

Finham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:15pm,
19th February 2026 Finham Park School

Present:

Councillor Paul Davies (Chairman)
Councillor Angela Fryer
Councillor Kate Taylor
Councillor Ann Bush

Councillor Rambir Khatkar
Councillor Anthony Dalton (Vice Chairman)
Councillor James Morshead

Coventry City Councillors: Councillor Blundell

Residents: 11 (including non-residents)

Attendance: Jane Chatterton, Proper Officer

Councillor Davies was in the Chair

Presentation by Severn Trent

The Asset Strategy Lead for Treatment, Peter Sugden and colleague attended the meeting to answer questions on capacity and future plans to ensure long term capacity.

704. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received Parish Councillors; Sharma, Gough and Behal and CCC Councillor Sawdon.

705. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

706. Chairman's Update (Councillor Davies)

Welcome to the February monthly meeting of the Finham Parish Council.

It has been quite a month of ups and downs. The Parish Council being cleared again of groundless accusations but nevertheless wasting valuable time and money.

The unannounced removal of an ancient hedgerow dating back to at least Elizabethan times along with a tree with a Tree Preservation Order on Green Lane. There will be an extended Kings Hill discussion and report later in the meeting.

Can I remind everyone that the public and parishioners are only allowed to speak when Standing Orders are suspended.

During the Public Participation section towards the end of this meeting there is the opportunity for anyone here to make any comments, suggestions or to ask questions.

Each person will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes to make representations and/or answer questions.

Any representation or question requiring an answer from the Parish Council may not receive a response on the night of that meeting but at a time in the future.

A more usual and formal meeting process will be followed, mirroring most of the other Parish Councils around the country.

707. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th January 2026 were received and discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15th January 2026 be approved.

708. Matters Arising not listed on the agenda

There were no matters arising not listed on the agenda.

709. Planning

Nothing further to report.

710. Correspondence

Nothing further to note.

711. Finance

711.1 Payments

| DATE | Ref | PAYEE | DETAILS | AMOUNT | VAT |
|----------|------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---------|--------|
| 30.12.25 | E98 | Lloyds | Service Charge | £4.25 | £0.00 |
| 26.01.26 | E99 | J Chatterton | Reimbursement Microsoft Office | £84.99 | £14.16 |
| 26.01.26 | E100 | ICO DD | Membership | £47.00 | £0.00 |
| 26.01.26 | E101 | J Chatterton | Clerk Salary January | DPA | £0.00 |
| 26.01.26 | E102 | HMRC | Tax & NI Clerk January | DPA | £0.00 |
| 26.01.26 | E103 | J Chatterton | PC Office Costs Internet & phone | £110.91 | £0.00 |
| 27.01.26 | E104 | Defenda | January Leaflet | £334.00 | £44.00 |
| 27.01.26 | E105 | Zurich | Parish Council Insurance | £364.03 | £39.00 |
| 27.01.26 | E106 | DCK Payroll Solutions | Inv 26629 January | £18.00 | £3.00 |
| 27.01.26 | E107 | Mr Davies | Travel reimbursement | £8.10 | £0.00 |
| 30.01.26 | E108 | Lloyds | Service Charge | £4.25 | £0.00 |
| 30.01.26 | E109 | NEST | Clerk Pension January | DPA | £0.00 |
| 06.02.26 | E110 | J Chatterton | Clerk Salary February | DPA | £0.00 |
| 06.02.26 | E111 | NEST | Clerk Pension February | DPA | £0.00 |
| 06.02.26 | E112 | HMRC | Tax & NI Clerk February | DPA | £0.00 |
| 06.02.26 | E113 | DCK Payroll | INVOICE 26724 FEE WAIVED | £0.00 | £0.00 |
| 06.02.26 | E114 | J Chatterton | PC Office Costs Internet & Phone | £50.00 | £0.00 |

RESOLVED THAT the payments be approved.

712. Finham Festival 2026

The event would take place on 20th June.

Reached out on the flyer for a call for volunteers. Meeting to be arranged to move things forward.

713. Meeting with Stoneleigh & Ashow Parish Council - 22nd January 2026

It was noted that the meeting had taken place on 22nd January at Ashow PC meeting venue. Discussed the common ground between Finham and Stoneleigh and Ashow in relation to the Kings Hill development.

714. Update on Kings Hill Development from Warwick District Council - March's Parish Council Meeting

It was reported that representatives from WDC and CCC would be attending March's meeting to answer questions on the Kings Hill Development,

715. Task groups & Working Parties

- **Highways – Councillor Morshead**

Nothing to report.

ACTION: New task lead for Highways to be identified.

- **Schools – Councillor Mrs Bush**

Currently Half term this week which is noted by the lack of traffic.

Prior to half term Finham Primary School had a visit from the Department for Education very impressed with the work of the children.

- **Police & Crime – Councillor Mrs Fryer**

The latest crime figures for Green Lane/Finham for November 2025

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Burglary | 3 |
| Criminal damage | 1 |
| Public Order | 1 |
| Shoplifting | 1 |
| Violence | 2 |
| Total | 8 |

Tony Swann has compared crime figures 2025 with those of 2026. This shows an increase in Burglary of 125%. And Weapons shows an increase of 200%. It is important to look at the actual figures e.g. There were 4 more cases involving **weapons** an increase of 2 in 2025 to 6 in 2026. So, it is important that we look at data and the actual numbers to keep it in perspective.

| YTD (Jan - Dec) | ASB | Bicycle Theft | Burglary inc Car-Key | Criminal Damage | Drugs | Other Theft | Fraud | Weapons | Public Order | Robbery inc CJ's | Shoplifting | Theft/ Person | Vehicle Crime | Violence /Sexual | Other Crime | Overall No Crimes |
|----------------------------|-----|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------|-------------|-------|---------|--------------|------------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 2024 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 10 | 2 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 18 | 0 | 26 | 55 | 6 | 158 |
| 2025 | 5 | 0 | 18 | 12 | 7 | 10 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 16 | 1 | 23 | 63 | 2 | 175 |
| % Increase/Decrease | -38 | | 125 | 20 | 250 | 11 | 200 | 200 | -44 | -67 | -11 | | -12 | 15 | -67 | 11 |

- **Kings Hill – Councillor Davies**

Well, where to start!

On Monday 9th February 2026 I returned home at lunchtime to discover the ancient hedgerow, dating back to at least Elizabethan times, located between Finham Primary School and Leasowes Cottages had been destroyed as well as a tree with a Tree Preservation Order.

The contractors carrying out this work advised me they had been instructed to do so by Lioncourt Homes.

Assuming Warwick District Council had given permission for this to happen as the hedgerow appeared to be in Warwickshire, I emailed the chief executive of WDC who after consulting with his Planning Department responded that evening advising it was nothing to do with them and that I should contact Coventry City Council.

The Kings Hill Task Group was copied into this email and consequently, Jane emailed our three CCC Ward Councillors who also knew nothing about it.

The following day I emailed the Planning Department of CCC and asked who had given permission and why the Finham Parish Council had not been informed beforehand.

Two days later on Thursday, I was emailed by a representative of CCC advising me that Lioncourt Homes did not need planning permission nor did it have any legal obligation to inform anyone in Finham at all.

Not what I would consider to be a good start for a process that will take decades to complete.

I have subsequently written another email to this representative asking for permission to read out the first response to this meeting. To date I have heard nothing.

According to the original timing of the South Warwickshire Local Plan which brings together WDC and Stratford on Avon District Council under a common plan, Public Consultation was scheduled to have been held between October and December 2025 but was postponed.

On Friday 13th February, a consultation document was duly issued entitled Kings Hill Masterplan and Design Code which was received by designated affected organisations but not by FPC. A copy has been requested.

Nevertheless, this document has appeared on the WDC website which asks all who wish to respond to do so by no later than midnight **27th March 2026**.

I urge everyone to read this document which is on the WDC website and make your comments. Some of the intentions and plans contained in this document are truly alarming but at the same time there are some good intentions as well.

Alternatively, there is a copy in the Finham Community Library available for anyone to read and responses can be sent to WDC by Royal Mail if preferred.

Initialled

Finham will be by far the most affected area as a result of this huge housing estate which has Outline Planning Permission only at this stage with an intended initial build of 2,500 and a final total of 4,500 dwellings.

To put this number of dwellings into perspective, the Kings Hill development will be 2½ times the size of Finham when completed and the anticipated increase in the number of vehicles locally according to CCC, is 8,100.

To date the only planned road infrastructure change is for a relief road to be built from the A45 at Pickford Brook to the yet to be completed roundabout at the Stoneleigh junction on the A46 Warwick By-Pass.

Bearing all these facts in mind, it raises the question of why this ancient hedgerow was chopped down at this time and whether builders plan is to use this gap as an entrance onto Kings Hill for site clearance and/or construction HGVs.

The authority responsible for Green Lane, is CCC who I have asked for an assurance from that no clearance or construction vehicles will be allowed on any part of Green Lane at any time during the development of the site.

To date there has been no answer.

ACTION:

- (i) Kings Hill Task Group to meet to formulate a response to the Master Plan.
- (ii) Set up a meeting for residents to help them complete the forms and representations.

716. Councillors' reports and items for future Agenda:

- WDC Kings Hill Development

The Chairman suspended the Standing Orders

**717. Coventry City Councillors
CCC Update - Councillor Blundell**

Kings Hill and Green Lane

Ward Councillors had been shocked at the works being carried out to the development land.

Been investigating and had spoken to Marcus Fothergill, CCC Enforcement Team, making sure everything was in line with the Planning Permission given. Councillor Blundell had raised the issue with the tree that has the TPO.

Mr Fothergill had confirmed that CCC had removed the TPOs as these had been rescinded due to the Planning Permission being granted.

Weight limit for Green Lane

The question had been asked if a weight limit for HGV vehicles for Green Lane could be imposed. Mr Neil Bennison – Highways Officer for Coventry, confirmed that this was not always possible to insist on or enforce.

Contact the Planning Manager at Lioncourt Homes

Councillor Blundell had asked for a point of contact to raise concerns and assured everything would be done according to the Planning Permission.

Temporary heras fencing

Question was raised as to why this had been installed. Likely to be to secure the site.

ACTION: Councillor Khatkar to email Councillor Blundell and he would ask the question.

Picket fence

Councillor Khatkar raised the issue that the picket fence on Green Lane had been knocked over by the contractors carry out the tree works and had been left broken on the carriageway.

ACTION: Councillor Blundell to take up with CCC.

Gospel Oak

ACTION: Councillor Blundell to ask CCC about the TPO on the Gospel Oak.

ACTION: Councillor Davies (Kings Hill Task Group to send Councillor Blundell a list of points which would be raised with Lioncourt.

Potholes

CCC had stated that the reason why there were so many potholes was due to the heavy rain fall. The impact was that there was a significant cost and disruption with road closures and traffic light systems.

ACTION: Councillors to provide locations of any potholes in the Parish to Cllr Blundell and he would send them to CCC Highways.

People are also encouraged to report potholes on "Fix my Street".

Pollution tubes

ACTION: Cllr Blundell to check data gathering from the pollution tubes on St Martins Road.

718. Public participation: To adjourn to allow public participation.

Liaison with the Library

Councillor Morshead asked if there was anything that the Parish Council could do for the Library.

One of the FLAG Trustees was present at the meeting (along with a colleague). Mrs Bird confirmed that Trustee Meetings were held quarterly. It was confirmed that there were Trustee vacancies on FLAG. Lease negotiations in 2027.

ACTION: meeting to be arranged with Mr Morshead and FLAG Chairman.

Rubber strips across roads

Issue raised with rubber strips across the Leamington Road and St Martins Road, Howes Lane, Kings Hill Lane. Having liaised with Traffic Management at CCC, they were unable to state what they were for.

Construction traffic Green Lane

Question was asked if we could get WDC, CCC and the developers to put up a sign on Green Lane to say "no access to construction traffic" using Green Lane

Kings Hill development

Question was raised as to how would the construction traffic access the site?
What is the timing plan for completion of the bus gate?

ACTION: Councillor Blundell would ask the contact at Lioncourt for the timescales.

Real time monitoring of pollution in the area

Resident ask about the current pollution tube monitoring which was ineffective. At a previous meeting Councillor Heaven was looking into work at real time monitoring in the area. This didn't appear to have progressed.

ACTION: Councillor Blundell to follow up with Cllr Heaven.

Complaint about FPC Finances and Procedures

Complainant asked to make the complaint via email.

719. Date for the next meeting

The date for the next meeting was confirmed as 19th March 2026 Finham Park School at 6:30pm. Representatives from Warwick District Council are in attendance.

Meeting closed at 8:40pm