

ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 21 MAY 2026 AT 7PM

1. Welcome, Introduction and Annual Report by the Chairman

The Chairman, Cllr Gray, welcomed all present to the Annual Parish Meeting and presented her annual report, which was received with thanks by those attending.

Key points highlighted included the Council addressing several challenges during the year, including the disappearance of the village defibrillator, the theft of solar panels from the speed indicator devices, and damage caused to one of the Alpheton Gateway signs. Despite these setbacks, the Gateway project was successfully completed with the support of local councillors and volunteers. Councillors also discussed the possible introduction of 20mph speed limits on rural roads following feedback from residents. Looking ahead, the Chairman stressed the importance of recruiting additional parish councillors to ensure the continued effective operation of the Council and expressed thanks to Councillor Richard Kemp for his many years of service and support.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Nunn (District Councillor), Cllr Lindsay (County Councillor), and parishioner Julie Moss.

3. Those Present

Present were Cllrs Gray, Cullimore, Kemp, Moore and Rix; Cllr Malvesi (District Councillor); and Sarah Headland, Clerk.

Also present was one member of the public, Ian Etherton (Chairman of the Village Hall Committee).

4. Public Forum

No matters were raised.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the 2025 Annual Parish Meeting

The minutes of the 2025 Annual Parish Meeting were approved.
Proposed by Cllr Cullimore and seconded by Cllr Moore.

6. To Receive District and County Councillors' Annual Reports

Cllr Kemp's final annual report as County Councillor was received with thanks by the meeting. Members expressed their appreciation for his many years of service and support to the Parish Council.

Cllr Lindsay's annual report, as newly elected County Councillor, was also received with thanks.

Cllr Malvesi presented a verbal annual report, which was received with thanks. It was noted that both District Councillors had supported the Parish Council's Gateway project and the ongoing provision of the village defibrillators. The Parish Council expressed its gratitude for this continued support.

7. To Receive Reports from Local Organisations

a. Alpheton Jubilee Hall Committee

Ian Etherton, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, presented the Village Hall Annual Report, which was received with thanks.

Signed _____

Date _____

The report noted another successful year for the Village Hall, with well-supported events, strong community involvement, and healthy finances. Alphies Bar and regular activities, including film nights, have continued to grow in popularity, while hall bookings have remained steady.

A number of maintenance and improvement works were completed during the year, including heating upgrades, new equipment, security improvements, and general maintenance of the hall and grounds. Future events planned include Jas-Fest and a community quiz night.

b. Chadbrook Benefice / St Peter & St Paul Church, Alpheton

Cllr Gray read a report submitted by Charlotte Blyth on behalf of Rev Matthew Lawson. The report was received with thanks.

The report highlighted another busy and positive year for the Chadbrook Benefice, with growing church and community activities for all ages. Thanks were expressed to volunteers and church leaders, while also remembering valued members of the community who had passed away during the year.

c. Shimpling and Alpheton WI

The Clerk read the report submitted by Marion Argent, President of the Shimpling and Alpheton WI. The report was received with thanks.

The WI reported a successful year with stable membership and a varied programme of activities, workshops, visits, and coffee mornings enjoyed by members. Plans are already in place for another full and successful year ahead.

8. Date and Time of Next Year's Annual Parish Meeting

The date and time of the next Annual Parish Meeting will be agreed later in the year.

The meeting closed at 7.35pm.

Signed _____

Date _____