

MINUTES OF A MEETING



Fradley Parish Council

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Fradley Parish Council held at 7:00pm at Fradley Village Hall on 11 June 2026.

Present:

Cllrs Mike Ashcroft (Vice-Chair), Phil Beswick, Tosh Crompton, Matt Evans, David Leytham (Chair), and Kevin Stroud.

In Attendance:

Claire Crompton (Clerk/RFO) District & Ward Cllr Richard Stephenson, County Cllr Richard Holland and 8 Members of the Public.

26/18 – Declarations of Members' Interests.

There were no declarations of interest.

26/19 – Apologies for Absence. Local Govt Act 1972 s85 (1)

Apologies were noted from Cllr Leytham-Gain.

26/20 – Co-option of Councillors Local Govt Act 1972 s87(2) and the completion of their Declarations of Acceptance of Office and Register of Members Interest Forms Local Government Act 1972 s 83 (4)

The Council considered the application received from Amena Croxton for co-option to the Parish Council. Members confirmed that they were satisfied that Ms Croxton met the qualification requirements under Section 79 of the Local Government Act 1972.

RESOLVED: *The following candidate be co-opted to the office of Parish Councillor to Fradley Parish Council with immediate effect. In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, the co-opted member signed the Acceptance of Office Form before the Clerk and will complete and return the Register of Members Interest Form within 28 days.*

AGREED: *Unanimously.*

- *Amena Croxton*

26/21 – Adjournment for Public Speaking. Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 s1 extended by the LG Act 1972 s100.

Apologies were noted from District and Ward Cllr Derick Cross.

a. Public Speaking:

Eight members of the public were in attendance. No public representations were received.

b. District & Ward and County Members Reports:

District & Ward Cllr Richard Stephenson attended the meeting and gave his report as follows:

Members noted that, following the Annual Meeting of Lichfield District Council, Councillor Tom Marshall had been elected Chair of the Council and Councillor Andrew Rushton Vice Chair. Councillor Stephenson has been appointed as Cabinet Member without Portfolio. Councillor Cross remains a member of the Planning Committee, Councillor Claverley remains a member of the Planning Committee and Chairman of the Employment Committee, and County Councillor Holland continues as Cabinet Member for High Streets and Economic Development. Members also noted updates on the adoption of the Shop Front Design Code for Lichfield Conservation Area, preparations for the introduction of the food waste recycling service, and the Council's ongoing preparations for Local Government Reorganisation.

Members received updates on local matters affecting Fradley. Councillor Stephenson reported that he had met with the Head of Planning to discuss the Fradley Lane development, specifically seeking amendments to the layout where proposed dwellings back onto existing residential boundaries. Whilst the Head of Planning agreed to raise the matter with the developer, it was considered unlikely that changes would be made. Members also noted that the developer's financial contribution towards drainage improvements on Church Lane has now been received by the County Council, and it is anticipated that works will commence in due course. Work has also commenced on the Worthington Road Play Park refurbishment.

Councillor Stephenson advised that the District Council continues to explore the transfer of community assets ahead of Local Government Reorganisation, including the granting of a 25-year lease to the Garrick Theatre, a 125-year lease to Lichfield City Football Club, and the transfer of land at Hammerwich to the Parish Council. Updates were also provided on planned highway defect repairs at Watery Lane and Wood End Lane, together with ongoing discussions regarding the need for improved healthcare provision in Fradley, which have received the support of the Chief Executive of Lichfield District Council.

Members noted that the implementation of the food waste recycling service has been delayed pending delivery of the required vehicles, with food caddies expected to be distributed shortly and collections anticipated to commence in late July. Councillor Stephenson also referred to the recent tragic death during the Purple Flag weekend in Lichfield and advised that the District Council had extended its condolences to the family, noting that this was an isolated and highly unusual incident for the city.

County Cllr Richard Holland attended the meeting and gave his report as follows:

Members received an update on the proposed installation of black traffic monitoring boxes within the parish. The Clerk confirmed that the preferred locations had been submitted to Staffordshire County Council Highways and that Councillor Holland has approved funding for the project. Members also suggested Halifax Avenue as an additional location due to concerns regarding vehicle speeds, and Councillor Holland agreed that this location should also be considered.

Councillor Holland reminded Members that he is happy to pursue reported pothole defects with the Highways Authority, provided a reference number has been obtained, although he is unable to submit reports on behalf of residents or the Parish Council. Members were advised that pothole repairs are currently undertaken by Amey on behalf of the County Council and that concerns remain regarding the quality and consistency of some repairs. It was noted that

defects are prioritised according to risk, with categories including threat to life, urgent and non-urgent, and that ongoing funding pressures from central government continue to affect highway maintenance.

Members received an update on discussions regarding healthcare provision for Fradley, Streethay and Alrewas. Councillor Holland advised that, whilst planning authorities can allocate land for healthcare facilities through the planning process, the decision to commission and provide medical services rests with the Integrated Care Board. He confirmed that he is working with District and Ward Councillors Stephenson and Cross to campaign for improved local healthcare provision, including a medical centre or GP practice.

Councillor Holland also referred to the recently adopted Shop Front Design Code, noting that whilst some existing premises do not currently comply, future improvements will be supported by approximately £900,000 of funding to assist businesses in bringing shop frontages up to the required standard.

County Cllr Holland left the meeting.

26/22 – Variation to the Order of Business.

There were no variations to the order of business.

26/23 – To receive a representative of the Heritage Group in relation to their community grant application, to enable Councillors to ask questions, and to consider the application.

The Council received a presentation from a representative of the Heritage Group in support of their community grant application. The representative provided an overview of the project, demonstrated the prototype website and responded to questions from Members.

Following discussion, Members were satisfied that the application met the Council's grant criteria. The Heritage Group requested grant funding of £1,000, with the funding to be spent by the end of the calendar year.

RESOLVED: A community grant of £1,000 be awarded to the Fradley Heritage Group, with the funding to be expended by 31 December.

AGREED: unanimously.

26/24 – To receive a representative from AFC Fradley who will give an insight into the group.

It was noted that the representative from AFC Fradley was unable to attend the meeting and, therefore, no presentation was received. The item will be deferred to a future meeting if requested.

26/25 – To receive representation from a resident regarding the proposed Bloor Homes development east of Fradley Lane, including concerns raised by residents of Church Lane, to consider correspondence submitted to Bloor Homes, and to discuss the proposal for a community garden on land they would like to be adopted by the Parish Council.

A resident addressed the Council regarding the proposed Bloor Homes development east of Fradley Lane on behalf of a number of residents of Church Lane whose properties back onto the proposed development. Concerns were expressed regarding the proposed loss of trees and green space, including the potential impact on local wildlife and the character of the area. The resident highlighted that the proposed dwellings would be the only development directly adjoining the rear boundaries of existing properties in this location.

The resident requested the Parish Council's support in encouraging the developer to reconsider the layout of the proposed dwellings and explore relocating them further from the existing residential properties. An alternative proposal was also presented for the Parish Council to consider adopting a parcel of land immediately to the rear of the existing properties to create a community garden, should this be achievable through discussions with the developer. Members noted that residents are continuing to work closely with District and Ward Councillor Stephenson, who has called in the planning application for determination by the Planning Committee and confirmed that he will represent residents' concerns during its consideration. Members expressed support in principle for the concept of a community garden and agreed to continue supporting residents in discussions with the developer where appropriate. It was noted that any formal comments on the planning application would be considered separately under the relevant planning agenda item.

7 members of the public left the meeting.

26/26 –To confirm the minutes of the Fradley Parish Council meeting held on 20th May 2026.

RESOLVED: The draft minutes of the Fradley Parish Council Meeting held on 20th May 2026 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

AGREED; Unanimously.

26/27 – Planning Matters.

N.B - Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Sched. 1, para.8 - Right to be notified of planning applications if right has been requested. The Parish Council is a non-statutory consultee within the planning process.

Receive and consider report from the Planning Advisory Group:

- a. **To determine any additional action required on the planning application information, from information circulated via email by officers in advance of the meeting.**

Application No.	Location	Proposal	Comments by
26/00588/FUL	Land On The Corner Of, Wood End Lane, Fradley, Lichfield	Construction and operation of a micro energy storage project. (Battery Box (ESS) Energy Storage System)	Rec: 02.06.26 Comm: 23.06.26
26/00660/REMM	Land At Fradley Park, Halifax Avenue, Fradley, Lichfield	Variation of condition 6 (landscape and planting scheme) of permission 19/01399/REMM in relation landscaping schemes	Rec: 03.06.26 Comm: 24.06.26
26/00653/FUH	Junction Manor, Fradley Junction, Alrewas, Burton Upon Trent	Retrospective application for the replacement of existing windows, minor internal reconfiguration, insulating external walls, new entrance gates, fitting of sensors and cameras to the external facade.	Rec: 05.06.26 Comm: 26.06.26

26/00654/LBC	Junction Manor, Fradley Junction, Alrewas, Burton Upon Trent	Retrospective works to listed building including the replacement of existing windows, minor internal reconfiguration, insulating external walls, new entrance gates, fitting of sensors and cameras to the external facade.	Rec: 05.06.26 Comm: 26.06.26
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Planning Applications Considered

- **26/00588/FUL – The Parish Council resolved not to submit any comments on this application.**
- **26/00660/REMM – The Parish Council resolved not to submit any comments on this application.**
- **26/00653/FUH and 26/00654/LBC – It was noted that the application had been called in by District and Ward Councillor Stephenson for determination by the Planning Committee. Members considered the application and RESOLVED to submit an objection on the grounds of the proposed boundary treatment. The Parish Council also agreed to support the objections raised by local residents and to consult with District and Ward Councillor Stephenson before submitting its formal response.**

RESOLVED: The Parish Council members agreed to the above planning application comments. AGREED: 3 Members, 3 Abstain.

To note the outcome of the following planning applications for which the Council has been consulted:

26/00448/COU	The Stirling Centre, Unit 7B , Tye Road, Fradley, Lichfield	Change of use from restaurant (Use Class E) to a small-scale, community-focused micropub (Sui Generis).	GRANTED
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Noted

1 Member of the Public left the meeting.

26/28 – Finance

- To consider the following payments, any payments required after publication of the agenda will be advised at the meeting.**

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	POWER
June 2026			
Canal & River Trust (Card)	Parking	2.00	LGA 1972 s111
Laughing Duck (Card)	Refreshments	5.20	LGA 1972 s111
Amazon (Card)	Office Supplies	50.78	LGA 1972 s111

Tesco (Card)	Refreshments	14.99	LGA 1972 s111
Amazon (Card)	Trail Cameras	242.52	Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, s.40
Valda Energy (DD)	Electricity	22.78	LGA 1972 s111
Focus	Telephone Line March	34.06	LGA 1972 s111
Focus	Telephone Line April	33.05	LGA 1972 s111
Unity Trust (DD)	Service Charge	9.70	LGA 1972 s111
Salaries, TAX,NIC	May Payment	3,872.98	LGA 1972 s112 - 119
Claire Crompton	Expenses	71.96	LGA 1972 s111
JR Landscaping	Ground Maintenance Contract	2,526.88	Open Space Act 1906 s9,10
JR Landscaping	Tree Canopies Worthington Road	420.00	Open Space Act 1906 s9,10
D Beaumont	Handyman Contract	276.64	Open Space Act 1906 s9,10
Fradley Village Hall	Room Hire	25.50	LGA 1972 s111
Emas Ltd	Internal Audit	118.00	LGA 1972 s111

RESOLVED: The Council approved the schedule of payments for June 2026.
AGREED; Unanimously.

b. To note the following income:

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
The Royal London Mutual Insurance Society LTD	Bin Recharge Fradley Park	702.00
Keelys LLP	Repayment	504.00

Noted

c. To consider the unaudited accounts from 1.04.2026 to 31.05.2026, including all supporting documents provided by the Clerk.

	31.05.2026
Current Account	£403,531.87
Equals Card	£290.40
Unpresented Payments	£0.00
TOTAL	£403,822.27

RESOLVED: The Parish Council AGREED the above payments and unaudited accounts provided by the Clerk. AGREED: Unanimously.

26/29 – To receive a report from the Working Group and to discuss their recommendations. This is to include Community Grant applications received this month

The Clerk advised Members that the scheduled Working Group meeting had been cancelled. Members therefore received updates on a number of ongoing projects.

The Clerk reported that the Worthington Road Play Park refurbishment is progressing well, with an anticipated handover date of 13 July 2026.

Members received an update on the Parish Council's defibrillator project. Following the Council's decision to assume responsibility for the village defibrillators, funding of £2,500 has been secured from Fradley and Alrewas Charities towards replacement costs. Members noted that all five defibrillators will be replaced, together with the installation of a new cabinet at Fradley Park Primary School. It was further noted that the Community First Responder has agreed to undertake guardianship of the units, including routine inspections and maintenance. Councillor Stroud will refurbish the existing defibrillator cabinets, apply new decals and continue to investigate a suitable location for a defibrillator at Fradley Junction.

Members received an update on the Grounds Maintenance Contract. It was agreed that the current arrangements require review in order to improve service delivery. Areas identified for discussion with the contractor include hedge cutting during the growing season, increasing the frequency of grass cutting during May and June, more frequent litter bin emptying during the summer months, grass edging, weed control and the introduction of a more structured maintenance schedule. The Clerk will arrange a meeting with the contractor, Councillor Crompton and Councillor Evans.

Members noted progress on the remaining S106 projects. Councillor Ashcroft, Councillor Stroud and the Clerk continue to obtain quotations and options for Members' consideration, with recommendations to be presented to the next meeting. Members were advised that a supplier has been identified to produce the history interpretation boards and park signage, including artwork. A meeting has been arranged with a representative of the Fradley History Society to obtain the historical information required, whilst the Clerk continues to progress the necessary permissions.

Members also received an update on the Hay End Lane skate park project. Raddi has been commissioned to undertake the works and the first instalment has been paid. It was noted that the original start date in June has been delayed due to extreme weather conditions and works are now expected to commence in late July or early August.

26/30 – Clerk Reports

- a. Parish Council Diary Dates:
 - Dedication of a RAF Lichfield World War Two Memorial: St. Stephen's Church, Fradley, Saturday 13th June 2026 at 11am. [Noted](#)
 - SLCC Branch Meeting: Uttoxeter Town Hall ST14 7HP, Tuesday 16th June 2026, 10am. [Noted](#)
 - Armed Forces Day: Venue is Tesco Fradley Park Distribution centre, Thursday 25th of June from 1pm. [Noted](#)
 - New date for the Brain Storming Evening for Parish Councillors: Thursday 25th June, 5pm, venue tbc. [Noted](#)
 - Clerks Away Day: SPCA at Trinity Centre, Sutton Coldfield, B72 1TF, Monday 29th June 2026, 9am-3.30pm [Noted](#)
- b. To note the annual CIL Report has been sent to LDC. [Noted](#)
- c. To note that Cllrs Leytham and Leytham-Gain, together with the Clerk, attended

the Licensing Service at All Saints Church on Friday 22nd May to witness the licensing of Revd Jonathan Nicholas as the new Vicar serving the parish.

[Noted](#)

- d. To note that drone footage of the play park improvement works has now been obtained for the Council's records and future publicity purposes. [Noted](#)
- e. To note that the Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Governance and Accountability Return commenced on 3 June and has been displayed in accordance with the statutory requirements. [Noted](#)
- f. To note that works at the Worthington Road Play Park have recommenced following a short pause while the contractor completed a prior commitment, and that work is now progressing on site. [Noted](#)
- g. The Clerk has provided a list of training courses provided by the SLCC & SPCA for June and July, should Cllrs wish to take part in any, please email the Clerk directly. [Noted](#)

26/31 – Date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting to be confirmed as 16 July 2026 at Fradley Village Hall commencing at 7pm.

RESOLVED: The date and time of the next Parish Council meeting has been changed and confirmed as 16 July at 7.00pm. AGREED: unanimously.

[Meeting closed at 20.59pm.](#)

Signed:

Chair Cllr David Leytham

Date: