

North Shropshire Area Committee

Minutes of the North Shropshire Area Committee 7.00 pm on 12th January 2026, Wem Town Council Meeting Room.

Present:

Committee Members

Frazer Purell	Baschurch PC
Lin Sherwin	Hodnet PC
John Tumelty	Hordley PC
Peta Smith	Moreton Say PC
Julie Catterall	Prees PC
Merv Roberts	Shawbury PC (Meeting Chair)
Claire Crackett	Stanton PC
Liz Vernon	Wem Rural PC
Barbara Cotterell	Wem TC

Also Present

Amanda Roberts	NS Area Committee Secretary
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Apologies Received

Marius Coulon	Adderley PC
Bob Thompson	Hordley PC
Frank Beech	Hordley PC
David Walker	Grinshill PC
Gary Groves	Market Drayton TC
Silvia Hammond	Myddle, Broughton & Harmer Hill PC
Bob Cole	Norton in Hales PC
Lynn Bearman	Stoke on Tern PC
Terry Hodge	Sutton PC
Huw Edwards (Chair)	Wem Rural PC
William Allen	Whitchurch Rural PC
Rose Hall	Whitchurch TC
Andy Hall	Whitchurch TC
Jason Hawkes	Whixall PC
Chris Mellings	SALC
Sylvia Pledger	SALC

Committee Business

1. **Apologies**
As listed above.
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting**
The minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2026 were noted.

3. **SALC Committee Representative**

The Area Committee resolved to appoint Julie Catterall (Prees PC) to the SALC Committee.

4. **SALC Report**

The Chief Officer's report was circulated in advance

5. Finance and Banking

a. The secretary provided a verbal update:

Balance: £1815.80

Commitments: £194.27

Available funds: £1621.53

6. Matters Raised by Parish Councils

Jason Hawkes (Whixall Parish Council) – co-ordinated litter picking

Cllr Purell (Baschurch PC) raised concerns in relation to a proposed 199 home development in the parish. Traffic counts have been taken but the location of the counters did not pick up all relevant traffic and therefore the traffic generation predictions are unconvincing. The surveys were commissioned by the applicant with the locations signed off by Shropshire Council and the PC believes that insufficient attention was paid to the siting of the counters.

The committee was concerned that villages etc are being overwhelmed by speculative developments and that affordable housing levels are insufficient. They also raised the question of the number of Shropshire Council planning officers and their success rate in defending appeals.

Cllr Vernon (Wem Rural) also raised concerns that drivers are avoiding Wem Town and cutting through Barkers Green.

7. Suggestions for Future Speakers/Topics

- Co-ordinated Litterpicking (agenda item)
- Cllr Walker, Planning – 8th June
- Housing Needs Survey, Craig Bethel – to be invited for 8th June
- Helen Morgan MP – invited to attend by Zoom or in person
- Flooding Officer – invitation sent
- Social Care costs, pressures and demographics
- NPPF

8. Date of next meeting

8th June 2026 (Wem Town Council Meeting Room).

The meeting closed at 19.43