

Your Councillors from May 2nd 2019.

Chair Brian W Martin 01886 833 180
Vice-Chair Nathan S Catlow 01886 830 215
Richard A Ashton 01886 821 340
Edward Mutter 01886 822 238 Thomas M Clarke 01886 821 228
Anthony J Crockford 01886 832 685 Garth Lowe 01886 833 362
Graham Messervy-Whiting 07759 090 429

Clerk to the Council

Geoffrey M Brewin, Whistlewood House, Lulsley, Knightwick,
Worcester. WR6 5QT, 01886 821 386 email, geoffreybrewin@waitrose.com

Parish Footpaths Warden

Garth Lowe, 01886 833362

Parish Tree Warden

Derek Bradley, 01886 884372

Parish Council web site;

<https://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/myparish/> click on Alfrick.

Here you can find minutes of the council meetings, the date of the next meeting of the council and the meeting agenda a week in advance of the meeting.

Meetings of the Parish Council

The Council usually meets on the fourth Thursday in the month, except August and December, at 7.30pm in Alfrick Village Hall. Forthcoming meetings; 24 February, 24 March, 28 April, 26 May. Members of the public may wish to raise matters of general concern from 7.30 – 8.00pm prior to the formal meeting.

The May meeting will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

Prior to this the Annual Parish Meeting will be held.

Agenda

- 1. Welcome by the Chair of the Parish Council, Cllr Brian Martin**
- 2. Chairman's Annual Report of the Parish Council 2020-21**
- 3. Reports by County Councillor & District Councillors.**
- 4. Parish Council Accounts for 2020-21**
- 5. Charities:**
 - a) Reports from: Old Storridge Charity, Alfrick Educational Charity, Lulsley Charities,**
 - b) The Lulsley representative on Knightwick Charities**
- 6. Any other business (at the Chair's discretion).**

All Parishioners are entitled to attend, and contribute to this meeting. After the formal proceedings the Parish Council will hold its Annual Meeting.

Front cover; Somewhere in the parish.

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Alfrick and Lulsley Parish Council News



**Representing your interests
Keeping you informed
Seeking your involvement
Working to improve village life**

A new member of the council

At the January meeting the council co-opted to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Ms Carol Bradley in November.

Financial Matters

The Parish Council has decided that the parish precept for 2022-3 which is included in the local Council Tax will be increased by £500 to £13,500. (On average 81 pence/week per household.) The increase is to cover the additional running costs (maintenance and insurance) of the new Children's Play Area. The council has now received £60,403 to pay for the Play Area from the section 106 tariff on the new housing at Churchfield Meadow by MHDC. Work is expected to start in March and be ready by the Summer. In order to achieve this the council has invested in new removable cricket kit and a storage container to keep it in allowing the old cricket facilities to be removed.

Parish Boundaries Review.

The Boundary Commission has now published its draft proposals for new wards, to be used in elections from 2023 onwards. A key item is Alfrick to be separated from Lulsley for voting and representation purposes.

An alternative proposal was for an extended two-councillor ward combining today's Alfrick & Leigh ward with Rushwick, ensuring that no single settlement predominates and all current parish council arrangements were respected.

The council is supporting this alternative proposal.

You can view the proposals in detail on the website:

<https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/have-your-say/24708>

Representations can be made directly to this site or you can contact the Clerk to the Council and you have to March 21st to do so.

Parish Tree Warden and Enhancing Biodiversity in the parish.

Our long-serving Tree Warden Derek Bradley has decided to retire after he completes the project to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in the Spring.

As part of the 'Queen's Green Canopy' he will be planting some fruit trees on the open area in Clay Green in conjunction with Platform Housing who own the land.

Derek and his wife Carol have been leaders in the drive for improved biodiversity for a long time and the parish has been greatly improved by their enthusiasm. We wish them a happy retirement.

We now need someone to continue this challenge. The Tree Warden is appointed and supported by the County Council in consultation with the Parish Council so if you are interested in taking up this work please contact the clerk who will provide full details.

Speeding through the Village

Together with Suckley, with whom we share the existing equipment, it has been decided to obtain more up-to-date radar units which, we hope, will improve the deterrence of reckless drivers. Ours is already on trial and once commissioned will circulate around the village doubling the deterrence.

Our thanks to Cllr Richard Ashton who has researched the equipment and who collects and analyses the data for us and Suckley parish.

War Memorial restoration

The council has now obtained Listed Building Approval for cleaning and restoration and a contractor has been selected. Work will begin in the Spring as the weather warms up.

Improving mobile phone connectivity in the area.

This parish has a poor mobile phone coverage. The government has launched the 'Shared Rural Network Scheme' and reached an agreement with the four mobile network operators (EE, O2, Three and Vodafone) to deliver a Shared Rural Network (SRN). This is a £1 billion public and private investment that will deliver new mobile coverage in rural areas across the UK. Each mobile provider must provide good quality 4G mobile coverage across 91 - 94% of England by 2026. Currently, only 82% of this area is covered by all operators. The council is concerned that because there is supposed to be a mobile signal outdoors in the parish we will be overlooked in the move to enhance the service. To help us press for improvements, please let the clerk have an account of your experiences of mobile phone connectivity.

Sandy Lane, Alfrick

For many years this council has tried to prevent the anti-social use of this lane by 'recreational' owners of four-wheel drive vehicles and scramble motorcycles which has left it in a seriously degraded state to the detriment of the local environment.

Our County Councillor Ms Karen Hanks is proposing the creation of a new Public Right of Way for the existing route of the centre section of this lane, in the form of a 'Restricted Byway', which would return it to its historical designation of a 'Cart Track' and would further enhance the local network of Public Rights of Way. The council wholeheartedly supports this proposal.

From Your District Councillors

We are here to assist every resident: If we can't solve your issue ourselves, we probably know someone who can! To contact us:

Sarah Rouse: 01886 833653 sarahrouse72@gmail.com

Peter Whatley: 01886 884126 peter.whatley@malvernhillscdc.net