

ALVANLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Alvanley Parish Council Meeting held on
Thursday 11th December 2025 at 19.00 hours at Alvanley Village Hall

PRESENT

Present: Cllrs: Mrs B Crowe Mrs H Lodge
Mrs J Hughes (Chairman) Mr D Gilbert (Vice-Chairman)
Mr D Bowker (Clerk)

Cllr Gilbert chaired the meeting.

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

Duly carried out.

2 Receive apologies for absence.

Cllr A Mahoney

3 Declaration of Interests

All councillors as per Notification of Interests

Under Item 13d of the current standing orders all councillors requested dispensation in order that they were then able to discuss the Parish Precept.

4 Issues to be raised by the Public.

No members of the public were present however Cllr. Crowe had been asked, by an Alvanley resident, to check if the planning consent for the Saffron growing business on Commonsidge, included the wooden type shed structure. The Clerk agreed to check the planning website and report back.

5 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 22nd October 2025

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

6 Items for resolution

a) **Parish Precept 2026/27**

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman had created a list of budget headings that corresponded with previous financial years receipts and payments. A 'Justification of the Precept Request' document was also produced with the aim to assist members in the decision-making process. The budget covered the Parish Councils statutory obligations and included 'large-ticket' items for the ensuing fiscal year. It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Lodge that the precept should be £11,102.00 for 2025/26.

A vote was taken with three for and one abstention. Proposal approved.

ACTION :- CLERK

b) **Website**

The holding website is now up and running and once the charges are agreed for operating an interactive site in the New Year things will move forward again.

The Clerk noted that the Invoice received from CTS for December had increased by £15 and this will be investigated for clarity.

Cllr Mahoney will also speak to CTS.

ACTION ;- CLLRS GILBERTMAHONEY/CLERK

c) **Clerk Vacancy**

Now that the current incumbent of the role has tendered his resignation by letter the Parish Council will advertise for a new Clerk to be in position as soon as possible. Cllr. Mahoney was liaising with Mrs Weaver from ChALC to progress this matter.

d) **Christmas Illuminations
Transformer Charge**

The Clerk advised the meeting that in order to get the lights to operate on the 1st December Northwich Town Council had to install a new transformer at a cost of £120.00 + VAT.

Replacement Lights (2026)

Northwich Town Council have advised that the current lights are no longer at their best and feel that they should be changed before next year.

The Parish Council have requested a quotation as soon as possible to cover the work that they are proposing should be done.

ACTION :- CLERK

It was noted that the Christmas Lights were not working again and the clerk was asked to report this to Northwich Town Council who are paid to be responsible for maintenance.

e) **Frodsham Swing Bridge**

The Parish Council contacted both Helsby Parish Council and Frodsham Town Councils and asked any discussion had taken place regarding the closure.

The reply from Frodsham Town Council was that they had accepted that whilst this would be an inconvenience the period of closure had been reduced to a minimum.

The Closure will be from the 16th to the 20th February.

f) **Armorial Crest competition/Logo**

Three designs had been received by the Parish Council and these were circulated to individual councillors for judgement.

Each councillor was asked to mark the design anonymously based on five categories and the result sheets were presented to the Clerk at the meeting.

The winner of the competition was Mr John Wright who will receive the £75.00 prize.

ACTION CLLR HUGHES/CLERK

Cllr Crowe felt that a small financial prize should be offered to the other entrants but was advised that the rules of the competition could not be changed now and therefore this could not happen.

Cllr Gilbert advised that this could have been considered if it had been discussed prior to the competition going live.

Consideration will be given to producing a certificate for the two entrants to acknowledge their involvement in the competition.

7 **Matters arising from last meeting: (Update)**

a) **CWaC Grants**

Cllr Gilbert will be contacting officers from CWaC to investigate any potential grants that may be available to the Parish Council. Cllr. Gilbert had been informed that Cllr. Hugo Deynem's Discretionary Fund of £5,000 for 2025/26 was already earmarked for other projects within Sandstone Ward. It was hoped that the Parish Council could apply to the fund if a new allocation was granted to Cllr. Deynem in 2026/27.

b) **Edge Carriageway Deterioration – Back Lane - HW760035021**

We were advised by CWaC that this complaint had been investigated and no safety concerns were identified.

c) **Church Way - HW760030362**

We were advised by CWaC that this complaint had been investigated and passed to a Utility Company.

(d) **Pathway Siding – B5393 Manley Road**

Cllr. Gilbert reported that CWaC had completed the work, that the Parish Council has started, by siding out the pathway from FO No 5 Bluebell Lane to Towers Lane.

8 Reports on meetings attended by Councillors.

Cllr. Crowe

On the 17th November Cllr Crowe joined a zoom Connections meeting. All details were forwarded to the Parish Councillors.

On the 2nd December Cllr Crowe attended a FGB meeting held at Alvanley School to discuss the school's progress and procedures.

On the 9th December Cllr Crowe attended a Link meeting for Early Years children held at Manley school to discuss the progress of the September intakes.

On the 10th December Cllr Crowe attended the Infant Nativity event at St. John's Church.

9 Accounts

Clerk's salary Q425

It was proposed by Cllr Lodge, seconded by Cllr Crowe, and agreed by ALL eligible to vote that the Clerk's salary of £732.46.26 should be accepted.

ACTION :- CLERK

PAYE payment Q425

It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Lodge, and agreed by ALL eligible to vote that the PAYE payment of £167.20 should be accepted.

ACTION :- CLERK

10 Planning Applications

24/02121/FUL The Cedars, Towers Lane

Awaiting Decision

25/02767/FUL Cliff Farm, Commonsie

It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Crowe, and agreed by all eligible to vote that the Parish Council would support this application.

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

Road Traffic Collision – Commonsie crossroad

Following an RTC at the crossroads on the 30th November the Parish Council have notified the Insurance Company about the damage to the Cheshire Railing and have sent details to two contractors to obtain quotation to repair the damage.

ACTION :- CLERK

12 Agenda Item for the next Meeting

No items raised

13 Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 14th January 2026 at the Village Hall at 19.00

Cllr.