

MINUTES

FLADBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Fladbury Parish Council held on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at the Sports Pavilion, Fladbury at 7pm.

**PRESENT:** Chairman A Hughes, Vice Chairman P Hill, Cllrs: A Hewson, K Davis, S Stephenson and D Wetherilt. District Cllr A Crump and 5 parishioners.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr G Mills – 6 Month Leave of Absence from 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025 and County Cllr E Kearsley.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None Declared
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** from meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025. Proposed by Cllr Hewson, seconded Cllr Hill – all in favour

**PARISHIONERS:** *the meeting was closed to allow parishioners the opportunity to address the Parish Council*

- No comments were made

4. **COUNTY & DISTRICT CLLR REPORTS:** Reports received:

**County Cllr Kearsley:** report circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting and included:

- WCC update - the Reform administration have applied to the government for a 10% increase in council tax. Of great concern is that this is whilst proposing to cut the key areas that the majority of residents use, i.e. highways.
- Worcestershire on Demand bus service continues to be very good and many residents are finding it extremely useful and well supported. Please continue to spread the word.
- If you are aware of or think of anything that the village would benefit from, whether it be the village hall, a community group, etc please let me know and I can look at assigning some of my divisional fund to it.
- Road closures on Station Road with concerns raised on social media. I've been in touch with highways to ask the question of whether it can be delayed or reduced in size.
- Station Road - the cutting in work will take place on the pavement before the decision is made to resurface. Unfortunately, this can't take place during the road closure as the road won't be under highways control during that time. A reminder that I have assigned my Highways budget towards resurfacing of the footpath for when it does take place, to ensure you have what has been promised some time ago.

**District Cllr Crump reported:**

- WDC Residents Survey was completed by 2,027 residents
- South Worcestershire Development Plan Review is currently out for comments
- Local Government Review consultation to commence in February
- Illegal waste dumping has been serious issue locally although now resolved
- Free 'Well Being' training courses to be re-launched in the Spring

**5. FINANCE / GOVERNANCE**

a) Approval of payments to 10<sup>th</sup> January 2026 including payments for approval:

Pavilion - Gas	££2.48	LM November	£587.50
Clerks Salary	£725.44	Meter Box key	£5.59
Pavilion - Gas	£81.39	Handyman / Caretaker	£162.50
LM Expenses	£258.71	Rec - Pitch fertiliser	£280.00
Seeding at Pavilion	£1,200.00	Pavilion Energy	£84.56
Donation	£150.00	Pavilion Cleaning	£210.00
Pavilion - Cleaning	£210.00	Pavilion Roof	£318.00
Padlock	£35.27	Expenses	£36.00
Grasscutting	£238.80	Grasscutting	£238.80
Planting	£545.00	website hosting	£33.59
Street Lighting	£591.13	Electricity Village Green	£20.47
Pavilion - Gas	£24.45	LM December	£450.00
Electricity Village Green	£19.14	Pavilion Works	£970.00
The Nait	£1,465.00	Service Charge	£6.00
website hosting	£33.59	Clerks Salary	£999.18
LM Assistance	£100.00	Clerks Expenses	£37.00
Service Charge	£6.00	Pavilion - Gas	£34.66
Clerks Salary	£999.18	Pavilion - Electricity	£78.55
Clerks Expenses	£37.00		

Approval of payments, proposed Cllr Davis, seconded Cllr Wetherilt - all in favour

**Receipts**

Interest - Instant Access	£191.17
Interest - Nait Account	£77.47
Lengthsman	£1,037.50

**Account Balances** - including payments listed

Current Account:	£8,469.37
Deposit Account (PC General Reserve):	£34,879.77
Deposit Account (Nait Reserve):	£13,314.82

b) Budget / Precept Request 2026/27 - A draft budget had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting for consideration and to make comments. The proposal was to increase the precept by 21.4% with a monetary value of £1.15 per month for a Band D property to cover the NP, refurbishment of the pavilion and day to day parish council running costs. It was noted that consultancy services for the Fladbury Neighbourhood Plan would cost circa £24,000. There is £10,000 grant funding available from Wychavon District Council, and the parish council does have some reserves.

- c) Pavilion and Recreation Hire Charges to be increased from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 – current hire fee to be increased by CPI (Consumer Prices Index) in December 2025 (3.4%) rounded up to the nearest £5, and then annual by CPI.
- d) Rental of Parking Space at Wharf / Pound – these to be re-valued by a local estate agent for a rental value. Then increased by CPI (Consumer Prices Index) in December 2025 (3.4%) rounded up to the nearest £5, and then annual by CPI.

Cllr Wetherilt proposed, seconded by Cllr Davis that the draft budget be approved – all Cllrs in favour.

- e) Policy Review – a review of all policies to be carried out by Clerk and shared with Cllrs by email for approval at next meeting

## **6. PLANNING:**

- a) W/25/02750 Land at (OS9937 4711) Station Road – concerns were raised regarding the limited on-site parking facilities and protection of the orchard. A comment was made that reducing the number of properties to the number approved in the PIP would be an option. Additionally, with the new development in Broadway Lane would result in a significant increase the number of additional daily vehicle movements. The parish council agreed to object to the application, referring to inadequate parking, protection of the trees in the orchard, and increased traffic.
- b) Neighbourhood Plan (NP) – Two different quotes had been received for consultancy services on the NP, one being much more detailed but ultimately more expensive. It was suggested that a draft NP could be ready by October 2026. A recommendation was made that we accept the quote from Brody Planning Associates more expensive quote.

Proposed Cllr Stephenson, seconded Cllr Hewson – all in favour.

## **7. REPORTS FROM AROUND THE PARISH:**

- a) Field and Nait – the following items were reported:
  - BAA have pollarded several willow trees along the riverbank
  - Remaining willows to be tended to by the two volunteers
  - Fruit trees to be pruned next season
  - New kissing-gate to be installed at Jubilee Bridge
  - Stone to be install around the kissing gate near the Fisherman's Car Park
  - The pedestrian bridge requires some attention
  - EVG had advised they would help with mowing
  - A working party would be needed to help with clearing flood debris
  - An attractive 'stone' picnic table / benches to be sourced for the Nait
- b) Lengthsman / Handyman had been given several actions for Pool Garden. Flower tub at village green to be removed
- c) Recreation Ground / Pavilion – decorating has commenced at the pavilion. Clerk to 'stand- down' the cleaner for the time being
- d) Website – almost ready to go live. Cllrs to be issued with new email addresses.

**2026/05**

- 8. LOCATION OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS** – To encourage more parishioners to attend meetings, from March, future meetings will be held at the village hall, on a trial basis.
- 9. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:** David Day thanked Cllrs for the card and gift following him stepping down as Cllr.
- 10. OTHER MATTERS FOR INFORMATION / FUTURE DISCUSSION:**
  - a) Defibrillator management service 'Numbers Plus' to be disbanded and a new provider to take over.
  - b) Request for a permanent Christmas Tree for the village green
  - c) Defibrillator – a suggestion received for a defib at village green – clerk to seek quotes for unit and electric supply
- 11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at the village hall at 7.30pm