

**Farnsfield Parish Council: Minute Book 2025/2026**

**DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of the full Farnsfield Parish Council held at 7pm on Tuesday 20 January 2026**

Councillors present: Lesley Healy (chair), John Cracknell, Mickey Gavin, Nick Greene, Corinne Moore, Rachel Parkin, Sally Savage, Maurice Shakeshaft and (from minute FC199) Joss Dixon

In attendance: County Cllr Bruce Laughton, Locum Clerk Peter Leppard and c.12 members of the public

It was noted that a member of the public was audio-recording this meeting.

**2526.FC193 Apologies for absence**

These were accepted from Cllr J Shakeshaft.

**2526.FC194 Declarations of Interests appertaining to items on the agenda**

Cllrs Healy, Savage and M Shakeshaft declared an interest in Farnsfield Tennis Club (re agenda item FC205).

**2526.FC195 Public participation**

- A member of the public queried the reason for a £69.72 payment in the listed items for payment (agenda item FC208).
- A member of the public commented on the statement to be made under agenda item FC205 and the associated leases.
- A member of the public asked how the comments made at the public drop-in session held on 18 January will be published.

**2526.FC196 Reports from County and District Councillors**

Cllr M Shakeshaft (in his District Cllr role) spoke about (i) recent Domestic Abuse training provided to NSDC councillors and the desirability of this being given wider promulgation in the near future and (ii) road potholes. County Cllr Laughton (i) commented further on potholes, urging that the public report them via the MyNotts app and (ii) noted that NCC was about to publish its FY2026/27 budget, that there is now funding for improvement works on Mickledale La and the A614, and that he had received a new bus timetable.

**2526.FC197 Report from Police**

No Police officer was in attendance. It was noted that reports of antisocial behaviour locally have diminished.

**2526.FC198 Co-option into vacant Council seats**

It was unanimously resolved to co-opt Joss Dixon into one of the Council's vacant seats. It was also noted that an application had been received today to fill the one remaining vacancy, and that this will be considered at next month's meeting.

**2526.FC199 Approval of Minutes of the full Council Meeting of 25 November**

It was unanimously resolved to approve the draft which was tabled.

**2526.FC200 Draft minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee of 17 December**

The draft minutes were noted. It was resolved to accept the Committee's recommendation to adopt the revised GDPR Policy of the Council. It was resolved to amend the Terms of Reference of this Committee so that the Committee shall consist of 5, instead of 4, members.

**2526.FC201 Draft minutes of the Facilities & Environment Committee of 6 January**

The draft minutes were noted. Cllr Healy reported on the public drop-in session on 18 January organised by the Committee, thanking Brendan Doherty for his creation of supporting visuals for the event. It was resolved that all the public comments received will be collated, then made available for public inspection on the Council's website and also in hard copy in the Library. Cllr Healy asked all councillors to consider thereafter which issues raised therein should be taken forward, and to request future agenda items accordingly.

**2526.FC202 Abolition of the Parish Council's Planning & Licensing Committee**

It was resolved to abolish this Committee, with any items for consideration being in future placed instead on the full Council agenda by the Clerk.

**2526.FC203 Membership of Committees**

It was resolved (a) to appoint Cllr Savage as a member of the Staffing Committee and (b) that the Clerk will arrange a skills audit of councillors, to assist in reviewing the optimum membership of the Council's Committees going forwards.

**2526.FC204 Once-weekly youth café in the Village Centre, proposed by the Youth Council**

It was resolved to support this proposal in principle (subject to a subsequent submission being received by full Council detailing how it will operate) and that no room-hire charge will be made.

**2526.FC205 Tennis Club and Bowls Club leases** (*Cllrs Healy, Savage and M Shakeshaft left the room for this item, during which Cllr Moore temporarily took the chair.*)

It was resolved to note a statement tabled by the Clerk, which included the views of (a) the Council's external auditor and (b) the Monitoring Officer on the circumstances which had surrounded the re-letting of these leases, and which concluded that no further action (other than retraining of those involved) would now be appropriate or useful.

It was noted that it may be appropriate to approach the Tennis Club or Bowls Club re provision of a space for Youth Council activities.

**2526.FC206 Financial position as at 31 December**

The tabled accounts and bank reconciliation were noted.

**2526.FC207 Proposed donation**

It was resolved not to make a proposed donation to the Farnsfield 'Tea for 2' group.

**2526.FC208 Approval of items for payment**

It was resolved to approve for payment the items listed in the meeting papers, having noted that one direct debit (from Lloyds Bank for £69.72) needed further investigation. It was resolved to ensure that a more rigorous approach be taken in 2026 to authorising, before purchase, items of expenditure for the Council's Xmas-lights event.

**2526.FC209 Council's Mansfield Building Society account**

It was resolved to instruct the Mansfield Building Society to add Peter Leppard and remove Judith Alcock as account signatories.

**2526.FC210 Budget for FY2026/27**

It was resolved that the draft budget tabled by the Clerk be approved, with total annual expenditure of £171,341 and a precept (£91,129) unchanged from FY2025/26. It was noted that this will result in reduction of the Council's reserves.

**2526.FC211 To appoint an Internal Auditor for FY2025/26**

It was resolved to accept a quotation from the Derbyshire Assn of Local Councils' audit service in the sum of £448.

**2526.FC212 Item for consideration for inclusion on future full Council agendas**

This was proposed to be: Use of the Solar Farm grant. (Some suggestions were also made for Committee agenda items.)

**2526.FC213 Date of the next meeting**

This was confirmed as 24 February 2026 at 7pm in the Village Centre, Farnsfield.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.