

MONTHLY UPDATE



The Parish Council meets formally each month. Here are some of the things discussed at the meeting on May 20th 2026. The detailed minutes are available on our website.

Fradley Parish Council held its Annual Meeting on 20 May 2026 at Fradley Village Hall. Councillor David Leytham was unanimously re-elected as Chair for the forthcoming year and Councillor Mike Ashcroft was unanimously re-elected as Vice Chair. Members also welcomed Matt Evans to the Council following his unanimous co-option to fill the current vacancy.

During public participation, residents raised concerns regarding the Bloor Homes development off Fradley Lane. Particular concerns related to flood risk information, drainage arrangements on Church Lane and the accuracy of the Public Right of Way shown on the plans. District and Ward Councillor Richard Stephenson confirmed that concerns regarding flooding would be raised with planning officers and advised that drainage improvements required through the planning process remain a condition of the development. Residents expressed appreciation for the ongoing support provided by local councillors and requested that updates continue to be shared with the community.

Councillor Stephenson provided a comprehensive report on district matters. He advised that he had recently joined the Cabinet at Lichfield District Council and had authorised the funding agreement for the Worthington Road Play Park refurbishment, enabling the project to proceed. Updates were also provided on planning applications affecting Fradley, enforcement activity within the district, community investment projects and the continuing challenges arising from increased Government housing targets. Councillors were pleased to hear that work is beginning on a campaign to improve healthcare provision in Fradley and Streethay, recognising the growing need for local health facilities. Members also noted that parking in Lichfield city centre is now free after 6.00pm.

The Council approved the minutes of the previous meeting and confirmed appointments to a number of outside organisations. Councillor Leytham will continue to represent the Council on Alrewas Charities, while Councillor Ashcroft was appointed to represent the Council on both CEMEX and HS2 liaison groups. Members also adopted the Council's key governance documents, including the Code of Conduct, Financial Regulations, Scheme of Delegation and Standing Orders for 2026/27.

Planning matters formed a significant part of the meeting. The Council considered several applications and, while no comments were submitted on most proposals, members reaffirmed their support for residents' objections to the Fradley Lane development. Concerns remain regarding flooding and drainage impacts, particularly for properties on Church Lane. Members also noted the approval of the temporary construction access for the Horner Avenue development.

Financial matters were reviewed and approved. Members agreed the May schedule of payments and noted the receipt of the annual precept, NCIL funding, VAT reclaim and proceeds from the sale of the former telephone kiosk. The Council's financial position remains healthy, with balances totalling just over £410,000 at the end of April.

A key item of business was the approval of the Council's Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for 2025/26. Following a detailed review of governance, financial management, internal controls, risk management and audit arrangements, members unanimously approved both the Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements. The dates for the public inspection period were also agreed.

The Council also considered a number of recommendations from its Working Group. Members agreed that Fradley Parish Council will assume responsibility for the village's defibrillators, ensuring their future maintenance and replacement. Funding applications will now be submitted to support the replacement of several ageing units. The Council approved the purchase of trail cameras to monitor activity at the bat roost sites and agreed to maintain overgrown hedges at Statfold Lane in the interests of public safety while ownership is clarified. Updates were also received on the Worthington Road Play Park refurbishment, Section 106 projects and ongoing efforts to encourage responsible use of village green spaces.

Members received a range of Clerk updates, including confirmation that the sale of the K6 telephone kiosk has been completed, the internal audit has been undertaken and preparatory work for the Worthington Road Play Park refurbishment is progressing. The next meeting of Fradley Parish Council will take place on 11 June 2026 at Fradley Village Hall.

