

September 2025

OVERVIEW

I have used the 'quieter' month of August to focus meeting residents and discussing local issues. Speeding and inappropriate vehicles has been raised several times and I will be taking this forward to a meeting with the Market Drayton SNPT.

A good amount of the month was spent supporting residents on a number of planning issues across the division by offering advice and support as appropriate.

I have been appointed Chair of Governors at Hinstock & Cheswardine Primary Schools by the board of trustees at Collective Vision Trust following the resignation from post of the last chair. Rachel Richards has been appointed vice-chair and we look forward to working alongside the staff, governors and families of the schools as we move into the new academic year.

100 DAYS

The 2nd September marks 100 days of the Liberal Democrat administration at Shropshire Council (appointed by full council on 26/05/25). The full cabinet and all councillors continue to be focused on the significant challenges facing the council but early steps and progress has been made. Here are some of the achievements we would like to celebrate:

Highways:

7,970 potholes filled	26 May 2025 to 25 August 2025	27 May 2024 to 26 August 2024	Percentage improvement	Notes
Reduction in potholes outstanding	1,639	1,059	55%	1.55 times improvement from previous year
Reduction in Jobs outstanding	2,259	991	128%	2.28 times improvement from previous year
Jobs completed by extra team	564			Since 23rd June 2025

Shropshire Partnership:

- 86 responses to our survey recieved, last time we only received 10 responses: > 50 have said they want to work with us and 29 were unsure (only 7 said they don't want to work with us at this time).
- Cllrs Wagner and Minnery will continue to work with town & parish councils during a trial period and will share outcomes with all divisions in the near future.

Customer Services:

- Call waits are now down to 8 mins, below our 10 min target
- Shropshire Local is expanding to five more sites, far stronger in-person offering
- We're opening up the Guildhall even more with better signage and proper advertisement of our in-person services for residents, and the Shire Services café opening in September
- Action to be taken on blue badges to stop fining those with legitimate renewals and cut waits below 8 weeks

CASEWORK

Casework	Issue Raised / Portfolio	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>"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"</i>. • (08/07/25) Spoken with colleagues on TAW Council who are also chasing.
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. • (17/07/25) No communication received, concerns raised by the Lib Dem administration over the lack of response from officers. • (01/09/25) Email received from case officer to confirm the current position of this application (updates available on the planning portal).

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. (08/07/25) Email received from officer confirming testing sites, forwarded to PC Chair requesting additional info. (27/08/25) Update received from PC and forwarded to the officer for discussion.

Eaton On Tern Solar Farm - Will residents benefit financially?	Officers still investigating.
Is there a time frame regarding registering - marking - fixing potholes?	Answer from Cllr Tom Dainty: <i>"Shropshire currently does not have a specific 'target time', it's something we are looking at changing so that we do have more tangible performance metrics"</i> We repaired 35,862 potholes in 2024, with 24% of these carried out within five days.