

NORTH CLAINES PARISH COUNCIL (NCPC)
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD on Monday 5th August 2024
Held in Okeys Lane Baptist Church Hall at 19:30hrs

PRESENT

Cllr Megan Farmer (MF)
Cllr Vicky Nelms (VN)
Cllr M Tubby (MT)
Cllr P Morgan (PR)
Cllr S Challoner (SR)
Cllr A Harris (AH)
Dst Cllr Daniel Birch (DB)
Dst Cllr Nicolas Wright (NW)
Cty Cllr M Baylis (MB)

1. To receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons for absence.

There were apologies received from Cllr Jean Robb (JR)

2. a) Register of interests; Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.

b) To declare any other Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

Cllr AH declared a pecuniary interest in planning application - W/24/01227/FUL – Britannia Square, Fernhill Heath.

c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

d) Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) are to be with the clerk at least four clear days prior to a meeting.

Councillors who have declared an interest must leave the room for the relevant items as per the code of conduct and the North Claines Parish Council standing orders.

Failure to register or declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest may be a criminal offence.

There were no declarations made.

3 Minutes from the last meeting of the Parish Council

The Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2024.

4 Public Question Time

This is an opportunity for members of the public to ask any questions of the parish council, time to be at the Chairman's discretion. No members of the public were present.

5 Public areas in North Claines Parish.

5.1 Recreation Advisory Group to provide their report.

Brum Recreation

- The piece of equipment – known as the Witches hat needs a new part and the cost is to be around £600 plus shipping. The Council agreed to purchase this part and Cllr SC is to fit this piece
- It was noted that the accessible roundabout is working.
- Report on the Fun on the Brum day. Cllr AH noted that it was a spectacularly successful day and the village turned out in force. Around 7-800 people attends and there had been no complaints. Donations made at the event were given to Night Stop charity who were delighted with the £1395.64 that was raised. The tombola and bottle stall were full of donated items and there was a BBQ. All the three Councils were represented and the Police band lent a lovely atmosphere to the day. It was noted that the committee consisting of Councillors and parishioners worked well and shared the load. A big thankyou was given to all the volunteers and it was agreed to hold this event again on July 19th 2025

Bull Meadow

- Report on Bull Meadow – an adjacent landowner is to remove a tree that has come down that the Council perceive to be a danger to the public.

Other areas

- It was noted that 15 people were needed to observe the bat and the bat count in September.
- 5.2 Report from Events Advisory Group.
- The Scarecrow event is scheduled to go ahead in half term – October 2024.
- 5.3 Opportunity for Councillors to raise matters regarding other open areas in the Parish.
- Sorrel Close hedge cut. TC to visit – this is within the maintenance contract, and Top Cut will side and top the hedge in the autumn. The trees within the hedge have been noted as healthy and are to be left.
 - The conifers at the rear of Agatha Gardens need attention and the Council would like 2-3 of these removed and the roots ground out. Clerk will contact Top Quote for their opinion and a price to remove. More suitable hedging could be put in their place.
 - Oak tree Tamarisk Close. James Grove has submitted two suggestions for this tree and the Council is to ask him how long the works would last and the Council will decide on the final course of action at the next meeting.
 - Conifers growing into white hart bus stop – it was noted that MF would visit this and feedback to the Clerk.
 - It was noted that there was a hole at Jacobs ladder and Dan is to see if he can make this safe – possibly a water stopcock hole?
 - One of the benches on Egg Lane has been run-into and is to be removed.
- 5.3 Oldcource Way. Dst Cllr DB writes to the Council raising concern about this unmaintained area, the maintenance company has visited in the interim and the play area and hedge has been cut back.

6 Highways, Footpaths and Lighting.

- 6.1 Update from Highways/lengthsman Councillor.
- 6.2 Lighting problems in the Parish.
- 6.3 Other highways information or problems.

The pavement on the way to Bull Meadow is very reduced in size due to overgrowth. MB and Highways are to cut it back. The Council ask for this to be done urgently as a mobility scooter turned on its side due to the narrow nature of the pavement and the occupant ended up in the road. The Clerk has emailed MB and highways to ask for this work to be done urgently.

7. Correspondence.

Discussion on correspondence received.

- Highways are to close that part of C2138 Dilmore Lane from its junction with U41002 Jacob Ladder Lane to its junction with U41006 Lower Town. Replacing of anti-corrosion materials and street furniture on the gas pipeline by ACAPS.
Maximum duration: 18 Months. Anticipated duration: 1 day
- Email from Dst Cllr DB on W/24/01192/GPDR to planning officer re concerns from residents.
- DMMO from WCC re current consultation period for footpath – Memorial hall to Ciguena.

8 Planning

- 8.1 Planning applications for consideration.

Report to be received from the planning advisory group on plans that have been submitted.

Application Number: W/24/01493/AGR

Description of Proposal: Agricultural storage barn.

Location: Oak Farm, Ombersley Road, Worcester, WR3 7RH

The Parish Council have no objection to this application.

Application Number: W/24/01413/FUL

Description of proposal: Subdivision of existing bed & breakfast building into 2 no. dwellings & erection of 2 no. bungalows. Closure of existing access and creation of new access. (Resubmission of planning application

W/15/00397/PN) as approved under planning reference W/15/01183/PN -

Variation of condition 11

Location of Proposal: Heathside Guest House, 172 Droitwich Road, Fernhill Heath, Worcester, WR3 7UA

The Parish Council have no objection to this application.

Application Number: W/24/01007/HP

Description of proposal: Single storey side and rear extensions, new dormer window, bay window and frontage gates.

Location: The Chestnuts, Danes Green, Claines, Worcester, WR3 7RU

The Parish Council has no objection to this application - but notes that the Chestnut tree at the front of the property has a TPO on it and planning should be aware of this.

- 8.2 Planning applications approved by Wychavon.
Planning Ref: W/24/00955/HP

Proposal: Two storey side extension & loft conversion (Variation of Condition 2 Ref W/23/01720/HP)

Location: 36 Dilmore Lane, Fernhill Heath, Worcester, WR3 7TF

- 8.3 Planning withdrawn.
Planning Ref: 24/00350/LB
Location of Proposal: Bevere Bridge, Bevere Green. Bevere.
Description of proposal: Maintenance and repairs including structural decking

- 8.4 Update on neighbourhood plan review by the planning advisory group.
This was noted as being on hold due to the change in Government and the possible changes to the planning system as a result.

9 Report from County and District Councillors.

- 9.1 Report from M Bayliss. MB sent his apologies.

- 9.2 Report from N Wright/D Birch.

It was noted that the National NPF was changing.

- Wychavon is bringing in a health and wellbeing scheme to help prevent suicide and it is a District Council initiative targeted at public facing people.
- MF and DB drove around the Parish and spoke about the lack of a village hall. David Manning agrees there is a need for a village hall in the community and a piece of land needs identifying.
- Graffiti on the electric cupboard needs repainting or cleaning. Clerk to contact Nat Grid.

10 Newsletter.

- 10.1 Update on newsletter.
The next newsletter is noted as September and AH and MF will work on this together.

11 Finance.

- 11.1 Invoices for consideration and payment at the Council meeting (Appendix B)

- 11.2 Monies received by the Parish Council.

Nothing to date of agenda.

- 11.3 Report from Finance Advisory Group.

Minutes attached to the agenda of the Finance meeting held on 18th July 2024.

- 11.4 Handy man for council, update. There were two applicants who were interviewed but neither applicant could take the job. SC is looking at a wider field for this role.

12 Parish Maintenance

This is an opportunity for Councillors to raise matters re parish maintenance. PM offered to trim Bull Meadow paths.

Bridge – A38 railway bridge – weeds are growing at base of pavement – Top Cut to do. Manhole cover full of weeds at same location – highways.

13 Councillors additional items for consideration or for matters to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

14 Date of the next Parish Council meetings.

2 September and 7th October 2024

Abbreviations

Clr – Councillor

NCPC – North Claines Parish Council

WCC – Worcestershire County Council

WDC – Wychavon District Council