

MINUTES

Alvington Parish Council Thursday, 5th February 2026

Present: Councillors: Heys, Macharg, Powell, Turner.

Officers: Viktoriia Iemelianova (Clerk).

Members of the public.

1. ATTENDANCE

- a) **To receive** apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend from Cllr Macharg.
- b) **To consider for acceptance** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Cllr Macharg.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) **To receive Declarations of Interest** in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers and in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members.

Interests may be declared at any time during the meeting should they become apparent.

None to declare.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- a) **To consider for approval** as a correct record the [minutes of the Council Meeting held on 5th of December 2025](#). Proposed by Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr Powell.
- b) **To consider for approval** as a correct record the [minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 15th of January 2026](#). Proposed by Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr Turner.
- c) **To consider** any questions arising from those minutes.
There were none.

4. REPORT FROM DISTRICT / COUNTY COUNCILLOR McFARLING

Cllr McFarling reported that Gloucestershire County Council's scrutiny committee reviewed the proposed budget on 8 January, identifying a need for an additional £10 million in savings due to funding pressures. The Cabinet will recommend a £697 million budget and approve a £772.21 million Dedicated Schools Grant for 2026/27, while backing the f40 campaign for fairer education funding. Concerns were raised with the Care Quality Commission regarding care inspections, and the UK Government has pledged £71.5 million for the M5 Junction 10 scheme. The Council also marked Holocaust Memorial Day and continues supporting community initiatives through the Grassroots Neighbourhood Fund.

5. PLANNING

- a) **To consider New Local Plan FoDDC.**

[Details attached.](#)

The draft Local Plan was approved for consultation at the Full Council meeting on 22 January. The consultation is open until 18 March, inviting residents to comment on the proposed allocation of 13,200 homes across the district by 2042. The plan sets out policies to guide development and future planning decisions.

Alvington has been allocated 15 homes. Allocations are based on land offered by landowners to ensure sites are practical and deliverable.

Questions were raised regarding the capacity of local infrastructure to support growth. Alec Davis queried transport provision, school places, and utilities.

Cllr McFarling provided initial information on planned upgrades and measures to accommodate increased demand, noting that further assessment will be required to ensure infrastructure meets future needs.

Cllr Heys emphasised the importance of consulting landowners to confirm site availability and identify any constraints.

Actions: Cllr Macharg will prepare a formal response on housing and infrastructure by 18 March.

Councillors and residents are encouraged to review the plan and submit comments. Ongoing liaison with landowners and infrastructure providers will continue to support effective delivery of the plan.

6. **PUBLIC FORUM**

Chris Shill reported that the cost associated with the bus stop is £360 plus VAT.

Alec Davis noted that an officer from Lydney has provided contact details, which are now available for follow-up.

An update was given on Broomery Court Farm: the site has been granted a further extension until 16 February.

Concerns were raised regarding the ponds at Bloomery Court, specifically:

Responsibility for funding ongoing maintenance of the ponds.

Management of excess access, including who would be responsible for cleaning and draining the ponds if the access is closed.

It was agreed that a formal enquiry will be made to determine responsibility for these matters.

Alec Davis raised safety concerns regarding the route between villages, noting the absence of a safe pedestrian pathway, creating a hazard for walkers.

Actions:

1. Cllr Chris McFarling to investigate pedestrian safety along the village route.
2. Investigation into the possibility of acquiring a "smile face" sign for Alvington. Funding will be provided if deemed appropriate.

7. **VILLAGE**

a) To consider and formally approve the appointment of Sam Thomas as Snow Warden.

Proposed by Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr Turner.

b) To note updates on village/parish improvement matters ([see meeting pack](#)).

The requirements for the bus shelter bench and window were discussed. It was agreed that a detailed list of the necessary works and specifications will be prepared.

Once finalized, this list will be forwarded to several suppliers to obtain quotations.

Action: Cllr Turner is tasked with taking measurements and preparing a comprehensive specification document.

8. **SPORTS FIELD**

a) Land Registry

To receive an update on the current position and any outstanding matters.

The documentation has been received, and the current status has been noted.

b) Return of Legal Documents by the Solicitor

To note progress, expected timescales, and any required follow-up actions.

All documents have now been received, and the expected timescales for the remaining actions will be monitored. Any further follow-up required will be undertaken as appropriate.

c) To consider the gate proposal and determine the next steps.

The Council considered the proposal for the installation of a gate incorporating a pedestrian entrance, which would allow unrestricted access to the field throughout the day. Cllr Heys proposed proceeding with the purchase of this combined gate structure.

Action: The Clerk will review suitable options on the recommended websites.

Provided by Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr Powell.

d) To discuss Alvington Summer Fun day.

Forms for booking will be distributed to all participants.

Members are encouraged to promote the stalls. Suggested methods include sharing information through social media and other appropriate communication channels

e) To review the Orchard Boundary Agreement status and address any outstanding issues.

To review the Orchard Boundary Agreement status and address any outstanding issues, additional time is required to complete and sign the necessary documents.

f) To Review and Discuss of the 'Hundred Club'

The Council will explore potential events to raise funds and identify a suitable person to conduct the prize draws. A proposal has been made to operate it as a small lottery-style initiative. Cllr Powell provided information on the Easy Fundraising scheme as an additional option for generating income.

Action: the matter will be revisited next month for further consideration and decisions.

g) To receive any other reports on the Sports Field.

There were none.

9. FINANCE

a) To approve payments for February 2026.

V Iemelianova	Clerk Pay November 2025	£386.66
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To resolve to note the increase in the Clerk's hourly rate from £13.26 to £13.69, effective 1 April 2025.

[Details attached.](#)

Proposed by Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr Turner,

V Iemelianova	Arrears(May-December 2025)	£93.48
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[Details attached.](#)

b) To note the receipts of income received December 2025/January 2026

Lloyds Bank December	Bank Interest	£22.19
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Lloyds Bank January	Bank Interest	£16.38
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c) Bank Reconciliation for 25/26: **to note. Noted.**

d) Internal controls checks for Q3 25/26: **to assign to a member.**

Cllr Thompson volunteered to conduct the checks for Q3. **Agreed.**

e) Budget Statement for Q3 25/26 : **to note income and expenditure. Noted.**

f) Account Statement for Q3 25/26 : **to note . Noted.**

g) **To discuss** Lloyds banking: current arrangements, issues arising, and next steps.

Cllr Heys noted that the Parish Council is in the process of updating the bank account, and work on this is ongoing.

10. BUDGET 2025/2026

- a) **Resolved to note** precept amount of £11,238 has been requested from the FoDDC.
Noted

11. CHURCHYARD

- a) **To receive** updates on any churchyard matters.
There were none.

12. HIGHWAYS

a) **To receive and note** a report from **Mark Topping**,

CllrTopping reported that implementing speed reduction measures from April would cost around £50,000; funding is currently unavailable.

If approved in Alburton, the scheme could be extended to other areas to share costs.

A meeting with the local highways officer is scheduled for March to discuss options.

A phased approach was suggested: reduce from 60 → 40 → 30 → 20 mph ;

Safety demonstrations may support the need for reductions, while maintaining traffic flow for business.

Chris McFarling noted all parishes can apply for reductions; funding may include £20,000 contributions or larger loans.

Coordination continues with Aylburton Parish Council and FoDDC Ward Councillor.

b) **Resolved to receive** updates on road safety matters.

c) **Resolved to note** any updates on highways matters ([see Meeting Pack](#)).

There were none,

13. **To note** [correspondence for information](#). **Noted.**

14. COUNCIL

a) **Resolved to receive** [The Clerk's Report](#).

b) **Resolved to receive** Councillors reports and items for future agendas.

c) **To review** the current website and any required updates.

Cllr Heys introduced the new website, <https://alvingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/>, highlighting its improved structure, accessibility, and suitability for future parish communications.

d) **To confirm that** all members have enabled and are using their new email addresses.

Cllr Heys and Cllr Powell noted that the dedicated app is now functioning, allowing members to access and view correspondence directly on their phones.

e) **To consider** producing a flyer to share new contact details and to advertise the Fun Day.

Action: Cllr Turner agreed to take responsibility for producing the flyer.

f) **Resolved to note** the date of the next Full Council Meeting – **Thursday, 5th of March at 7.30 p.m.**

The meeting ended at 21.17 p.m .

Signed: (Chairman) Date: