

GREAT ALNE PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of **Great Alne Parish Council** was held at **7pm on Monday 14th September 2026** in **Great Alne and Kinwarton Memorial Hall, Henley Road, Great Alne, B49 6HL**

Present

Cllr I Millard, Cllr I Taylor, Cllr L Bennett, Cllr J Gardner
Mrs Gill Forman, Executive Officer for GAPC also attended.

OPEN FORUM AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR

a) Representations from residents (3 mins max per speaker)

Molly Davey, a Trustee of GAKMH informed the meeting that herself and her husband Martyn attended the Stratford District Council Planning Committee meeting where the planning application for the development of the Great Alne Social Club was discussed. She was disappointed that no one from the Parish Council, the District Councillor, the County Councillor or any other residents of Great Alne attended the meeting. She did acknowledge that the Parish Council had sent a written statement to be read out at the committee meeting. The District Councillor Janine Lee stated she was in hospital recovering from surgery so was unable to attend and would have been there if she could. Cllr Millard replied that due to holidays and illness Councillors, unfortunately, were not able to attend.

Martyn Davey, Chair of GAKMH read out a statement regarding the planning application for the development of the Great Alne Social Club. See appendix 1 of the minutes. Cllr Millard replied that he had written to the enforcement team at Stratford District Council raising concerns and that District Councillor Lee had also written to the enforcement team. Martyn Davey thanked everyone for their support. Cllr Lee stated that she had access to Officers at SDC and asked Martyn to put his concerns in writing to her and then she could take those concerns up with Officers in person when she was next in the District Council Offices.

b) County Councillor's Report

Cllr Cooper reported that the speed reduction measures paid for by his delegated budget have moved to the final quote stage. Also, he has been briefed on the Great Alne school site, but was unable to share the details yet, he stated that the briefing will be made public soon.

c) District Councillor's Report

Cllr Lee provided a report to the Clerk prior to the meeting which had been circulated to Councillors. Cllr Lee read out the report. See appendix 2 of the minutes. Cllr Lee then explained that new planning laws come into effect from the 31st of October. Small development planning applications will now be controlled by the Planning Officer who will make the decision on the application, and it will not go to the Planning Committee at SDC. Local Councils and residents will be able to comment on larger development applications and it is possible they could go to the Planning Committee at SDC. Cllr Lee urged the Parish Council to review their Parish Plan with a view to updating it. Grants are available from SDC to help with the costs. Cllr Lee explained that the National Government had put a pause on Local Government Reorganisation and due to the large amount of public money SDC have spent on this project they are asking the National Government for recompense for the monies already spent.

d) Shed Project Update

Cllr Millard asked the Lengthsman if the shed was now secure. The Lengthsman replied that it was and silicone was due to be placed over the screws of the shed door to stop them being removed and access gained. He also stated that Graham Knight was arranging to plant some shrubbery on the right-hand side of the shed to tidy up that area. Cllr Millard asked the Executive Officer to email Graham Knight to confirm that this was in hand. The Lengthsman also said that the Payback Team had completed work to the church grounds and that the area was now looking much better. Cllr Millard informed the meeting that after the last Council meeting, he had written to Rev Katie Cross regarding resident's concerns about the church grounds and that she had replied acknowledging the concerns and that she would raise them at the next PCC meeting.

e) Alcester South SNT update

Nothing to report

f) Huff Space

Cllr Gardner reported that she had not yet put the survey on Facebook in which she hopes to gain an idea of the interest in reestablishing the Huff Space as she felt that due to holidays the response may have been poor. Now pupils are back at school she is hoping to post it on Facebook soon and will report the findings at the next Council meeting.

AGENDA:

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Bowring

2. Declaration of interests in items on this agenda

None

3. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th July 2026.

Cllr Bennett asked for a change to the wording of 4e. from "A plaque in the copse has been revarnished" to "The plaques in the copse are due to be revarnished". The minutes of the meeting held on the 13th of July 2026 were approved by Councillors with this change. The Executive Officer will make this change to the minutes and then obtain Cllr Millard's signature on the amended minutes.

4. Councillors Reports

To receive reports and where required approve action/expenditure

a. Community Speed Watch/Road Safety next steps

Cllr Millard reported a safety assessment has been carried out and approved by WCC. A final quote is now awaited. Once this quote had been approved by our County Councillor, Luke Cooper, the work can be planned and implemented. The works will include, Dragons Teeth markings on Spernal Lane & refreshing of existing 30mph roundel & SLOW markings, installation of 2 pedestrian in Road warning signs as you approach the public footpath section and new yellow backed 30mph signs on School Road. Cllr Millard also reported there is a potential new volunteer for speed watch, but a new co-ordinator is still required.

b. GAKMH update

Cllr Millard reported that the Trustees are putting on more events to raise funds due to the loss of some lettings. Events coming up include Macmillian Coffee Morning 19th Sept 10am, A Line Dancing Evening 10th Oct 7.30pm, Race Night 14th Nov, Xmas Coffee morning & Bazaar 5th Dec 10am, Xmas is coming the date for this is to be changed as it clashes with St. Nic's night in Alcester, and a Christmas Supper 12th Dec at 7.30pm.

c. Recreation Ground

Cllr Bennett reported there had been no progress on the refurbishment of the picnic bench, due to the weather and the immovable bolts. The play equipment and surfaces in the toddler area have not yet been treated again due to the weather conditions. The lily pads have been replaced. The play equipment and recreation ground inspection has been booked with ROSPA.

d. Defibrillator

Cllr Bennett reported there were no known issues.

e. Coronation Copse and Community Orchard

Cllr Bennett reported that the water tower had been very useful during the dry summer, enabling residents to water the Copse trees. Volunteers continue to maintain the Copse and the Orchard.

f. Great Alne Primary School update (Shed's and Tree's)

Cllr Millard informed the meeting that councillors had decided not to take possession of the sheds from the school and relocate them within the village due to possible vandalism and damage of them that would then be the Council's responsibility. Councillors are still hopefully that the trees from the school will be relocated within the village, weather permitting. There are three murals in the school, which Councillors agreed would be good to keep and find a new location for within the village. Cllr Cooper will flag this up to Officers at WCC. Cllr Millard will speak to Kyla Brown regarding this.

g. GAPC Website update

Cllr Taylor reported in August the suggested new design of the website was passed to the IT team at SDC, who are currently building the new website for Great Alne Parish Council. Councillors will get to see and make comment on the new website before it goes live.

h. Climate Action Group update

No update.

i. Former Social Club update

This item had been covered earlier in the meeting.

5. Facebook

A discussion took place between Councillors as to the future of the Council's Facebook page, due to some inaccurate and possibly liable posts on the page. Councillors felt the Facebook page should be informative for residents. Every post could be reviewed before it is posted, but Councillors felt that would be time consuming. One option is to delete the Facebook page and just use the website to communicate with residents, but this may mean the younger generation would not engage with the Council. Cllr Gardner reported that she had administered large Facebook pages in the past, so Councillors agreed that Cllr Gardner would review the

Councils Facebook page and report back at the next meeting. Councillors also agreed that if possible, the Facebook page should be changed so only The Executive could post onto it.

6. Public Drop in Session

Councillors discussed the possibility of holding Public Drop in Sessions for residents to meet with Councillors and highlight issues within the village. Councillors felt the sessions might work better if they were part of another event, rather than stand alone sessions. Cllr Millard agreed to speak to the Memorial Hall Trustees to see if it would be possible to have a drop in session at their next coffee morning.

7. Data Protection Complaints Procedure

Councillors approved the new Data Protection Complaints Procedure Policy.

8. Volunteer Agreement

Councillors approved the new Volunteer Agreement.

9. Planning applications

Between meetings, GAPC has submitted the following responses (further to email meetings):

- Application reference: 26/01576/LDE. Dank Skelton Racing, Lodge Hill, Shelfield Green, Alcester B49 6JR. Confirmation that observation cabin was erected and substantially completed 4 years ago.
NO REPRESENTATION
- Application reference: 26/02086/AGNOT. Mr Dan Skelton, Alne Park, Park Lane, Great Alne, Alcester. B49 6HS. Proposed timber built lambing shed.
NO REPRESENTATION

Noted by Councillors

10. Accounts

a) Progress against budget report

The Executive Officer had emailed Councillors a progress against budget report prior to the meeting. There were no questions and Councillors approved the report

b) Accounts information

The Executive Officer had email Councillors a report on Payment of Accounts from 1st of July to 31st August 2026. Councillors approved the payments.

c) A CIL payment of £180.00 was received into GAPC bank account on the 20th of July 2026

Noted by Councillors

d) A Nest Pension Scheme and direct debit have been set up.

Noted by Councillors

e) A quote from WCC was received and agreed for the maintenance of our streetlighting for the financial year 2026/2027 for £158.64 + VAT.

Noted by Councillors

f) Grass cutting Appleby Close.

Cllr Bennett reported that the grass verge of Appleby Close had been cut by Thomas Fox at a cost of £35.00. This area was not on their schedule of works. Cllr Millard asked The Lengthsman if now the verge had been cut does he have the capacity to take over the mowing of this verge. The Lengthsman agreed he would take over mowing this verge.

g) The National Joint Council for Local Government Services has agreed the new pay scales for 2026/27 for Clerks and Council employees, to be implemented from 1/04/2026

Noted by Councillors

h) Conclusion of the External Audit 2025/26.

The Executive Officer informed Councillors she had received the Notice of Conclusion of the External Audit and Certificate from the External Auditor. This was noted by Councillors

• Bank Account Balances @ 31st of August 2026:

- Unity Trust Current Account T1 ending 0348: £1384.19
- Unity Trust Instant Access Account (reserves) ending 0351: £43800.02

Councillors noted the account balances.

11. Date and venue of next meeting.

Wednesday 18th of November 2026 at 7pm in the Great Alne and Kinwarton Memorial Hall, Henley Road, Great Alne. B49 6HL

Councillors are reminded of their duty to consider all aspects of equal opportunities, crime prevention, unlawful discrimination, biodiversity of the natural habitat, and other best practice when making decisions at the meeting.

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