

Clerk: Maxi Freeman, Charlwood, Kineton, nr Guiting Power, Cheltenham, GL54 5UG

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MINUTES: of the Naunton Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 18th November 2024 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Charles Hanks, Keith Russell, David Pickup, Nicki Gibberson.
GCC Councillor MacKenzie-Charrington, CDC Councillor Wilkins

APOLOGIES: None

IN ATTENDANCE: Maxi Freeman, Clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None

1. **To receive Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda (Localism Act 2011)** None.
2. **To hear representations from the public** regarding items on the agenda. None.
3. **Approval of minutes of the previous meeting (September 2024)** The meeting approved the minutes, and the Chairman signed them. **Action: Clerk to post to website.**
4. **Matters Arising (Clerk's Report)** The Chairman drew Councillors' attention to the information in the Clerk's Report for agenda items 10, 14, 15 and 16
5. **Chairman's Report.** The Chairman asked GCC Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington to deliver his report.
 - GCC had invested over £100 million over the past 3 ½ years in road surfacing. Major roads had been addressed, and work now extending to minor roads. Rissington Road would be closed 2 – 6 Dec and 6 – 17 Jan. Please report issues with Highways on the Fix my Street page: <https://fixmystreet.gloucestershire.gov.uk/>
 - A new health line was being introduced. Calling 911 would connect to a GP for advice and to make appointments.
 - Riparian landowners are responsible for clearing ditches on their land. GCC is responsible for grippes.
 - GCC is addressing the poor condition of the road past Grange Hill quarry. The quarry has been asked to clean it up. It will apply to move the access road towards Buckle Street in the new year. GCC is also checking that the quarry is complying with the conditions on its planning permission.
 - GCC has recruited a new enforcement officer and is training two further recruits.

CDC Cllr Wilkins reported that:

- due to public pressure, the toilets in the centre of Stow are being retained.
- The PC should ensure that it had an up to date Emergency Plan **Action: Clerk to include in next agenda.**
- Lithium batteries left in waste bags had caused fires in collection lorries. Residents are reminded to dispose of put pent batteries in a black bin. Cllr Wilkins had attended a meeting at the Ben Pauling yard where he had been told that the mobile homes would be removed. He had suggested that Mr Pauling invite the village for an open day. The Chairman noted that no invitation had been received.

6. Planning applications

To comment:

[24/03471/TCONR](#) Tree maintenance at The Old Rectory, Church Lane Naunton. Reduce large limb to relieve weight by 4-5m to a suitable growth point / option to remove limb if agreeable.

Councillors had no objections. **Action: Clerk to post to CDC planning portal.**

To note changes since the last meeting:

[24/02355/FUL](#) Formation of a 3 furlong all-weather oval gallop, Summerhill Farm, Naunton Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL54 3AZ. PC understands that the railings will not be white so that they are more subdued.

[24/01784/FUL](#) Change of use of the first floor of existing equine welfare barn to provide grooms' accommodation. Ben Pauling Racing Naunton Downs Estate. Councillors noted that a number of conditions had been attached to the permission for this conversion.

[23/01371/FUL](#) Land and barn west of Church Farm House. Appeal failed. Deemed contrary to CDC Local Plan policies EN1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 12, 13 and the Cotswold Design Code.

7. **Cotswold Landscape Board/AONB review.** Councillors noted that several sections of the report were missing. In addition the 25 year government strategy was missing. As a result Councillors could not comment.
8. **Speeding.** Cllr Gibberson to report on progress of village survey. Councillors to decide on further action. No further progress made. **Action: Cllr Gibberson to review survey.**
9. **Neighbourhood plan.** Cllr Gibberson to report on progress. The Chairman expressed concerns regarding the amount of work needed to complete the plan. **Action: To discuss another parishes' experience, Cllr Gibberson to contact Bledington PC.** Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington provided contact details.
10. **Baptist burial ground.** In light of correspondence with the Baptist Union, Councillors decided to remove the old bench and to buy and install a new 2 seater bench. Councillors decided on the Balmoral bench from the list in the Clerk's Report. **Action: Clerk to order bench for delivery to the Chairman's address.**
11. **Assets and risk assessment.** To receive reports on council assets and decide on any action.

Recreation field (including dog waste) & benches	Cllr Hanks to report on any works required. The organisers of the village bonfire had not cleared nails and launch pads in the ground and covered them with tarpaulin, which was now killing the grass. Action: Clerk to write to the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee and to update the website with the new Chair's details.
Play area (including dog waste)	Cllr Hanks to report. Some action items from the RoSPA report were outstanding. Action: Cllr Hanks to repair.
Flood Monitoring	Cllr Russell to report. All dangerous trees have now been removed and the river is running well.
Village Hall	Cllr Russell to report on Village Hall Committee meetings. The hall is well used and events are well attended. The financial position is sound.

12. **Defibrillator.** Councillors decided not to buy spare batteries/pads as the defibrillator is rarely used. Cllr Gibberson agreed to take on monitoring the defibrillator and completing the required documentation. **Action: Clerk to contact previous defibrillator monitor for handover.**
13. **Internal auditor.** Having satisfied themselves that the GAPTC audit service is qualified and independent, Councillors agreed to appoint GAPTC vat the new rate of £210 plus expenses. **Action: Clerk to apply to GAPTC.**

14. Budget setting. Councillors discussed the draft budget and, having added budget for further flood relief equipment, funds for maintenance of the playground, funds for speed management and inflation, agreed a budget of £23826.22 for 2025-26.

15. Precept setting. Councillors agreed to use reserves to supplement the precept. The precept was agreed as £18921.51. **Action: Clerk to submit precept requirement to CDC when requested.**

16. Finances

a. **Bank account changes.** Councillors decided to continue to bank with Lloyds and to accept the £4.25 per month charge

b. **Internal controls.** Councillors Russell and Pickup offered to carry out the annual internal controls check. **Action: Clerk to forward the cash book.**

c. **To receive current accounts and bank reconciliation**

Councillors noted the balances of £22,243.43 in the current account and £488.56 in the deposit account. The Chairman signed the reconciliation.

d. **To approve payments and note receipts.** The following payments were approved:

The following payments to be approved:				
Epay	M Freeman	Clerk's salary October/November @ £235.17 p m	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)	470.34
Epay	M Freeman	GoDaddy Website Builder Annual renewal	LGA 1972 s.142	172.66
Epay	M Freeman	GoDaddy Domain name 2-yr renewal	LGA 1972 s.142	47.93
Epay	M Freeman	JRB 8 x 800 dog bags @ £31.08 each	LGA 1892 s.8 (1) (i)	263.04
Epay	Cyan	Purchase of Balmoral bench	LGA 1972 s.215 (1) & (2)	387.50.

17. Items for the next meeting:

NOTE: No decisions can be made on items raised in this section. Discussions can lead to items being included on the agenda for the next meeting only.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 20th January 2024 at 7.00 p.m. in the village hall.