

**Salford Priors Parish Council**

**Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held  
At the Baptist Church Hall, Dunnington on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

**Present:** Councillors: K James (Chairman), R Green, L Maude, J McLean, & D Price.  
Donna Bowles, Clerk to the Parish Council

**Also in attendance:** 7 members of the public.

1.	<p><b>Apologies considered for absence:</b> Cllrs Howarth &amp; Meakins – apologies accepted District Councillor Ashley Jones – Attending SDC Planning Committee</p>
2.	<p><b>Register of Interests:</b> Members were reminded of the need to keep their register of interests up to date Members were reminded that they must act solely in the public interest and should never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person or act to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, a friend, or close associate.</p> <p>Declare the existence of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI), Other Registerable Interest (ORI) or Non-Registerable Interest (NRI) for any agenda item</p> <p><b>Declaration of Interests:</b> DPI – None declared, ORI – None declared, NRI – None declared</p> <p>Members were also reminded of the need to declare predetermination on any matter.</p> <p>Members noted new rules will formally come into force on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2026 with the main changes being: Section 65 of the 2026 Act establishes that the publication of a Councillor’s home address is no longer required as standard. The act inserts a new section 32A into the Localism Act 2011. <a href="#">English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026</a></p> <p>With effect from the 29<sup>th</sup> June it is Stratford District Council’s intention is to amend registers and remove Councillors’ home addresses and replace them with the wording: ‘The Councillor has an interest, the address of which is withheld under section 32A of the Localism Act 2011.’</p>
3.	<p><b>Open Forum:</b> The Chairman moved that the meeting be adjourned for the Public Open Forum and this was agreed.</p> <p><b>a)</b> 7 members of public were present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A question was raised regarding any further updates on the proposed Arrow Valley Solar Farm. Cllr James advised that the public meeting held on 3 June and the subsequent meeting with Lee Searles and Nick Pellegrim of Andrea Pellegrim Ltd, along with Carol Ramsden, had been productive. The Working Group has since contacted Bidford Parish Council, and a further meeting has been arranged for next week to discuss the way forward and consider future strategies</li> <li>- Residents are currently setting up an Opposition Group for the Arrow Valley Solar Farm.</li> </ul> <p><b>b) No under 18s were present.</b></p> <p><b>c) County Councillor Brown’s Report</b> – not in attendance nor report received.</p> <p><b>d) District Councillor Jones’ Report</b> –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>South Warwickshire Local Plan:</b> The Regulation 19 consultation is due to proceed. Concerns have been raised regarding a significantly increased allocation for Bidford. A cross-party group (Reform, Conservatives, Greens) is scrutinising the rationale. Technical advice indicates outstanding issues must be resolved for the plan to pass, leading to speculation over its viability given tight consultation timelines.</li> <li>- <b>Committee Appointment &amp; Attendance:</b> The Councillor was appointed to the Planning Committee at the Council’s AGM on 13th May. Due to meeting clashes with the Parish Council, the Councillor will arrange post-meeting catch-up calls (potentially Friday mornings). Full attendance records have been maintained across full council and employment committees, alongside ongoing planning training.</li> <li>- <b>Arrow Valley Solar Project:</b> Pre-consultation is ongoing. Parish Council representations during the pre-EIA scoping successfully influenced the Planning Inspectorate’s (PINS) response, securing key inclusions regarding the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP), dark skies, glint/glare, Best and Most Versatile</li> </ul>

	<p>(BMV) land, and ecology. The Councillor is engaging with their party's Shadow Business, Trade, and Energy Secretary for potential support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Orbit Housing:</b> The Councillor attended an Orbit workshop; future specific Orbit issues can now be escalated through this channel.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ward Specific Updates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Joint efforts with the County Councillor continue to resolve a long-standing issue with Severn Trent using lorries to transport water/sewage due to weak local pumps. Direct contact has now been established with the relevant personnel.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Chairman closed the open forum and reconvened the meeting at 19:30</b></p>
4.	<p><b>Acceptance of Minutes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at the Memorial Hall, Salford Priors were agreed by the Council to be a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.</li> <li>b) The Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at the Memorial Hall, Salford Priors were agreed by the Council to be a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.</li> </ul>
5.	<p><b>Planning Matters:</b></p> <p><b>Planning Matters To Consider :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>26/01472/TREE</b> - Proposed - T1 conifer hedge - Reduce by approximately 1 metre in height, to make straight and cut back pub side (at left side of Thatch End) - T2 conifer hedge - Fell to ground level (on neighbouring boundary on left side of Thatch End) at Thatch End, Evesham Road, Salford Priors, Evesham WR11 8UU. Following consideration, Clerk to respond with “No objection”</li> <li>b) <b>26/01365/AMD</b> Non material amendment to change the Plot Passports for Plots 12, 13 and 16 approved under the outline permission reference 22/02022/OUT and subsequent 24/00614/VARY at Land West Of Evesham Road Salford Priors Following consideration, Clerk to respond with “No objection”</li> <li>c) <b>26/01491/REM</b> Reserved matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) for plot 4 only pursuant to outline application 24/00614/VARY for 16No. self-build and custom housebuilding plots at Land West Of, Evesham Road, Salford Priors, WR11 8UR. Following consideration, Cllr James to provide Clerk with comments.</li> </ul> <p>The Planning Committee met on 8<sup>th</sup> June to consider the following applications and note the recent decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d) <b>26/01045/COUR</b> Proposed - Proposed change of use of agricultural building to an educational, training and community facility at Lower Farm, School Road, Salford Priors, Evesham WR11 8XN</li> <li>c) <b>26/01118/REM</b> Proposed - Reserved matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) for Plot 10 only pursuant to outline application 24/00614/VARY for 16no. self-build and custom housebuilding plots at land West of Evesham Rd, Salford Priors.</li> <li>d) <b>26/01090/FUL</b> Proposed - The retention and permanent use of the building to be used as an office at Alamo Group Europe Ltd, Station Road, Salford Priors, Evesham, WR11 8SW</li> <li>e) <b>26/01119/VARY</b> Proposed two storey rear extension. Application reference number: 24/01002/FUL. Date of decision: 29/05/2024. Condition number(s): Condition 2. Condition(s) removal: Changes to doors and windows. Change from '03A Plans and Elevations as Proposed' to '03B Plans and Elevations as Proposed' at 31 Dunnington, Alcester, B49 5NU</li> </ul> <p><b>Decisions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>f) <b>26/00962/TREE</b> - - T1 Balsam Poplar – Fell at The Old Vicarage, Station Road, Salford Priors, Evesham, WR11 8UX. <b>No objection.</b></li> <li>g) <b>26/00952/TREE</b> - T1 Cedar Reduce over extended lateral limbs up to 5 metres and thin crown by a maximum of 30%, retaining an even density of foliage throughout a well-spaced and balanced branch structure. All pruning cuts to be made at branch junctions, leaving sufficient live growth to maintain or enhance crown form. Remove all deadwood at Salford House, Station Road, Salford Priors, Evesham, WR11 8UX. <b>No objection.</b></li> <li>h) <b>26/00549/REM</b> - Reserved matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) for Plot 6 only pursuant to outline application 24/00614/VARY for 16no. self-build and custom housebuilding plots at Land West Of Evesham Road, Salford Priors, WR11 8UR. <b>Approved Subject to Conditions.</b></li> <li>i) <b>26/00784/REM</b> - Reserved matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) for Plot 9 only pursuant to outline application 24/00614/VARY for 16no. self-build and custom housebuilding plots at land West Of, Evesham Road, Salford Priors, WR11 8UR. <b>Approved Subject to Conditions.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Planning Enforcement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>j) <b>Bomford Way Section 106 Non- compliance of offering Public Open Space to the Parish Council – No further update</b></li> </ul>

	<p>k) <b>Priors Crescent</b> – Road Adoption (Section 38 Agreement) – Members noted CALA has advised that the draft Section 38 Agreement with Warwickshire County Council has been agreed; however, completion is currently dependent on the formal adoption of the onsite drainage system, as requested by the County Highways Department. No definitive timeframe has been provided.</p> <p>l) <b>Queens Head Public House, Irons Cross</b> - Email received from resident regarding The Queens Head – Clerk reported this email to Enforcement who reviewed the site and previous case in December and decided no further action is required. The letting of rooms is not considered a material change of use, as the public house use continues and the rooms have historically been let. No new breach of planning control has been identified. The property's appearance does not meet the Council's enforcement criteria for investigation.</p> <p><b>South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP):</b> Members noted the presentation received from the recent Parish and Town Council Briefings. Update provided in District Councillor Jones' report.</p> <p><b>Arrow Valley Solar Farm Project :</b></p> <p>m) Cllr James advised that 90 local residents attended the Public Meeting on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026. A PowerPoint presentation is available to access on the Parish Council website.</p> <p>n) Members noted a letter sent to MP Manuela Perteghella requesting consideration of stronger national regulation by the UK Government of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).</p> <p>o) The Working Group met with Lee Searles and Nick Pellegram of Andrea Pellegram Ltd regarding the NDP review and Carol Ramsden of Birketts LLP regarding The Greenway project. Both are advising on strategies to deal with the proposed project.</p>
6.	<p><b>Clerk's Progress Report:</b></p> <p>a) The front bollard on the central reservation on Evesham Rd is not working. Warwickshire County Council Highways have investigated and the whole bollard needs replacing. They have advised once the new Highways Maintenance Contract is up and running the Engineer will raise a new job to get the bollard replaced.</p> <p>b) An overflowing litter bin at the playing field has been reported to Stratford District Council.</p> <p>c) A possible overflowing septic tank on Broom Lane, Dunnington has been reported to Stratford District Council, Environmental Services.</p> <p><b>Chairman's Monthly Report:</b></p> <p>a) Members noted that the Chairman has received the resignation of the Clerk to the Council on the 27<sup>th</sup> May 2026 giving three months' notice as of the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026.</p> <p>b) A request has been received from the Salford Priors Ladies Group for the Parish Council to incorporate their small planters (School Rd/Banbrook Rd junction) into the Council's amenity contract as of Autumn 2026. This was unanimously agreed. Clerk to contact the amenity contractor.</p> <p>c) A toxic smell from the workshop and yard on Tothall Lane has been reported to Stratford District Council, Environmental Services for investigation Report Ref: 3086459 affecting the health and wellbeing of local residents causing windows of nearby properties to remain closed. This is a reoccurrence of previous complaints regarding this site.</p>
7.	<p><b>Highways &amp; Maintenance Officer:</b></p> <p>a) Members noted the jobs issued from last Council meeting; comment on progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cleared footway by Abbots Salford</li> <li>- Tidied area around entrance to playing field</li> <li>- Cleared signage at Dunnington Crossroads</li> <li>- Irons Cross tidying works</li> <li>- Tidy around planter on St Matthews Close</li> <li>- Perkins Close tidying works</li> <li>- Memorial Hall perimeter tidied</li> <li>- Tidy around Planter Park Hall Mews</li> </ul> <p>b) To consider future tasks to be issued</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Refurbishment of bench in the memorial garden</li> <li>o Refurbishment of benches St Matthews Churchyard extension, BanBrook Rd</li> <li>o Cleaning of warning sign Irons Cross approach to crossroads from direction of Limebridge Bank</li> <li>o Weed/spray block setts at Dunnington School</li> </ul> <p>c) Cllr James proposed an increase to the Lengthsman's hourly rate to £22.50 with immediate effect, Cllr R Green seconded. Unanimous approval.</p>
8.	<p><b>Working Groups Update:</b></p> <p>a) <b>Infrastructure &amp; Built Environment:</b></p>

- 1) Highways – County Highways are awaiting a quote from Balfour Beatty for the stone setts element of the scheme.
- 2) Public Open Space – Members noted the Clerk has placed an order following the quote from Streetlighting Department for the installation and provision of a feeder pillar for electrical supply.
- 3) NDP – Cllr James advised the initial meeting with Lee Searles and Nick Pellegram of Andrea Pellegram Ltd took place with a program of tasks being worked through. Residents will be invited to join the Working Group as it is a whole community plan. There will not be a call for sites being made for the parish although policies will be considered for small scale development (1-3 properties) in the other settlements of the parish.
  - A SharePoint folder was agreed as the preferred shared working space, with AP Ltd to set up.
  - No fixed meeting frequency was agreed; the group will confirm meetings as required.
  - AP Ltd attendance can be focused on strategic meetings and key decision points, with the working group meeting separately on local/admin matters as required.
  - Alternatively, AP Ltd can aid project management to help drive the process forward.
  - Most meetings can be online, but AP Ltd would like to arrange a parish site visit once there is a greater idea of local issues and evidence requirements and potentially combine this with an in-person working group meeting.
  - The proposed solar NSIP, battery storage, substation and cable route, if approved, would present major issues for the parish.
  - The adopted NDP is a material consideration as it is part of the development plan, however, it is likely that the determination of Arrow Valley will outpace the review.
  - Evidence gathered for the plan may be able to support representations on key issues, such as mitigation, biodiversity, landscape, agricultural land and amenity impacts.
  - The plan should consider what it can usefully say about renewable energy infrastructure and local impacts.
- 4) Playing Field -
  - a. It was **resolved** to add additional grip pads or anti-slip surfaces to the zipwire.
  - b. Members noted there is a 16-week lead time on the annual equipment inspection taking place. Clerk has requested this for October.
  - c. The goal posts are due to be installed.
- 5) Garden Allotments –
  - a. Members noted the accounts for FY 25/26
  - b. Members noted all invoices have now been paid
  - c. Members noted Garden Allotment plot 10 was worse than originally thought by the new plotholder. They have cleared 50 bags of overgrowth to date which the Clerk has arranged for the Lengthsman to remove.
- 6) PROW – Cllr James advised some works have been carried out to AL17. A Works Order has been issued to the amenity contractor to clear the footpaths identified in the amenity contract. The works will be carried out when they can be incorporated into the contractor's schedule. He reminded Councillors that it is not the responsibility of the Parish Council to clear footpaths. The Council has undertaken this work only because of the lack of support from the significantly reduced County Public Rights of Way (PROW) team.
- b) **Communications** – the Working Group have been discussing the next edition of the Parish Connect.
- c) **Project Delivery Group** – a very progressive meeting was held with Birketts. Carol Ramsden will prepare a letter to Ragley regarding the proposed Arrow Valley Solar Farm. Subject to Ragley's response, or lack thereof, a further letter will then be drafted for the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). It is hoped to get progression on the Salford to Broom section of the Greenway by the end of the year.

There has been no response from the landowners in relation to Section 1. The landowners for Section 2 proposed some amendments, which have been accepted. The agreement is now ready for signing.

Communication has been received from the landowners for Section 3 advising that the land is currently being registered with HM Land Registry. A request was made for the Parish Council to meet the associated registration costs of £1,500. As the Parish Council had previously agreed to meet all reasonable legal costs relating to the Greenway, this expenditure was unanimously approved.

	<p>a) Parish Christmas trees - It was agreed that the Salford Priors Christmas tree will be installed on the island at the junction of Evesham Rd/School Rd for 2026. As the current position of the Dunnington tree will no longer be available, it was <b>resolved</b> for the Parish Council to reopen negotiations to rent the field opposite the Baptist Church as long as the Parish Council can put a Christmas tree on it. Clerk obtained an approximation of costs for the trees. The tree for Salford Priors will cost in the region of £900 and the slightly smaller ones at Abbots Salford, Rushford &amp; Dunnington £750 each. It was <b>resolved</b> to place an order for 4 trees.</p> <p>b) National Grid has provided a quotation of approximately £5,000 to provide an electrical supply for the defibrillator in Dunnington. The proposed location is by the Parish Council's noticeboard on Broom Lane /Tothall Lane Junction. Additional costs will be incurred for a hoop bar, a new defibrillator cabinet, and electrical connection works. Cllr James proposed that the National Grid bid be progressed and that the defibrillator be repositioned outside the school. This was seconded by Cllr Green and agreed unanimously. It was noted that funding will be allocated from CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funds.</p>						
10.	<p><b>English Devolution White Paper:</b> The decisions will be made early-mid July.</p>						
11.	<p><b>Matters Raised by Councillors:</b> None.</p>						
12.	<p><b>Correspondence Considered:</b></p> <p>a) An email from resident regarding damaged planters in the Memorial Hall Garden has been noted.</p> <p>b) The litter bin outside the shop on School Road has been reported as overflowing once again. SDC has responded by providing quotes for various options. Following discussion, Members approved the purchase of a dual-bin unit.</p> <p>c) Members responded to the request for information regarding rural transport provision from Stratford District Council.</p>						
13.	<p><b>Correspondence Noted:</b></p> <p>a) WALC Updates – Circulated</p> <p>b) NALC Updates – Circulated</p> <p>c) Alcester South SNT Police Reports – Circulated</p> <p>d) Core Strategy Review as endorsed by Cabinet on 13 April 2026 – Circulated</p>						
14.	<p><b>Regulatory Document Review:</b> The following policies were reviewed and agreed:</p> <p>a) Reserves Policy – 2 year review</p> <p>b) Social Media Policy – 2 year review</p> <p>c) Unreasonably persistent or vexatious Policy – 2 year review</p>						
15.	<p><b>Finance:</b></p> <p>a) Members noted the report of the Grants Advisory Panel. Two grant applications had been received: one from 1st Salford Priors Guides requesting £505 towards expanding their tent collection, and another seeking £300 to establish an arts and crafts group. The Panel recommended that grants of £200 be awarded to each application. It was <b>resolved</b> for the sum of £200 to be paid to each group.</p> <p>b) Members noted the Parish Council insurance has been renewed with Zurich Insurance wef 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026.</p> <p>c) The council gave consideration and approval of the payments listed in Appendix A. It was proposed to accept these by Cllr McClean seconded by Cllr Price and agreed by all Councillors. It was agreed that Cllrs Green &amp; Maude would sign the payments sheet confirming the payments in Appendix A have been approved by full Council and there is provision within the budget, financial regulations and relevant policies have been followed.</p> <p>d) Members noted the payments made between meetings which totalled £1,161.72. These were authorised by the Chairman. Approved.</p> <p>e) Members noted the Annual Governance and Accountability Return has been sent to the external auditor. Members also noted the AGAR Public Notice posted on Notice Board Salford Priors Post Office 21/05/2026.</p> <p>f) Members noted the revised HMRC approved mileage rates effective from 6 April 2026 for the 2026/27 tax year, as published by the Government from 45p per mile to 55p per mile.</p> <p>g) Members noted the bank account balances:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="204 1883 906 2024"> <tr> <td>Lloyds Deposit Account</td> <td>86,523.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lloyds Current Account</td> <td>8,578.93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lloyds CIL Account</td> <td>155,450.63</td> </tr> </table>	Lloyds Deposit Account	86,523.76	Lloyds Current Account	8,578.93	Lloyds CIL Account	155,450.63
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	Lloyds Warm Hub Acc	5,875.44
	Lloyds Leisure Trails Acc	267,978.41
	<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>524,407.17</b>
16.	<b>Staffing:</b> The advertisement for the Clerk's vacancy will be issued next week.	
17.	<b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> Council confirmed the date of the next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall, Salford Priors.	
18.	<b>Closure of Meeting:</b> The Chairman closed the meeting at 21:00 hrs	

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### APPENDIX A: FINANCE

PAYMENT	PAYEE	DETAILS	TOTAL	VAT	NET
BACS	HMRC	Clerk & PC NIC	****	0.00	****
BACS	Mrs D Bowles	Salary & Expenses	****		****
BACS	Rosemary Green	Warm Hub Expenses	61.39	0.00	61.39
BACS	Limebridge Rural Services	Amenity & Planter	6522.00	1087.00	5435.00
BACS	Parish Online	Mapping Software	132.00	22.00	110.00
BACS	Jan McClean	Warm Hub Expenses	179.12	0.00	179.12
BACS	PlayMaintainRepair	Quarterly Inspection	150.00	25.00	125.00
BACS	Mr S John	Allotment rental refund	27.08		27.08
BACS	Mr M Brittan	Allotement Deposit Ref	65.00		65.00
BACS	Water Plus Ltd	Water - allotments	10.44	1.74	8.70
DC	Microsoft	M365 Renewal KJ	84.99	14.16	70.83
DC	Microsoft	M365 Renewal RG	59.99	10.00	49.99
DC	Microsoft	M365 Renewal JM	59.99	10.00	49.99
DD	NEST	Clerk's Pension	****		****

DD	EDF	TOPs Electricity	251.76		251.76
DD	EDF	Defib Abbots Salford	20.99	1.00	19.99
DD	Lloyds	Service Charge	9.35	0.00	9.35
DD	O2	Line Rental Charge	17.40	2.90	14.50
DD	Yu Energy	Streetlight Energy	78.51	3.74	74.77

#### PAYMENTS MADE BETWEEN MEETINGS

PAYMENT	PAYEE	DETAILS	TOTAL	VAT	NET
BACS	Jan McClean	Warm Hub Expenses	97.55	0.00	97.55
BACS	Kim James	Warm Hub Expenses	39.20	0.00	39.20
BACS	Steve Baker Services	Highways Works	168.00		168.00
BACS	Steve Baker Services	Various Works	304.50	0.00	304.50
DC	Stratford DC	Emptying of bin	207.08	34.51	172.57
DC	Cartridge People	Toner Cartridges	455.88	75.98	379.90
<b>Total</b>			<b>1272.21</b>	<b>110.49</b>	<b>1161.72</b>