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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting for the Parish of Naunton, held in Naunton Village Hall at 7.00pm on Monday 20th May 2019

Present: Cllr Bev Chance (Chairman), Cllr Charlie Hanks (Vice Chairman), Cllr Peter Bell, Cllr Keith Russell, and Cllr David Pickup. Maxi Freeman (Clerk) and one parishioner were present.

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish meeting.
2. **Apologies** None, as all councillors attended.
3. **Minutes**
Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21 May 2018 were accepted and signed by the chairman.
4. **Reports** (Note: Only highlights of the reports are included here. Full reports are available on the website: www.nauntonpc.org.uk)

- **Cotswold District Council**

Cllr Richard Keeling reported on the past year's activities, starting with the recent election results. Cllr Keeling thanked everyone who returned him as District Councillor to the Bourton Vale Ward.

CDC is now controlled by Liberal Democrat councillors. The first meeting increased Councillor allowances by 25%, after a 10 year freeze on allowances under the previous council. There has been an increase in Council Tax to maintain CDC of about 5 p per week for the average household.

The freeze on parking charges at all CDC owned car parks will continue for 2019/20 and the 'free after 3 pm' scheme will be remain at selected car parks until March 2020.

Cllr Keeling also updated the meeting about garden waste services, which will remain priced at £30 p.a. with collections every 2 weeks from November 2019. Separate food waste collections will start on 1 November 2019, using new, larger outdoor caddies.

The shared services provider Publica continues to deliver value for money with estimated savings of £20 million for CDC between 2020 and 2023.

Cllr Keeling then congratulated the Parish Council on the high standard of the renovated village hall.

- **Gloucestershire Police**

PCSOs John Allen and Cassie Wilford from Stow Police attended and highlighted the main points from the annual report. In common with the rest of the Cotswolds, there has been a small increase in crime locally, the main crime being burglaries. This year there were 7 compared to 2 last year. The increase could be linked to fewer calls regarding public safety / suspicious activity. However, Naunton remains one of the safest parishes in Gloucestershire.

Councillors raised the issues of parking and speeding. The Chairman provided photographic evidence of inconsiderate parking and including parking which caused the school bus to be delayed by 20 minutes while residents tracked down the driver of the offending vehicle. Police suggested that polite warnings and notices about inconsiderate parking were the best first step. They did not recommend ticketing or painting yellow lines on the roads. Parishioners and councillors should notify the police of problematic parking or anything suspicious on 101 or via the website <https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/contact-us/report-a-crime-or-incident/>. Dial 999 if a crime is in progress or if life is in danger.

- **Neighbourhood Watch report**

Cllr Chance read the Neighbourhood Watch report provided by Diane Woolley. A total of 89 messages were distributed to 67 addresses on the mailing list. Alerts received from the police are filtered for relevance before being distributed. Many of the messages are advisory rather than warnings, and some relate to the Naunton 'phantom'.

- **Dovecote Society**

Cllr Hanks read the report from the Chairman of the Dovecote Society, Penny Hanks. The first phase of the improvements have been completed. Further works will include placing a working model of a turbine in the lean-to and finding a cost effective way to install mains water for a disabled WC and a simple kitchen.

- **Village Hall Committee**

Cllr Chance read a report provided by Louise Goll, Chair of the Village Hall Trust. The works have been completed and the hall is well supported. The contracts have been settled in line with early estimates. The Committee has broadened the scope of its representation by co-opting two new representatives, one to represent weekly users of the hall and another to represent younger members of the village. A volunteer group has also been formed to carry out minor repairs and the gardening club has taken responsibility for the exterior of the site. A new business plan is currently being drafted. The Chair then thanked everyone involved.

- **Flood Relief Monitoring**

Cllr Keith Russell reported that there have been no problems over the past year. The annual river clearance in October was well supported and Cllrs Bell and Russell had removed branches which could obstruct the river if it flooded.

- **Village Social Committee**

Cllr Russell read the report from Pat Boulton, Social Chair. The Social Committee has held six events at the village hall since its re-opening in July. The ad hoc market held a Christmas 'brunch' has led to a regular Breakfast Club. The Committee is using profits to buy kitchen utensils for the hall and contributing to any shortfall in the running costs until a clear picture of such costs is established.

- **Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council for St Andrew's Church**

Cllr Chance read the report from Diana Woolley. The PCC has met four times since the last report. Eight special services have been held throughout the year, along with the Wednesday morning prayer services. St Andrew's also hosts the weekly coffee shop, monthly rural cinema and Naunton Music concerts as well as Mustard Seeds for mums and toddlers. Diane thanked Bob and Barbara Steiner as well as Rosemary Parker for all their help. A talk on Pompeii was also held, which raised over £2,000 for church funds. Diana also thanked everyone involved in making and producing the 13 figures made to mark the centenary of the end of World War One and displayed in the village.

- **Naunton Cricket Club**

Cllr Hanks read the report from the Chairman, Will Davies, who first paid tribute to longstanding member and Annual President for a number of years, David Hallsworth.

Although some local clubs have folded or merged, Naunton cricket club continues. The club has many mid-week fixtures but fewer on Sundays. Social members are invited to enjoy the Sunday match teas. New members are always welcome.

5. Annual report from the Chairman of the Parish Council – Cllr Beverley Chance

The Chairman reported that the year had again seen many planning applications and that all except one had been permitted.

The Chairman noted the passing of David Hallsworth who had been such a supportive, committed and dedicated member of the community. The Parish Council will be donating a bench dedicated to his memory to be placed near the cricket pavilion.

The Parish Council purchased and installed a 3rd dog waste bin at the entrance of the Brake but, regrettably, dog fouling continues, including on the Recreation field. The Chairman thanked Ken Ogilvie for managing the dog waste bags for many years but a new volunteer was now needed.

The Council has addressed public concerns regarding overgrown vegetation and poor drainage in the village. The GCC Lengthsman scheme was notified and carried out works to drains, ditches, overgrown vegetation and a broken drain. The report it.gov website can also be used to report highways and rights of way issues.

Parishioners were also concerned about inconsiderate parking and Naunton PC has consulted the police regarding this issue.

The Parish Council has now registered its ownership of the Pound (parking next to the Village Hall). It has also donated £1000 to the Dovecote Trust this year for its continuing work to the monument.

The Chairman thanked the snow warden, who made an appearance again last winter. The Chairman then thanked the councillors for their many and varied contributions to the maintenance and improvement of village facilities: Cllr Bell for singlehandedly clearing scrubland and addressing the issue of the potholed gateway to the field; Cllr Hanks for maintenance work to the play area; Cllrs Russell and Pickup for flood monitoring and river clearance. All councillors remain unchanged.

6. Questions from the floor to be answered by Councillors

No questions were raised.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.00 pm.

Signed Chairman

Date: 18 May 2020