

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

www.nauntonpc.org

MINUTES: of the Naunton Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.30 pm.  
PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Charles Hanks, Keith Russell, David Pickup, Nicki Gibberson, Holly Barnes.

CDC Cllr Wilkins

APOLOGIES None, as all councillors attended.

IN ATTENDANCE: Maxi Freeman, Clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None.

1. **To receive declarations of Interest** on 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** (January 2024) The meeting approved the minutes, and the Chairman signed them. Action: Clerk to post to website.
4. **Matters Arising** (Clerk's Report and report from Chairman). The Clerk drew councillors' attention to the contents of the report which would be discussed at items 5, 6 and 9.

The Chairman invited Cllr Wilkins to present highlights from CDC:

- a) CDC has received £150,000 from the Government but still has a shortfall of £1.5million. This has led to an increase of 6.7% overall in services provided to residents.
  - b) Council Tax has risen by £5 a year for a Band D residence.
  - c) The Scheme of Delegation for planning applications has changed. Further details will be available shortly but the effect is that objections which require a Committee decision must be notified to the CDC councillor within 28 days so that they can be listed for committee decision.
  - d) Outsourcing to Publica is being taken back in house at a cost of appx £500,000.
  - e) The new CDC Local Plan 'Green to the Core' is available for consultation [here](#).
  - f) Elections for the next Police Commissioner for Gloucestershire take place on 2nd May.
5. **Planning.** Cllr Wilkins confirmed that he had met the enforcement officer with a resident to highlight the issues at the golf course.

24/00418/FUL Lavender Hill Farm. Erection of single storey side extension, partial re-skinning and re-roofing of dwelling, and associated works. Cllrs resolved to post comment of no objections. Action: Clerk to post comments.

24/00487/TDC (Technical Detail Consent) at Land and building East of 3 Littlesworth, Naunton. Following 22/03964/PLP, 23/02550/TDC. Cllrs had no major objections to the proposal, but agreed with the tree officer's comments regarding the need to protect existing trees during demolition and construction works. Councillors also recommended a more sympathetic design at the front of the house, more in line with the Cotswold Design Code and appropriate to the neighbouring properties. Action: Clerk to post comments.

24/00607/FUL Rear extension and replacement windows at Conifers. Councillors had no objections to this application. Action: Clerk to post comments.

23/03879/FUL Conversion of agricultural barn into a dwelling with associated extensions, alterations and works. Land and Barn South East Of Naunton Downs Farmhouse, Salperton Park

Estate, Naunton. Councillors had no objections to this application. While the Highways comments requested a refusal on the basis that there was no sustainable transport in the area, Councillors felt that the conversion included a number of low carbon initiatives and that, with EV charging points and the inclusion of 'The Robin' public transport, transport to and from the building could be sustainable. Action: Clerk to post comments.

23/01371/FUL Appeal re: Land and barn west of Church Farm House. Application Reference: 23/01371/FUL, Appeal Reference: APP/F1610/W/23/3331701. Councillors resolved to support the LPA i.e. Cotswold District Council, for the same long list of reasons that the LPA quoted in its decision notice, with the addition that the current owners would have known the planning history and that the only application which had been approved was that without extensions. Action: Clerk to post comments.

23/03959/FUL Littons. Opening up ground floor by removing walls. Councillors noted that a skip had been placed on the village green for use with the works at Littons.

**6. Assets and risk assessment.** To receive reports on council assets and decide on any action.

Recreation field (including dog waste) & benches	Cllr Hanks reported that the gate and parts of the fencing needed to be repaired. Cllrs noted the Recreation Field cashbook in the Clerk's Report, which showed funds of £352 available for the works. Action: Cllr Hanks and the Cricket Club to obtain quotes for the work, which is expected to cost under £500.
Play area (including dog waste)	Cllr Hanks reported that he would shortly be mowing the play area.
Flood Monitoring	Cllr Russell reported that river levels were high and fluctuating. The obstruction on the stretch of river owned by the Manor House owners had not been cleared as requested in a further letter. Action: Councillors agreed to form a working party with Cllr Russell to clear this once the river was safer. Cllrs reported that water levels had been so high that raw sewage had been released into the river. Councillors reported that although the main sewers had been relined in recent years, the shafts may not have been and it was possible that flood waters were entering the sewage system via cracks in the shafts. Other possible sources of flood water were the Thames Water manhole covers. Action: Cllr Pickup agreed to contact Thames Water to arrange for checks to the covers.
Village Hall	Cllr Russell reported that the village hall was financially sound and that improvements and maintenance continue to take place.
Other	Cllr Hanks noted that the bench on the road near the village hall needed repairs as it was currently unusable and possibly dangerous and beyond repair. Action: Clerk to provide details of a range of replacement options.

**7. Portrait of HM King Charles III.** Councillors decide to apply for a free, framed portrait of HM King Charles to be hung in the village hall or the cricket club. Action: Clerk to apply for the portrait.

**8. Audit.** Having satisfied themselves (See Clerk’s report) that the auditor would be independent and qualified, Councillors decided to appoint a GAPTC internal auditor. Action: Clerk to request GAPTC to provide an internal auditor.

**9. Speeding in the village.**

a) VAS and 20 mph requirements. Councillors agreed that the criteria for GCC to approve VAS or 20mph regulations for Naunton (traffic volume, accidents, facilities and more) were not currently being met and that, on the current data, it was unlikely that GCC Highways would permit either of these traffic management methods.

b) Councillors agreed to carry out a survey to determine local residents’ experiences and views of of traffic in the village as this could support future requests for traffic management. Action: Cllrs Barnes and Gibberson to carry out a face to face survey, based on the questionnaire in the Clerk’s Report. The survey is also available on the [NPC website](#).

Councillors also agreed to review a motion at the next meeting, requesting that GCC implement a 20 mph speed limit on streets where people, live, work, shop, play or learn. Action: Clerk to add to agenda for the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

**10. Finances**

a) **To receive current accounts and bank reconciliation.** Councillors noted the balances in the accounts and the Chairman agreed to sign the reconciliation.

b) **To approve payments and note receipts** Councillors resolved to make the below payments and three councillors signed cheques. Action: Clerk to post cheques.

903	M Freeman	Clerk’s salary February/March 2024 @ £235.17 p m	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)	470.34
904	PATA	Underpayments for Q3 Q4 and Q1.	LGA 1972 s.111	12.90

**Any other business.** Councillors agreed to be contacted by Whatsapp. There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.25.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.00 p.m. in the village hall. It will comprise the Annual Parish Meeting, followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Signed Charles Hanks

Chairman

Signed J. Freeman

Clerk & RFO

Date 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024