

Minutes of the Allensmore Parish Council Meeting held on 20th November 2025, at the Allensmore Village Hall, from 7.30 pm

In attendance: Cllr T Cramp (in the Chair), J Lawrence, S Williams, S Grenar, J Cox, J Evans and C Watkinson plus Mrs A Wright (Clerk), and Ward Cllr Richard Thomas and three members of the public

1. Introduction and welcome by the Chair

Cllr T Cramp (in the Chair) welcomed everyone to the November meeting and thanked them for attending.

2. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence received.

3. Declarations of Interest

There was one declarations of interest. This was for Cllr Grenar, whose mother lived next door to the property "Silverdale" which was being mentioned in regard to flooding problems.

4. Open Session

A resident present advised that he was experiencing issues with selling his property due to prospective purchasers being discouraged by low internet speed. Open Reach had connected fibre to the poles outside the property. The connection was anticipated to be made live in January 2026. The prospective purchaser had rearranged a viewing subject to the news of improved connectivity from early 2026.

The Ward Cllr advised that issues of flooding at Silverdale had been escalated to Herefordshire Council, where the ditching and enforcement was supposed to be being sorted out (since 2024) and the Ward Cllr was also keeping in touch with the situation at "Alma" corner on the B4348, where localised flooding had also occurred during heavy rainfall.

5. Brief Verbal Reports:

5.1 Local Policing Team

Bulletins had been circulated when received.

5.2 Ward Councillor:

Ward Cllr Richard Thomas was in attendance at the meeting and he advised that Herefordshire Council had appointed a new Director of Economy. He advised that part of the drainage grant had been notified to councils but that the ditching portion of the grant had not yet been confirmed. Ward Cllr Thomas said that he would check out what was happening with the grant funding.

The Crown Court was located back in Hereford.

There was a predicted circa £27 million shortfall expected on the 2026 – 2027 budget forecast. The figures were not yet finalised.

The temporary Traffic Regulation Order reducing the speed limit on the A465 to 40 mph, for a portion of the road past the B4348 junction, was now operational.

5.3 Balfour Beatty (Locality Steward)

The Locality Steward had circulated reports, when available.

5.4 Footpath Officer

Cllr Williams advised that there was no notice regarding the Public Rights of Way Grant funding.

6. To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18th September 2025.

Resolved: - The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 18th September 2025, were approved by the Council

7. To receive any correspondence and Information Update

The Clerk updated the Meeting regarding correspondence received. This included:

Herefordshire Council

Talk Community bulletins

Herefordshire Council Charter for councils 2025

Footpath KS31 – pre-consultation new details sent and comments invited

The parish council discussed the proposals for the footpath alterations and site visits had been undertaken. It was noted that a tenant farmed the neighbouring land to the proposed change. The parish council resolved that they would support the revised proposals, as sent, provided that any landowners, likely to be affected by the changes to PROW path KS31 are in full agreement to those changes.

8. Finance

(8.1) **Resolved:** The following list of payments were approved:

Mrs A Wright (salary paid in accordance with contract)	
Tax due on salary payment (Payable to HMRC only)	£164.00
Employers National Insurance (Payable to HMRC only)	£3.44

(8.2) **Resolved:** The bank balance was noted at £12915.98. The amount included the ring-fenced amount of £359.00 being the balance of the pipe crowd funding project surplus.

(8.3) to consider and determine the precept request for 2026 – 2027

The budget and likely expenditure for the year 2026 – 2027 were discussed. The Ward Cllr would look at the availability situation for grants going forward for 2026 -2027 for the lengthsman, drainage and public rights of way works. Cllr Grenar advised that the signs at Winnal were not spelt correctly. The Ward Cllr said that place name signs should be the Highways Authority responsibility. Cllr Grenar would look into the locations and What Three Words references of the signs that were incorrect or needed replacement.

It was agreed that the precept request would be £6500.00 for 2026 – 2027. The Clerk would advise the Herefordshire Council Finance Team accordingly.

9. Planning

There were no new planning applications for consideration of comments.

Cllr Watkinson had sent the regular update on planning for the parish. He updated the meeting about recent planning decisions and the parish council would decide, via working party, if any further comments should be sent to the planning authority in relation to applications that were still under review.

10. To consider broadband provision and hear any updates

Cllr Cramp had updated the meeting on this topic and it was discussed during the Open Session. Details were recorded under the Open Session Agenda item of the November Meeting, including some hopeful connection live dates. The MP Jesse Norman was being kept updated on the BT and Open Reach communications and on the proposals for areas in terms of connection to broad band services.

11. To review the Lengthsman, PROW and Drainage Contract works, grants and decisions

Cllr Cramp gave an update on the position in regard to grant funding and proposed works. Nine days of lengthsman works had been put forward for action. Part of the drainage grant had been approved and Cllr Cramp advised that he would be following up on works required. There was a pipe installation pending and the pipe size required

would be confirmed. A portion of ditching work was confirmed but the parish council were still waiting to hear confirmation on the public rights of way works.

12. Items for next Agenda

All the usual items would be on the Agenda in January 2026, also on the agenda - The Herefordshire Charter for councils 2025 and request for support from the Belmont Country Park Supporters.

13. Date of next Meeting

The next Meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as 15th January 2026 from 7.30 pm at the Village Hall.

Future Meetings were confirmed as follows, 7.30 pm in the Allensmore Village Hall:-

Allensmore Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2026

January 15th

March 19th

May 21st

July 16th

September 17th

November 19th

The Meeting closed at 8.23 pm

Allensmore Parish Council Meeting

20th November 2025

Signedas a true record by Councillor (Chairman) Dated: - 15 January 2026

For information about what's going on, local groups and businesses, the Church, some local history and the Parish Council, including minutes of past meetings and dates for future meetings, visit the Allensmore website. www.allensmore.org.uk