

MONTHLY UPDATE



The Parish Council meets formally each month. Here are some of the things discussed at the meeting on February 17th 2026. The detailed minutes are available on our website.

Fradley Parish Council met at 7.00pm on 17 February 2026 at Fradley Village Hall. Cllrs Ashcroft, Beswick, Crompton, Leytham as Chair and Stroud were present together with the Clerk, District and Ward Cllrs Derick Cross and Richard Stephenson. There were no members of the public in attendance. At the start of the meeting members elected Cllr Mike Ashcroft as Vice Chair of the Council for the remainder of the 2025 to 2026 municipal year. Cllr Ashcroft signed the formal Declaration of Acceptance of Office in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Jan Leytham Gain and there were no declarations of interest or candidates for co option. District Cllr Richard Stephenson provided an update on local matters. He reported that the Community Speed Watch group had recently carried out monitoring on Fradley Lane. A total of 285 vehicles were recorded during the session, with six vehicles exceeding the speed limit and the highest recorded speed reaching 52 miles per hour. Cllr Stephenson also advised that the Lichfield Food Festival will again take place this year and that free stalls will be made available for new local businesses wishing to promote their work. Members were informed that discussions regarding Local Government Reorganisation are continuing and, at present, it is expected that local elections will proceed next year as the Government does not currently have the legal powers required to suspend them. Further updates included enforcement action taken by Lichfield District Council against a city centre shop following the seizure of illegal cigarettes. Cllr Stephenson also advised that the County Council intends to increase its precept by 3.99 per cent and that Lichfield District Council is expected to consider a council tax increase of below 1.99 per cent. Environmental health officers have investigated reports of rats on Fletcher Drive and action has been taken to address the issue. Members also discussed the work of local litter picking volunteers and whether the temporary placement of filled litter bags beside footpaths may be contributing to pest problems. The Clerk will contact Lichfield District Council waste services for advice on possible improvements to the collection arrangements. District Cllr Derick Cross reported on recent discussions with Vistry Homes regarding the Horner Avenue development and the proposed construction traffic route. Lichfield District Council has raised concerns about the suggested alternative access along Common Lane, noting that part of the route is privately owned and that it may not be suitable for heavy vehicles without damage to kerbs or grass verges. Cllr Cross also confirmed that the planning application relating to Fradley Manor at Fradley Junction has been withdrawn after it was recognised that the submitted plans did not reflect the full extent of works already undertaken. A revised application is expected to be submitted shortly. Members also received an update on the Worthington Road Play Park refurbishment, which is expected to progress through the relevant Cabinet processes at Lichfield District Council.

Planning matters were considered and the Council resolved not to submit comments on several applications currently under consultation. Members also noted the outcomes of previously considered planning applications within the parish. The Council approved the schedule of payments for February 2026 and agreed the unaudited accounts to 31 January 2026. Members also approved the final cost of the Big Bash community event and agreed that the expenditure would be funded from underspent budget lines rather than general reserves. Members received a detailed report from the Parish Council Working Group. The Council agreed to participate in the Sakura Cherry Tree Project, a national initiative celebrating the friendship between Japan and the United Kingdom, and suitable planting locations will now be explored. Members also discussed the need to relocate several Parish Council assets currently located at the former Post Office site, including a notice board, telephone box and defibrillator, following a request from the new property owners. Further investigations will take place before final decisions are made. Additional decisions included granting permission for HS2 to use the grassed area at Hay End Lane to host a community information event, approving new and repair works to the skate park funded through S106 contributions, approving tree works at Worthington Road Play Park and agreeing the three year tree inspection programme. Members also allocated Cllr responsibilities for projects, environmental monitoring and community engagement and agreed that an audit of existing dog bins should take place before any new bins are installed. The Council also approved the adoption of a new IT Policy.

The next meeting of Fradley Parish Council will take place on 19 March 2026 at 7.00pm at Fradley Village Hall. The meeting closed at 8.56pm.

