Lytchett Matravers
Parish Council

November 2025

Parish Council News – November 2025

Litter Pick: It's that time again. We will be meeting at the Recreation Ground car park on Sunday, 2nd November, at 1:30 pm to clear litter around the village. If you can help for an hour or so, please join us. We will supply litter bags and pick-up claws, but please bring your own gloves. If you have a preferred route/street/area, please let the Parish Office know in advance; otherwise, places will be allocated on the afternoon.

Remembrance Day Service: The traditional Remembrance Day Service will be held at the War Memorial at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, 9th November. There will be a general service from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. in the Village Hall. The Beavers, Scouts, Guides and Cadets will gather on the Recreation Ground from 10:30am and lead the procession to the War Memorial from 10:45am, where the remembrance service will begin at 10:55am with a minute's silence at 11:00a.m. To ensure the safety of everyone attending, the following roads will be closed between 10:00 and 11:30: Lime Kiln Road (from High Street to Turbetts Close), High Street (from Old Pound Close to Vineyard Close), and Middle Road (from High Street to Eldons Drove). As this is only for a short duration, there will be no signed diversion route.

Budget and Precept: At this time of year, the Parish Council reviews its action plan for the remainder of the year and prepares the budget for the next financial year (April 2026 to March 2027). The budget outlines how we will continue to support the Parish Office, Clerk, and a wide range of community services and facilities across the village. These include the Allotments, Astro, Recreation Ground, Sports Pavilion, Youth Hall, running the Youth Club, Citizens Advice sessions, extended Library opening hours, multiple Play Areas, Row Park, the Cemetery, maintaining the War Memorial and running the annual Lytchett Matravers Summer Music Festival.

To fund this work, we look at how much can be covered from our usable reserves (money already held for running services, delivering projects whilst maintaining an appropriate amount for contingencies) and how much needs to be raised through the Precept. The Precept is the Parish Council's share of your council tax, and it is used entirely within the village. Rather than simply increasing it by inflation each year, we aim to set the Precept based on a clear budgeted need, ensuring that the amount requested is fair, transparent and delivers good value for money.

We work hard to keep costs under control and seek grants wherever possible, so that the Precept is used as effectively as possible. This year, in addition to ongoing maintenance, we have delivered projects such as replacing the notice boards, reinstating the Village Pond, servicing the defibrillators, and allocating funds for future improvements, including the Tesco entrance/exit and the Youth Hall car park.

If you have any projects you would like us to consider in the upcoming financial year, please get in touch or attend our November meetings to share your input—your suggestions help shape our priorities.

Parish Council Vacancy: We currently have two vacancies for Parish Councillors. Being a Councillor only takes a few hours per week and is a direct way to participate in and support your community—it is very rewarding. Why not come along to a meeting to see how it works, or contact the Parish Clerk or any Councillor if you have questions?

Parish Council Meetings: Our next Finance & General Purposes meeting is on 12th November at 7:00pm, and the next Full Council meeting is on 26th November at 7:00pm, both held in the Blanchard Room at the Village Hall. Agendas are published online, and associated reports can be requested from the Parish Clerk. All meetings are open to the public and begin with a Public Participation session. Please come along to ask questions, raise concerns, or simply listen to the discussion—it's all about your village.

Alf Bush, Chair, Lytchett Matravers Parish Council

For further information, please visit our website, https://lytchettmatraversparishcouncil.gov.uk or email the Parish Clerk via clerk@lytchettmatraversparishcouncil.gov.uk