

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

www.nauntonpc.org

MINUTES: of Naunton Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 15th September 2025 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Charles Hanks, Keith Russell, David Pickup..

APOLOGIES Received in advance from Cllr Gibberson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Maxi Freeman, Clerk, GCC Councillor Tom Bradley, CDC Councillor Len Wilkins

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 (July 2025)** The meeting approved the minutes, and the Chairman signed them. **Action: Clerk to post to website.**
4. **Chairmans announcements.** The Chairman invited GCC and CDC councillors to report:

- **GCC Cllr Tom Bradley reported:** that GCC Highways matters were his major priority. He asked for suggestions for the 27/28 resurfacing programme. **Action: Clerk to provide details of locations needing resurfacing, as discussed.** A small fund was available for minor Highways works which GCC Highways could not deliver. FY 26/27 was the final year of funding for the Health & Wellbeing initiative.

Funding for school infrastructure and for school places were major issues in education. The new houses due to be built to meet the December 24 increased number of new houses would create further pressure. A new secondary school in Moreton was planned together with improved facilities at other schools. The current method of assessing the number of school places required relies on birth rates, which are not increasing, and should include the large number of new homes planned.

Dates for the programme to create a unitary authority for the Gloucestershire area were currently:

November 26 – GCC decision on whether to have one authority for Eastern Gloucestershire and one for Western Gloucestershire or to have a single authority for the whole county.

May 27 – shadow elections. New councillors to run alongside existing GCC councillors.

May 28 – new council vested.

- **CDC Cllr Len Wilkins reported:** CDC would not take part of the decision on the format of the new unitary authority. There would be 110 councillors in a single authority, and a split of 52/28 for the E/W division. Unparished areas would have no representation.

Neighbourhood Area Committees (NAC) were proposed. Each PC would have one representative at the NAC, with 1 NAC per 30 – 50,000 residents. Cllr Wilkins noted that this approach had been used in towns but never in rural areas such as the Cotswolds.

Under the unitary authority, planning would consist of a single local plan (currently CDC has its own plan as does the Forest of Dean). The newly formed CDC Planning Board had no representatives from the North Cotswolds so the needs of the local area were not represented.

5. **Clerks Report.** Councillors noted the information regarding possible traffic management measures and external lighting issues. The Clerk reported that the new website and emails had been created and that details were being finalised. Once installed, councillors should always use their new gov.uk email addresses for all council matters. The Clerk informed councillors that the manufacturers had agreed to replace the defective battery in the defibrillator.

6. Traffic management.

- a. **GCC Community 20s and Safer Roads initiative.** Councillors decided to support the GCC Community 20s and Safer Roads initiatives. **Action: Clerk to respond to GCC request that Naunton be considered for the Community 20s programme and for the reduction in speed limits on roads of concern.**
- b. **20's plenty signs.** Councillors noted that these had been delivered. **Action: Cllr Hanks to install signs.**
- c. **Speedwatch, Autospeedwatch, GCC speed monitoring.** Councillors decided to postpone any action until the effects of the 20's plenty signs became clear. Councillors to review in Spring 2026.

7. Planning applications. Councillors noted that no new applications had been received recently but that a number of previous applications were awaiting decision.

8. External lighting in Naunton. Councillors reviewed the draft letter and decided to post a copy to the noticeboard. Further action could be taken if residents requested it. **Action: Clerk to post letter to the noticeboard.**

9. Dog waste disposal signs. Cllr Gibberson was absent so could not report on progress.

10. 'Neighbourhood Planning. In light of on-going changes in the planning process, Councillors decided that further action was not appropriate at this time. **Action: Clerk to attend the GRCC information session on 20th October in Brockworth and report back on new approaches.**

Assets and risk assessment Recreation field & benches	No issues.
Play area	Cllr Hanks reported that Greenfields had not given a date for the RoSPA repairs works but had agreed to repair the tractor at no charge.
Flood Monitoring	Cllr Russell reported that the annual clearance would take place on 25 th October. The overgrowth of reeds would be included in the clearance.
Village Hall	Cllr Russell reported that the village hall was busy and well funded.
Defibrillator	The manufacturer had agreed to send a replacement battery.

11. Finances

a) To receive current accounts and bank reconciliation

Current account balance A/c 00462740: £29,917.12 (21st July 2025)

Deposit account balance A/c 01612290: £492.36 (21st July 2025)

Councillors approved the bank balances and the reconciliation. The Chairman signed the reconciliation.

Naunton Parish Council Reconciliation				
Period 1 April 2025 to 9th September 2025				
Current account 00462740 Online				
	Balance @ 8 September 2025		£27,854.43	
Deposit account 01612290 Online				
	Balance @ 8 September 2025		£492.67	
Total			£28,347.10	
Less outstanding cheques				£0.00
Reconciled balance			£28,347.10	
Cash book summary				
	Opening balance 1.4.25		£18,746.20	
	Add receipts to date		£14,193.66	
	Less payments to date		£4,592.76	
Cash book balance			£28,347.10	
Signed:				
Clerk & RFO				
Chairman				
Date: 15th September 2025				

- b) **Payments and receipts** (The payment for the twenty's plenty signage was increased to cover additional fixings).

The following payments were approved:				
Epay	M Freeman	Clerk's salary August/September @ £230.07 p.m.	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)	£406.14
Epay	HMRC	Tax @£24.60 p.m.	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)	£49.20
Epay	Parish Online	New website & emails	LGA 1972 s.142	£258.00
Pay	M Freeman	Expenses – 20's plenty signs & fixings	RTRA 1984 s.72	£498.72
Epay	M Freeman	Expenses - VAT on GoDaddy payment May 25	LGA 1972 s.142	£7.99

12. Items for the next meeting: None.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 17th November 2025.

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Chairman

Date 17th November 2025

There being no further business the Chairman closed the public meeting at 8.00 p.m.

Closed meeting: Clerk's review. Councillors agreed to increase the Clerk's grade in line with the contract. Councillors also agreed that the Clerk would be entitled to claim the working from home allowance.

Draft