.
3. Reference: 25/03411/ADV (validated: 12/09/2025)
Address: Talbot Stores, 2 - 3 Talbot Square, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8BQ
Proposal: Installation of 1 non-illuminated surround sign and 1 non-illuminated logo panel
Applicant: NCR (NCR, 9th Floor 5 Merchant Square , Paddington, London, W2 1BQ).
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the proposal.
4. Reference: 25/03516/FUL (validated: 25/09/2025)
Address: Hollywaste Villa, 1 Hollywaste, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 0HB
Proposal: Change of use of permanent pasture to dog walking paddock
Applicant: Mr Simon Morgan.
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the proposal.
5. Reference: 25/03418/TCA (validated: 12/09/2025)
Address: 6 Lion Lane, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8QD
Proposal: Reduce to height of hedge and cut back overhang from roadside (See Photos) of group of Sycamore (G1) within Cleobury Mortimer Conservation Area
Applicant: Mr Ian Bradford (6 Lion lane , Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8QD).
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to support the proposal but ask that the hedge is also cut back at the rear of the property where it overhangs the footpath adjacent to Pudding Brook.

b) Planning Decisions (For Information Only):

1. Reference: 25/02412/TCA (validated: 01/07/2025)
Address: Eltrebeth, Pinkham, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8QE
Proposal: Reduction of 1no. Apple tree (as per schedule) within Cleobury Mortimer Conservation Area
Decision: Consent by right – Trees.
2. Reference: 25/01888/DSA106 (validated: 04/07/2025)
Address: Honeysuckle Cottage, Redthorne Hill, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8QH
Proposal: Discharge of S106 agreement attached to planning application SS/1/07/19775/F
Decision: Refuse.
3. Reference: 25/02799/TDC (validated: 05/08/2025)
Address: 15B High Street, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8DG
Proposal: Technical matters application for the construction of 3 dwellings (PIP 23/05119/PIP)
Decision: Refuse.

10.09.25 Date of the next Town Council meeting.

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Monday 3rd November 2025 at 6.30pm.

The Meeting closed at 7.12pm.

Signed:.....Chair
David Abbatiello

Date:.....
3rd November 2025