

Alderminster Parish Council
Minutes for
Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council
Held on
Monday 17th November 2025
Alderminster Village Hall 7.00 pm

Present: Cllr John Melville
Cllr Mark Meadows
Cllr David Curtis
Mrs L Callow (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Also present: 2 member of the public

1	Apologies: None Received
2	Declaration of interests: Cllr Meadows—no pecuniary interest for item 5 on agenda.
3	Questions from the public: Members of the public used this time to ask questions and express their opinions.
4	Minutes of the previous meetings: The minutes from the previous meeting of the 8 th September 2025 were RESOLVED to accept and were signed by the Chairman.
5	Planning applications: i) 25/02389/FUL Foxtail Cottage – no representation ii) 25/01496/REM Land Off Shipston Road – chair will ask more questions before a delegated discission is made. iii) 25/00966/REM Land Off Shipston Road - chair will ask more questions before a delegated discission is made.
6	Christmas Fair Donation – it was RESOLVED to donate a book and selection box per child under section 145 of the LGA 1972 for the community Christmas cracker fair.
7	Grant – it was RESOLVED to approve £500 towards the running costs of the village voices and it was recommended they could enquire about the county councillor grant fund and district council community fund for financial support.
8	Budget – it was discussed and RESOLVED to set the budget for the financial year2026/27 at £16,300.
9	Councillors’ reports: Cllr Meadows introduced a MOP who would like to co-opt onto the parish council at our January meeting. The hedge at No1 needs cutting back from the public path to enable passing. WCC Cllr Curtis will look into this.

10 **District and County Councillors' reports:**
WCC Cllr Curtis- full report attached. **Appendix A**
DC Cllr- elections for a new DC Cllr is taking place on Thursday 20th November 25.

- 11 **Accounts for payment and finance matters:**
- i) Clearview windows (bus shelter cleaning) - £100.00
 - ii) Clerks salary (September) - £**
 - iii) HMRC - £**
 - iv) Laura callow (reimbursement for office supplies) - £19.00
 - v) DCK Payroll (September) - £37.80
 - vi) Geoxphere (mapping) - £60.00
 - vii) Parish Online (new website/emails) - £378.00
 - viii) DCK Payroll (October) - £37.80
 - ix) Shipston First responders - £160.00
 - x) HMRC - £**
 - xi) Clerks Salary (October)- £**

The Chairman signed the supporting documentation.

12 **Correspondence:**
Had an email regarding C48 at Wimpstone bridge and road conditions. WCC informed the resurfacing is scheduled to be done but awaiting confirmation date. Tarmac patching has been done in the meantime. Vegetation has been cut back since email was received.

13 **Items for future agenda:** Precept, Hedge update, drainage, co-option.

Next meeting Monday 12th January 2026

14 **Meeting closed at 7.49pm**

Signed.....

Appendix A
Warwickshire county councillors report
Councillor David Cutrtis
November 2025

Highways delegated budget

I still have some funding available. Some problems such as replacing white lines are

relatively inexpensive and can make a considerable difference to road safety.

Councillor Grant Fund

The second round of this has now closed but I will ensure all parishes are notified well in advance of the 2 rounds next year. This year the Round 1 deadline for applications was Sunday 20 July 2025 so I expect a similar date for 2026. I'd like to see more applications from small, local organisations that have the support of their Parish Councils so please note this date

Ettington / Fosse Way Crossroads

Vegetation obscuring traffic activated signs. I was assured this would be dealt with nearly 2 months ago and have chased again this morning

The petition launched by James Keitley has over 1100 signatories and will be heard in the 16 December Full Council. Mr Keitley will be able to speak to the petition for 3 minutes, I will speak in support and I expect a number of my colleagues will do so.

The petition also has the support of Manuela Perteghella MP and Cllr Harvey, there is a photo shoot at the crossroads on 21 Nov at 1100 with Manuela and Cllr Harvey so please join us if you can.

I have thanked County Highways for the mitigation works planned i.e. improved signage, rumble strips on the Fosse Way etc, but have suggested that this doesn't solve the fundamental problem which is the road layout. Unfortunately costs are a consideration, a roundabout would cost in the region of £2.5m and the annual Road Safety Improvement budget is less than £150,000. I am pressing for this to be more realistic in next year's budget.

Council Tax

It seems unlikely ReformUK will adhere to their promise of reducing Council Tax. Even only raising CT by 4.5% instead of 5% would leave County £500,000 poorer p.a. £2.5m over the 5 year MTFS. Government has made it clear that it expects all LA's to max potential income and would not make up any shortfall.

Home to School Transport

The Administration is suggesting that to reduce Home to School transport costs children should walk up to 5 miles to school and back, notwithstanding the lack of street lighting and footpaths in many rural areas.

County Council has launched a public consultation on proposed changes to its Home to School Transport Policy. The consultation opened on Tuesday 4 November 2025 and will close Sunday 4 January 2026.

Proposed changes include

- Updating the policy to align with latest statutory guidance – to reflect recent changes in 2024 from the Department for Education to ensure compliance and best practice.
- Amend non-statutory duties – to ensure that non-statutory transport support is clarified and made more consistent across the county.
- Introduce a countywide approach for consistency – by streamlining the assessment

process, ensuring our assessment methods align with other processes and services within Warwickshire County Council.

·Update walking route assessments – to follow national safety standards and be consistent with our approach to walking routes.

You can read the full announcement here:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7156/have-your-say-warwickshire-county-council-launches-consultation-on-home-to-school-transport-policy-changes>

How take part

As part of the consultation, a series of information sessions are being held across the county, both in person and online. We have a virtual session on 11th December at 10am (invitations will be sent out shortly) and we will be attending Full Council on 16th of December at Shire Hall, where people can ask us questions and learn more about the consultation.

To view the consultation documents, book a session, or share your views, please visit:

<https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/>

For more information on current home to school transport arrangements visit

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schooltransport>

Local Government Reorganisation

72% of consultees who responded to the consultation on a single or N/S split for the new Unitary Authorities expressed a preference for a 2 unitary solution. 5 out of 7 County MPs support a split Unitary. The Mayor of the West Midlands Combined Authority, SDC, WDC, North Warwickshire and Nuneaton & Bedworth Boroughs all support a N/S split.

The Deloitte and PeopleToo reports commissioned by WDC and SDC make a compelling case for a N/S split which would be better able to meet the very different needs and demography of the north and south of the county. A split unitary would also give more options when looking at the next stages of devolution i.e. the Strategic Authorities

However the ReformUK Administration has chosen to ignore these views and evidence and will press for a single Unitary Authority.