

ALVANLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Alvanley Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 28th May 2025 at 19.00 hours at Alvanley Village Hall

PRESENT

Present: Cllrs: Mrs B Crowe Mrs J Hughes
Mrs A Mahoney Mrs H Lodge
Mr D Gilbert Mr R Mason
Mr D Bowker (Clerk)
Four members of the public
Cllr Kate Birkenhead – Manley Parish Council
Mrs June Ford – Manley Resident
Mr John Wright – Alvanley Resident
Mr Mark Rogers – Alvanley Resident

1 To welcome Parish Councillors and members of the public to the Meeting

Duly carried out.

2 Election of Chairman

It was proposed by Cllr Mason, seconded by Cllr Gilbert that Cllr Hughes be elected for the post.

Cllr Hughes agreed to stand for the post and was elected by a unanimous decision.

In an opening statement made by Cllr Hughes thanks were expressed to the outgoing Chairman (Cllr Crowe) for her time in office and the way she had conducted herself and directed the Parish Council during some challenging times in her tenure.

Cllr Hughes then went on to lay out her vision for the future of the Parish Council

- Working in partnership with other councils
- Developing direct links with CWaC and organising regular update meetings
- Better use of technology through the Website/Facebook and E-Mail
- Introduce an Induction pack for new members of the council.
- Encourage more training for councillors through external organisations.
- Develop a long-term Strategic Plan for the Parish Council alongside the budget.
- Work alongside local contractors on projects within the Parish.

3 Election of Vice Chairman

It was proposed by Cllr Mahony, seconded by Cllr Lodge that Cllr Gilbert be elected for the post.

Cllr Gilbert agreed to stand for the post and was elected by a unanimous decision.

4 Receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Mr Dugdale (Personal)

It was proposed by Cllr Mason, seconded by Cllr Crowe that the reason for the apology from Cllr Dugdale be accepted.

A vote was taken with three for and three abstentions. The motion was carried by the Chairmans casting vote.

5 Declaration of Interests

All councillors as per Notification of Interests

6 Issues to be raised by the Public.

Cllr Kate Birkenhead of Manley Parish Council addressed the meeting about the Maidens Cross ancient monument.

Discussions have been held with the Woodland Trust about the erection of an information board on land at Wheeldon Copse relating to the ancient monument.

Cllr Birkenhead asked if the Parish Council would consider contributing to the cost.

The Clerk advised that Alvanley Parish Council had paid a sum of money to Manley Parish Council towards an information board some years ago but the project had not gone forward and the money was returned.

Alvanley Parish Council would be interested in contributing to this project but would need to know more about the final costings.

June Ford of Manley expressed her pleasure in the fact that there was some co-operation being achieved between neighbouring Parish Councils
Cllr Hughes and Crowe pointed out that this co-operation was active through the Sandstone Group of councils.

7 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 16th April 2025

It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Gilbert, and agreed by ALL eligible to vote that the minutes be accepted.

8 Items for resolution

End of year Accounts 2024/25

It was proposed by Cllr Crowe, seconded by Cllr Mason and agreed by ALL eligible to vote that the year-end accounts should be accepted.

Parish Council Governance Statement 2024/25

It was proposed by Cllr Crowe, seconded by Cllr Gilbert and agreed by ALL eligible to vote that the Governance Statement should be accepted.

It was agreed that the risk element of this statement needed to be looked at and improved.
ACTION :- Cllr Gilbert

Certificate of Exemption 2024/25

It was proposed by Cllr Lodge, seconded by Cllr Crowe and agreed by ALL eligible to vote that the certificate of exemption should be applied for.

ACTION :- Clerk

Code of Conduct – Civility and Respect Pledge

This matter will be placed again on the next agenda so that the explanation from the Clerk can be passed to ALL councillors.

ACTION :- Clerk

It was proposed by Cllr Mason, seconded by Cllr Crowe and agreed by ALL eligible to vote that the meeting should be formally suspended at 7.23pm so that public speaking time could take place.

See Item 6 above

It was proposed by Cllr Lodge, seconded by Cllr Mahony and agreed by ALL eligible to vote that the meeting should formally reconvene at 7.34pm

Standing Orders

Cllr Hughes has obtained the Model Standing Orders and will be making recommendations (following comparison to the Alvanley Parish Council Standing Orders) if changes need to be considered.

ACTION :- Cllr Hughes

E-Mail addresses/Website/Facebook

Cllr Mahony was able to advise that companies had been contacted about the above items and some competitive costs were advised.

It was agreed that Cllr Mahony and Lodge would progress this matter and present more detailed costs at a future meeting.

ACTION :- Cllr Mahoney/Lodge

It was proposed by Cllr Lodge, seconded by Cllr Gilbert and agreed by ALL eligible to vote that the meeting should be formally suspended at 7.47pm so that a public comment could take place.

A comment was made from the floor about the introduction of one individual E-Mail address for the Parish Council

It was proposed by Cllr Lodge, seconded by Cllr Crowe and agreed by ALL eligible to vote that the meeting should formally reconvene at 7.49pm

Planters

It was agreed that the planter at the Commons/Manley Road should be left in-situ for the time being.

Thanks were expressed to Mr D Crawford for his co-operation in the restocking of the planters with summer flowers

Trees opposite Cricket Club entrance

We have been advised by CWaC that should we wish to plant new trees in this area then we would need to obtain an S142 Planting Licence

This will be discussed again in the future.

Members asked if request to replace the dead trees could be discussed at the Teams meeting with Andy Hamman - CWaC Principal Engineer.

ACTION :- Cllrs. Gilbert & Hughes during the Teams meeting 3rd June.

White Plastic Road Markers

It was agreed that any wooden or metal markers that had been placed in this area should be removed.

No decision was taken about purchasing any plastic replacements.

ACTION :- Cllr Hughes

Stone road edging (The Rock)

Following information received from CWaC Highways it was agreed that the Parish Council would write to the homeowner and request that the rocks be removed as the homeowner was "risking potential litigation if any party is involved in an accident relating to the rocks."

ACTION :- Clerk

9 Matters arising from last meeting: (Update)

Armorial Crest

Cllr Gilbert will be working with Cllr Hughes to progress this matter in the near future.

ACTION :- Cllr Gilbert/Hughes

Water Leak – Frodsham Road/The Ridgeway

The Parish Council are pleased to note that work has been carried out to remedy the water flowing in this area.

10 Reports on meetings attended by Councillors.

Cllrs Hughes and Cllr Crowe attended a meeting organised by CWaC to give information about new legislation that the Government is going to introduce relating to planning. The first consultation will be in 2025 and the legislation could be in place by 2027.

Cllr Hughes attended the recent AGM of the Parochial Church Council where it was reported that following the sale of the church at Manley the accounts of the PCC had increased by £130000.

11 Accounts

ChALC Membership 2025-26

It was proposed by Cllr Mason, seconded by Cllr Crowe, and agreed by ALL eligible to vote that the charge of £162.63 for the ChALC annual membership should be accepted.

Parish Council Insurance

It was proposed by Cllr Mason, seconded by Cllr Lodge, and agreed by ALL eligible to vote that the charge of £241.00 for the annual insurance should be accepted.

Payment to Cllr Crowe (Gifts to Noden's for assistance with path clearance)

It was proposed by Cllr Gilbert, seconded by Cllr Lodge, and agreed by ALL eligible to vote that the charge of £12.60 for gifts to the Noden's should be accepted.

12 Planning Applications

24/02121/FUL The Cedars, Towers Lane

Awaiting Decision

25/00182/FUL Birch Cottage, Back Lane

Awaiting Decision

25/00183/LBC Birch Cottage, Back Lane

Awaiting Decision

25/01329/FUL The Cottage, Back Lane

This item was received too late to go on the agenda so it was agreed that to meet the comments date it would be acceptable to make comments to the Clerk by the 12th June.

ACTION :- Councillors/Clerk

13 Items introduced by Parish Councillors/Clerk (Not for resolution)

Cllr Mason

Frodsham Road had flooded again and Cllr Mason asked that the Parish Council report this again as they had done previously.

It was agreed that the flooding outside The Hollies be mentioned at the Teams meeting on 3rd June

Cllr. Mason expressed concern about children crossing Manley Road from the school and asked if request for CWaC to install a Zebra Crossing outside the White Lion, could be brought up at the same meeting

ACTION :- Clerk/Cllr Hughes/Cllr Gilbert

Could we please add to the next agenda Fingerpost Painting

Cllr Mahoney will advise the Clerk of two more companies who can be contacted to do the work

ACTION :- Clerk

Cllr Hughes

It was agreed that the metal soldiers should be left in place until after VJ Day (August 15th) and then placed in storage until November.

14 Date of the next meeting – Thursday 17th July 2025 at the Village Hall at 19.00

Cllr.