

MONTHLY UPDATE



The Parish Council meets formally each month. Here are some of the things discussed at the meeting on March 19th 2026. The detailed minutes are available on our website.

Fradley Parish Council met at 7.00pm on 19 March 2026 at Fradley Village Hall. Councillors Ashcroft as Vice Chair, Beswick, Crompton, Leytham as Chair, Leytham Gain and Stroud were present together with the Clerk, District and Ward Councillors Cross and Stephenson, and County Councillor Holland. There were no members of the public in attendance.

There were no apologies for absence, no declarations of interest and no candidates for co option. The Council received detailed reports from District and County Councillors covering a wide range of local matters. Members were advised that Lichfield District Council has approved its budget for 2026 to 2027, with a council tax increase of 1.99 per cent, while Staffordshire County Council has increased its share by 3.99 per cent. Updates were also provided on major district projects including the cinema development, which is progressing on site, and wider investment in community facilities across the district.

Members were informed of the planned A38 closure over the Easter period, which is expected to cause significant disruption despite mitigation measures such as diversion routes and advance signage. Concerns remain about the potential impact on local roads. Updates were also provided on the emerging Local Plan, with increased housing targets continuing to place pressure on development across the district.

At a local level, Councillors reported ongoing work relating to the Horner Avenue development, including continued efforts to secure an alternative construction access route. Concerns were also raised regarding delays to Section 106 contributions linked to local projects, with some funding not yet received due to slower than expected housing delivery. Members also discussed highways matters including potholes, lorry movements on Common Lane and potential additional parking restrictions to improve safety and access.

The Council considered planning matters and resolved to submit comments on an application relating to a temporary construction access point off Common Lane for the Horner Avenue development. The outcomes of several previously considered applications were also noted.

Financial matters were considered and the Council approved the schedule of payments for March 2026 and the unaudited accounts to 28 February 2026. Members agreed to increase the Council's general reserves to £47,026.99, representing approximately four months of running costs, to strengthen financial resilience and align with good practice.

A comprehensive report from the Working Group was received and a number of decisions were made. The Council agreed to adopt Civic.ly as an asset management system to improve oversight of Council assets. Members also approved the relocation of the Parish Council noticeboard from the former Post Office site to the green space at Statfold Lane, while further investigations will continue regarding the future of the telephone box and defibrillator.

Environmental and community initiatives were discussed, including support for the Lichfield Litter Legends campaign and actions to address litter issues on the industrial estate and A38 laybys. Members agreed to return the wildflower garden to grass and to explore alternative locations for future planting. The Council also reviewed the Fradley 10K event, noting its success and agreeing to consider improvements for future years.

Further decisions included approving works to the skate park funded through Section 106 contributions, progressing fencing improvements, and agreeing actions to address damage to green spaces on Common Lane. Members also agreed to replace and review the provision of dog waste bins and to continue exploring improvements to local open spaces.

The Council adopted a Data Audit, updated Asset Register and a suite of risk assessments to support governance and compliance.

Clerk updates were received on a range of ongoing projects including the Worthington Road Play Park refurbishment, which is progressing following Cabinet approval, and preparations for upcoming meetings and events.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on 9 April 2026 at 7.00pm at Fradley Village Hall. The meeting closed at 9.19pm.

