

MONTHLY UPDATE



The Parish Council meets formally each month. Here are some of the things discussed at the meeting on July 24th 2025. The detailed minutes are available on our website.

Fradley Parish Council met at the Youth and Community Centre with Cllrs Ashcroft, Beswick, Garner, Gilmour and Chair Leytham present, together with the Clerk and six members of the public. Apologies were received from Cllrs Cross, Pullen and Holland.

Mr Kevin Stroud was unanimously co-opted onto the Council and duly signed the Acceptance of Office.

During public participation, residents of Horner Avenue, representing the Fradley Residents Action Group, requested Council support for professional reports ahead of their forthcoming planning appeal. They sought funding for both a planning policy statement by DRS and an independent highways report from IPaD. A resident from Worthington Road raised concerns about HGVs breaching weight restrictions during roadworks and urged the Council to support residents in collating evidence for Police or DVSA enforcement. The Council agreed to seek a meeting with the Police. PCSOs reported on local crime, anti-social behaviour and HGV issues on Common Lane.

The minutes of 12 June were approved. No comments were submitted on current planning applications. The Council authorised July payments totalling £10,742.38 in addition to salaries, and confirmed unaudited accounts showing a balance of £369,878. Permission was granted for the 2026 Florette Fradley 10K to use Watersmeet, with sponsorship of resident prizes continuing. The Heritage Group withdrew its community grant application, having secured alternative storage. The Clerk was authorised to liaise with LWMTS on project matters provided costs remain within budget.

Working groups reported on several matters. The Worthington Road Park upgrade is progressing to tender, while Christmas lights planning continues and a new website was deferred. Newsletter articles are in development, and support for the Horner Avenue appeal was confirmed with IPaD instructed to prepare a report. Bloor Homes' development proposals will be the subject of a public meeting, provisionally set for 28 August. A policy review checklist will be created, and recruitment remains a priority. Environmental work included approval of £2,775 for restoration of the Fradley Lane fingerpost, progress on the Bat Box project, and allocation of Councillors to monitor local grounds maintenance. Suggestions for a wildlife haven, the future of Bown Pond and enhancements to Watersmeet were discussed but deferred.

The Clerk reported on upcoming diary dates and confirmed AGAR submission. Following discussion, the Council agreed to fund both the IPaD highways report (£2,310) and DRS planning statement (£300) for the Horner Avenue appeal but not the attendance of IPaD at the hearing. The Clerk also reported constructive discussions with UPN on HGV management.

In confidential session, Councillors agreed that the Clerk may allocate four hours weekly during work time for CiLCA training and be reimbursed for reasonable work-related expenses.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on 18 September 2025 at Fradley Village Hall. The meeting closed at 9:10pm.

