

TIVERTON & TILSTONE FEARNALL

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual (first) meeting of Tiverton & Tilstone Fearnall Parish Council held on **Tuesday 12th May 2026** immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting in Tiverton Village Hall

Present:

Councillor: H Lightfoot (in the Chair)

Cllrs: P Moore, J Sass, A Sharma, L Randles, A Wilson, L Woodhouse

12 Members of the public

Open Forum: There was no Open Forum as this had been held at the Annual Parish Meeting

1) 001/26.27 – Appointment of Chairman for 2026-2027

It was proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Randles that Cllr Lightfoot be Chairman for the year 2026-2027. All were in favour

Cllr Lightfoot signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2) 002/26.27 – Appointment of Vice-Chairman for 2026 - 2027

Cllr Sharma had previously expressed a wish to step down as Vice-Chairman. It was proposed by Cllr Sharma, seconded by Cllr Wilson that Cllr Moore be Vice-Chairman for the year 2026-2027. All were in favour

Cllr Moore signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3) 003/26.27 – Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Cllr Chambers and Cllr Mansell

4) 004/26.27 – Declarations (Notifications) of Interest

Cllr Woodhouse declared a Pecuniary Interest in Item 7, Planning, as the owner of Briar Lea
The Clerk reminded all Cllrs that any changes to their DOI should be reported on an updated form as soon as possible and that new Cllrs should submit their DOI within 28 days of taking office or they risk disqualification.

5) 005/26.27 – Minutes

It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10th March were correct. The Chairman signed the minutes.

6) 006/26.27 – Clerks Report

Report on TEAMS meeting with Kathy McArdle (CW&C Executive Director for Place & Growth). The Clerk and Chairman had spoken with M/s McArdle about several issues in the Parish including The Dale, School Transport, Repairs to the War Memorial and communication between the PC and CW&C. M/s McArdle will speak to Tim Dodd and Cllr Jones re The Dale; speak to Rob Charnley about assistance from Conservation re the War Memorial and arrange for a Road Safety Officer to walk and audit the routes to school for children from Tiverton & Tilstone Fearnall and Beeston. She would also speak to Stuart Bateman about the highways matters discussed although the Chairman did make it clear that since the three-monthly meetings / TEAMS had begun the PC had a much better relationship with Highways. It was agreed to ask M/s McArdle for an update on actions.

Action Point 1: Clerk to contact M/s McArdle for updates

7) 007/26.27 – Planning

- i) Appointment of Planning Committee – It was agreed that all members should be on the planning committee for 2026/2027
- ii) Planning Applications - The following planning applications had been received and noted on the planning register:
 - 25/01335/FUL: Bank House, Huxley Lane Tiverton, CW6 9NB – Demolition of existing dwelling house and erection of new replacement dwelling with new access and driveway (amendment).
 - 25/03841/FUL: Briar Lea, Nantwich Road, Tiverton, CW6 9HP – Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of one replacement dwelling.
 - 26/01280/CAT: Land at Whitchurch Road, Beeston – Crack Willow (T3) pollard to 12m above ground level, remove hanging branches, sever and remove ivy to 1.5m above ground level to aid future inspections.
- iii) Decision Notices – All Decision Notices received since the last meeting were noted on the Planning Register.
- iv) Planning Committee – Planning comments that had been previously circulated were unanimously approved.
- v) Enforcement Matters: Two new matters have been reported to Planning Enforcement and have been added to the Planning Register.
- vi) Neighbourhood Plan: The Clerk and Chairman had met with Cllr Harrison and Cllr Haydock from Beeston PC. They feel they are in the same situation with no support from CW&C and a national consultation taking place regarding the NPPF. It was agreed that in the first instance we would look at the narrative of the NP and see where that needs updating and hopefully by then there will be a clearer steer from Central Government.

Action Point 2: It was agreed that that the NP be looked at and updated where required. This to be an agenda item in July.

8) 008/26.27 – Highways

- i) Update on Highways Matters: – The spreadsheet of highways issues had been updated and circulated.

The Clerk had written and complained about the late notification of the closure of the A49 for surface dressing. Highways had apologised and said they would try to send notifications earlier in future

The Dale had been discussed in the meeting with M/s McArdle. Actions to be followed up. Lodge Lane was now open

CW&C are in the process of changing the online reporting system. There will be an updated app.

- ii) New Issues – The surface dressing of the A49 is appreciated however there are some bare patches and one pothole that was not filled before resurfacing took place
A further meeting / TEAMS with S Bateman is to be arranged

Action Point 3: Clerk to action

9) 009/26.27 – Financial Report and Accounts for Payment

- i) Cheque Signatories: The majority of payment are now made by DD, SO or bank transfer. However, signatories are still required for any cheques, or to facilitate discussion with the bank, if required. Cllr Lightfoot and the Clerk are currently signatories. Cllr Sharma was asked to check if his signatory application had been approved. It was proposed that Cllr Moore also become a signatory. All were in favour.

- ii) Balances in the bank were as follows:

Date	Current Account	Business Reserve Acct	Interest
1 st March	£1,070.44	£8,360.37	£6.09
1 st April	£1,032.66	£8,006.22	£6.22

1 st May	£7,945.78	£8,011.81	£5.59
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It was noted that £360.37 was transferred from the Business Reserve Account to the Current Account on 03rd March and that the payment of 2026/2027 Precept was received on 13th April. Once May payments have been made an amount from the Precept will be transferred to the Business Reserve Account to be transferred back to the Current Account as required.

iii) Budget Figures to end of March (Year-end) – Cllrs noted that payments were as budgeted and approved the year-end figures.

Budget Figures to end of April – Cllrs reviewed the budget figures to end of April.

iv) It was proposed that for the forthcoming year the Clerks salary and the Information Commissioners fee continue to be paid by monthly Standing Order and annual Direct Debit respectively. **All were in Favour**

v) May Payments – Invoices detailed below were considered for payment

St Jude’s Church	Donation in lieu of rent	£150.00
Tiverton Village Hall	Donation in lieu of rent	£150.00
ChALC	Annual Subscription	£157.20
Cllr A Sharma	Renewal of Microsoft Lic	£84.99
Land Registry	Registration of lands	£60.00 (£30x2)

Resolved: that the above payments be made. All were in favour

10) 010/26.27 – Financial Audit (AGAR) 2025/2026

i) Certificate of Exemption: Council had reviewed the year end budget analysis and noted that all payments for financial year 2025/2026 had been made.

All were in agreement that neither income nor expenditure for the year exceeded £25,000 and that the Certificate of Exemption could be signed

The Clerk and Chairman signed the Certificate of Exemption

ii) Annual Governance Statement - Councillors read through the Annual Governance Statement and answered yes to all questions

The Clerk and Chairman signed the Annual Governance Statement

iii) Accounting Statement – Councillors agreed that the figures reflected the income and expenditure of the Council

The Clerk and Chairman signed the Annual Accounting Statement

The documents would now be submitted to Mr Hurst for the “internal audit” to be completed

Action point 4: Clerk to meet Mr Hurst

11) 011/26.27 - Parish Projects

i) Traffic Calming – The Speedwatch group continues to monitor traffic speeds on the A49. The “yellow van” has also visited regularly.

Following receipt of a quote for the purchase of a SID machine the PC had had a pledge of £1000 from United Utilities towards the cost. A Members Budget application for £1000 had been submitted to CW&C.

ii) Smithy Green: the new bulbs had flowered. When the better weather comes Cllrs Sharma and Woodhouse would plant the trees donated by Cllr Woodhouse and erect the new benches.

Action Point 5: Cllrs Sharma and Woodhouse to carry out agreed works

iii) War Memorial: this had been discussed during the meeting with M/s McArdle. The Clerk will contact Conservation to discuss a specification of works with them

Action Point 6: Clerk to contact Conservation

An application for the repair works had been made to the television programme “The Repair Shop”.

iv) Registration of Smithy Green & Stocks Bank: The Clerk and Cllr Wilson to meet to finalise documentation.

v) 2026/2027 Maintenance Plan: The Clerk, Chairman and Vice-Chairman to meet to go through this

12) 012/26.27 – Parish Council Website

The new website is set up but not yet live. The Clerk will trial uploading documents. A date to be decided for Parish Online to transfer the information from the old site.

The new email addresses have been distributed. Cllr Sharma offered to help anyone who had any difficulties setting these up. Correspondents are to start being informed of the change and it is hoped to stop using the old emails by the end of the Summer.

13) 013/26.27 – Parish Council Newsletter

The latest newsletter is in productions. Cllr Sharma would like some more items for it.

14) 014/26.27 – Rural Connectivity Project

Cllr Moore reported that she had been in contact with Project Gigabit. There is a scheme to bring fibre to Tilstone Fearnall but it could be 2030 before it comes to fruition.

There is a possibility that EE are going to upgrade their mobile coverage in the area but this is not conformed.

Some Cllrs use the Starlink system and there are currently offers on this.

15) 015/26.27 – Peak Cluster Pipeline

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the recent Peak Cluster Zoom meeting held by ChALC and SLCC. Representatives from Parish Councils spoke about the negative impact this will have on their Parishes. Officers from Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester also spoke about their current position which is monitoring and assessing. Peak Cluster put forward the reasons that this project needs to go ahead and the next steps they will take to progress it. The PC’s submission to the recent consultation is on the website.

16) 016/26.27 - Date and Time of Next Meeting

The dates and locations of the meetings in the forthcoming year were agreed (see below). The May 2027 meeting is provisional depending on the date of next years local elections.

The next Parish Council meeting would take place on Tuesday 08th July at 7.30 pm in St Jude’s Church Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.26 pm

Signed:.....

Dated:.....

Future Meeting Dates are:

Tuesday 08th September – Tiverton Village Hall

Tuesday 10th November – St Jude’s Church Hall

Tuesday 12th January 2025 Tiverton Village Hall

Tuesday 09th March – St Jude’s Church Hall

Tuesday 11th May – Tiverton Village Hall and will include the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual (first) Parish Council Meeting (Provisional depending on date of next years Council elections)