

**MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025, 7.30 pm at Finstall Village Hall, Finstall**

**Councillors present:** Cllr Will Taylor, Chairman  
Cllr Christine Orr-Cooper, vice-Chairman  
Cllr Norman Hewer  
Cllr Molly Molloy  
Cllr Rosemarie Ryan  
Cllr Caroline Spencer  
Cllr Wendy Molloy

**Councillors absent:**

**In attendance:** One member of the public  
Carol Blake, Clerk/RFO.

**1. Chairman's welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed the new clerk, Carol Blake. The Chairman declared the meeting open.

**2. Apologies for absence.** No apologies received.

**3. Declarations of interest.** None declared

**4. To consider any request from a councillor for a dispensation to be allowed to stay in the meeting after declaring an interest.** None requested.

**5. Public Forum.**

a) An opportunity for members of the public to raise matters of interest or concern relating to this agenda or for future meetings.

The attending resident spoke as follows:

- On the subject of speeding traffic, excess speeds had been noted in Alcester Road as vehicles travelled into Finstall from Tardebigge. She would like the police to attend the next meeting if possible so a speed watch campaign can be progressed and any other speed deterrent can be discussed and initiated.

b) County and District Councillors; Safer Neighbourhood Team: no updates.

**6. To consider the minutes of the previous council meeting** held 07/01/2025.

The minutes of the meeting held 7/01/2025 were approved as an accurate record of proceedings, and were signed by the Chair.

**7. To ratify the appointment of the parish council's Clerk** – The Clerk was welcomed to the Parish Council and she duly signed her contract of employment.

**8. Planning Development.** To (a) comment on any planning consultations received and (b) note Planning Authority (Bromsgrove District Council) decisions made, and (c) consider any other planning matter.

<b>Application type:</b>	Full Application
<b>Planning Reference:</b>	<b>24/01184/FUL</b>
<b>Proposal:</b>	Remove conservatory and replace with masonry sun room
<b>Location:</b>	Woodfield , 54A Alcester Road, Finstall, Worcestershire,

All members agreed with this planning application.

## 9 FINANCE

### a) To note the bank reconciliation to 28/01/2025

For period 01/04/2024 – 28/01/2025		
<b>Opening bank balances 01/04/2024</b>	19,771.86	
Add actual receipts for year to date	9,079.23	
Less authorised payments for year to date	-12,338.12	
<b>Total</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>£ 16,512.97</b>
<b>Bank balances as at 25/11/2024</b>		
Unity Trust Bank	6,012.97	
Bromsgrove DC short-term investment	10,500.00	
Less unrepresented payments (none)	.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>£ 16,512.97</b>
	-	<b>A=B=balance</b>

The reconciliation with latest bank statements was checked and signed by the Chair.

### b) To consider and authorise payments and note receipts.

Vno	To	Reason	Gross amount	VAT paid
<b>Payments for authorisation</b>				
	Finstall Village Hall	Annual rentals for monthly meetings	tba	0.00
	Tardebigge Cider	Annual Carols refreshments	Tba	0.00
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
R14	Short-term investment interest for 5 years (Bromsgrove DC)			757.03
R15	Lengthsman's reimbursement for highways work during December 2024			160.00

It was noted that invoices are still expected from Finstall Village Hall for the use of the hall during 2024 for meetings and events, and from Tardebigge Cider for the Christmas Carols event held on 20/12/2024.

The clerk, as RFO, confirmed each invoice had been checked to ensure:

- i. Expenditure has been agreed prior to receipt of invoice.
- ii. The budget for each purchase had been agreed.
- iii. Each invoice complies with the purchase order and is as expected.
- iv. Each invoice is arithmetically correct including appropriate VAT calculation.

The schedule was checked and signed and each invoice was available for inspection and will be attached to the online payments schedule circulated to all members.

The online authorisers would be Cllr W Taylor and Cllr N Hewer.

- c) **Post for litter bin** – The clerk will progress chase the full order of dog waste bin and post which have not been received and require delivery to the Chairman’s address.

**10. Clerk’s reports and correspondence received, for information:**

i. Correspondence:
a) NALC and WorcsCALC updates
b) Neighbourhood Watch updates
c) Bromsgrove and Redditch councils’ Partnership News
d) Breakthrough Communications – effective communication.

- The Clerk has contacted the Police to ask about the speed watch campaign which has been mentioned in previous meetings. The Clerk received a response from the Police which she read out: “With regards to the Speed Watch have the PC identified at least two specific locations that can be progressed? At least 6 volunteers are required who will need to go through the vetting process, this can take 6 months or so”.  
**It was agreed** to discuss this in more detail when there is a police representative in attendance, the Clerk will request representation in the next meeting in March.
- Date for Annual Parish Council meeting - **It was agreed** for the 6<sup>th</sup> May.
- Smart Water rollout – after a short discussion on the outstanding smart water equipment still to be posted to some residents, it was agreed to defer this item until the March meeting when the addresses of those still awaiting receipt of the smart water packs will be collated and progressed.
- Asset list for review – the Asset register was reviewed by members and the Clerk was requested to update some of the items listed as they do not all belong to the Parish Council.  
The Chairman agreed to contact the Lengthsman to clarify some of the listed items to ensure they are all Parish Council owned and correct quantities are also stated on the register.

**11. To consider and decide upon the following:**

**a) To request a new (second) VAS speed sign.**

It was **AGREED** to look at how to fund another VAS sign for the area, through a possible grant or through funding from the district council and/or county council division member along with the Police and Crime Commissioner who has made funds available for similar projects last year.

**12. Date, time and venue of next meeting:**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025, 7.30pm at Finstall Village Hall.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Signed..... Date .....  
Chairman, Finstall Parish Council