Alvanley Parish Council
Year in Review 2025/26

Over the past year, we have worked with residents, volunteers and local businesses to care for Alvanley, protect its heritage and make it easier for you to have your say. Here is a look at our progress, the work still underway and how you can help shape the village's future.

What does the Parish Council do

The Parish Council is Alvanley's most local tier of government. Volunteer councillors represent residents, support community projects and care for Council assets. We comment on planning proposals and raise concerns with other authorities; Cheshire West and Chester Council decides planning applications and is responsible for wider services such as highways and waste collection.

We set a budget and parish precept, manage public money, publish meeting and financial information, and follow legal and conduct requirements. The Clerk supports the Council's administration and finances. Residents can attend Council meetings and contact us with local issues.

A greener and more welcoming village

More than 3,500 snowdrops have been planted opposite the Cricket Club, with bulbs generously donated by a local resident and planting supported by volunteers. Please avoid parking on the grass so the bulbs can establish. On 18 October, residents and councillors also planted daffodils at the top of The Rock, opposite the Cricket Club and at the top of Primrose Lane, ready to brighten future springs.

The White Lion completed three summer floral planter displays. Thank you to everyone who plants, waters and cares for our displays, including the resident who maintains the planter on the Green at the top of Primrose Lane.

Keeping Alvanley tidy

Our annual litter pick on 12 April brought volunteers together to clear litter from lanes, footpaths and green spaces. Councillor Brenda Crowe organised equipment, routes and refreshments, with refreshments also provided by The White Lion. A

further community litter pick was organised by Councillor John Wright on 27 September. Thank you to everyone who helps keep the parish clean throughout the year.

We have also raised awareness of dog fouling on footpaths and farmland, and have been arranging additional signs. Residents have been reminded to keep roadside hedges and vegetation clear of signs, junctions and paths to support safe access and visibility.

Protecting our heritage and improving village displays

The Parish Council employed the services of Alvanley Agriculture Services Ltd to repair, renovate and reinstall the historic fingerpost at the junction of Helsby Road and Manley Road. We are grateful for the care and craftsmanship that have preserved this familiar village landmark.

We secured a £4,315 grant from the Marshes Community Benefit Fund towards replacement festive lights and refurbishment of the village milestone and fingerposts. Work on replacement Christmas lights at the top of Primrose Lane has been progressed with contractors. Enviro Tree Services Ltd kindly offered free tree pruning to help prepare for installation.

Remembrance poppies have been installed around the village by Councillor John Wright and colleagues. Stephen and Peter Noden have installed the silhouette soldiers opposite the Cricket Club and at Primrose Lane, and continue to help with their storage and removal. We also committed to providing a civic wreath on behalf of the parish.

Listening to residents and keeping you informed

Our first Councillors' Surgery took place at The White Lion on 14 September, attended by nine residents. Discussions covered speeding, road safety, Commonside Tip, environmental and heritage projects, planning and village facilities. Actions were identified to take forward with councillors, Cheshire West and Chester Council and other organisations. We intend to hold further surgeries and will publicise details when arranged.

The Residents' Survey gave people another opportunity to share views and help inform future priorities. Thank you to everyone who responded; the survey prize draw took place at the Council meeting on 21 October. Councillors have also continued to engage with local Police Surgeries.

Our new website is live, providing meeting information, agendas, minutes, news and useful contacts. We have introduced a logo following a community competition and launched a Facebook page. Search Facebook for Alvanley Parish Council and help share local updates with neighbours.

Strengthening the Council and planning ahead

We have introduced policies and procedures to support clearer, more consistent and transparent decisions, and recruited a new Parish Clerk. The Council approved its Business Plan for 2027–2030 and has been working towards the Local Council Award Scheme Bronze Award. Attendance at the borough's annual town and parish council conference was also planned to support partnership working.

We have followed up the damaged Cheshire railings at Commonside Crossroads with Cheshire West and Chester Council, which advised that repairs were scheduled. We will continue to pursue local concerns with the authorities responsible and keep residents informed as projects progress.

Parish Council election on Thursday 6 May 2027

Would you like to help shape Alvanley's future?

The next ***Parish Council election is scheduled for Thursday 6 May 2027***. Being a parish councillor is an opportunity to listen to neighbours, bring forward ideas and help decide local priorities.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Council or becoming a parish councillor, please contact our Clerk, Trudy Ryall-Harvey, for an informal discussion about the role, time commitment and where to find eligibility and nomination guidance or visit our website: https://alvanleyparishcouncil.gov.uk/how-to-become-a-parish-councillor/

Email clerk@alvanleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Telephone 07784 486 767

Thank you to every resident, volunteer, business and community group who has supported the parish this year. Your time, ideas and practical help make these projects possible.