

NORTH CLAINES PARISH COUNCIL (NCPC)
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD on Monday December 2nd 2024
Held in Okeys Lane Baptist Church Hall at 19;30hrs

PRESENT

Cllr Megan Farmer (MF)
Cllr M Tubby (MT)
Cllr P Morgan (PR)
Cllr S Challoner (SR)
Cllr V.Nelms (VN)
Cllr A Harris (AH)
Cllr J Robb (JR)

Dst Cllr Nicolas Wright (NW)
Dst Cllr Daniel Birch (DB)
Cty Cllr Marc Baylis (MB)

1. **To receive apologies for absence** and to approve reasons for absence.
There were no apologies received.

2. **Declarations of Interest**
 - 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 JR declared an interest in planning application W/24/02304.
 - 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.

3. **Minutes from the last meeting of the Parish Council**
 - 3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on November 4th 2024. The minutes were approved as a correct record and were signed accordingly.
 - 3.2 Progress reports from the previous minutes and any matters arising for information.
It was noted that the yellow lines near the school had been reinstated and MF and MB would visit the overgrown hedges soon in order that action can be taken.

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.

5 Finance.

- 5.1 Invoices for consideration and payment at the Council meeting (Appendix A)
- 5.2 Monies received by the Parish Council.
- 5.3 Report from the Finance Committee
The minutes from the finance committee were noted as correct and signed accordingly.
- 5.4 Consideration of budget for 2025-6
The Parish Council examined the budget as suggested by the finance committee and the Council agreed that there should be no increase in the precept for 2025-26. The budget requirement was therefore approved to be £117,000 the same as the financial year 2024-25.

6 Public areas in North Claines Parish.

- 6.1 The Brum Recreation ground.
 - PD Hughes have been contracted to provide the work to restore the play area to a good standard and will start as soon as possible.
- 6.2 Bull Meadow
 - Purchase of 2 play pieces for Bull Meadow. The Council agreed to two new pieces of equipment for Bull Meadow as the tractor and the log walk as per the quote provided at £14,614 plus VAT. The Clerk will contact Creative Play to confirm the order.
- 6.3 Events run by the Parish Council
Christmas sleigh – risk assessment distributed to Council and approved accordingly.
Dst Cllr DB offered to provide a live tracking service for the children to follow where the sleigh was.
It was agreed that donations will be collected in a sealed bucket to donate to "Food Pantry" in Droitwich and will be handed directly to them.
- 6.4 Opportunity for Councillors to raise matters regarding other open recreation areas in the Parish.
 - Christmas tree outside Agatha Gardens to go up 2nd December 2024.
 - It was noted that the Cedars were disappointed not to have been given a tree this year.
- 6.5 Appointment of a handman for NCPC
It was noted that there had been 5 applications for the role of handyman, who would be asked to provide one day's work per month for the Council. Cllrs PM and SC will interview the applications and will appoint the best person for the job. They will work on a self-employed basis and the Council will pay a fixed daily cost, plus expenses.
- 7. Highways, Footpaths and Lighting.**
- 7.1 Update from Highways/lengthsman Councillor.
It was noted that there was an ongoing issue with parking around Agatha Gardens, and whilst it was noted that it was illegal to park obstructing access to main roads, it was agreed that double yellow lines would be preferred.
- 7.2 Lighting problems in the Parish.

It was noted that the Clerk was having trouble gaining information regarding the lights and responsibility of the Parish Council re their road lights. It was agreed that she would contact Sarah Gilmore at WCC for support on this matter.

8. Correspondence.

Worcestershire County Council. Consultation on managing road verges to promote biodiversity.

9 Planning

9.1 Planning applications for consideration.

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

Planning ref; W/24/02304/AGR

Location; Daniels Farm, Vicarage Lane, Claines, Worcester WR3 7RP

Description of proposal: Prior notification for a new agricultural building.

There was **no objection** to this application.

Planning Ref; W/24/02178/FUL

Location; Firs Farm, Ombersley Road, Worcester, WR3 7RH

Description of proposal; Erection of a single garage/storage building in association with Firs Farm.

There was **no objection** to this application although it was noted that neighbours were concerned regarding the ecological impact.

Planning Ref; W/24/02031/LB and W/24/02030/HP

Bevere Manor West, Bevere Green, Bevere, WR3 7RG

Description of Proposal; Refurbishment of alterations of the west wing of grade II listed Bevere Manor including addition of solar panels.

There was **no objection** to this application.

Additional information received for;

Planning ref; 21/02974/FUL

Location; land at Dilmore Lane, Fernhill Heath.

Description of proposal; Development of 40 dwellings. Additional information = amendments to layout, access and drainage.

It was noted that the additional information did not affect the Councils **objection** to this application and Cllr SC will attend the committee meeting at Wychavon to represent the Parish Council when this is discussed.

Planning ref; W/24/02219/ADV and W/24/02218

Location; Bull Inn, 152 Droitwich Road, Fernhill Heath, WR3 8RS.

Description of proposal; wall mounted advertising screen.

The Parish Council **objected** to this application as it was deemed to be out of keeping with the area.

The Council also noted this was on a busy junction and before agreement is given to this application, the Council would like to see highways approval.

Planning Ref; W/24/02036

Location – Fernhill Heath war memorial club rear of Memorial Hal, 73 Droitwich Road, Fernhill Heath, Worcester WR3 8RJ.

Description of proposal; Certificate of lawful use (existing) for development being carried out in accordance with planning permission ref 23/02169/FUL. The Parish Council reemphasized their **objection** to this proposal.

9.2 Planning applications approved by Wychavon.

Planning Ref: W/24/01646/HP Associated Ref: W/24/01647/LB

Proposal: Timber and canvas canopy extension, and erection of internal wall partition on 2nd floor between kitchenette and bathroom (retrospective)

Location: Beechwood House, Bevere Green, Bevere, Worcester, WR3 7RG

Planning Ref: W/24/01525/CU

Location; Daniels Farm, Vicarage Lane, Claines, Worcester, WR3 7RP

Description of proposal; Change of use of land to permit the siting of an additional 51No. storage containers

9.3 Planning appeal.

APP/H1840/W/24/3346731: Land at Dilmore Lane, WR3 7SY

130 houses (near the Shires Estate)

Approved by the planning inspectorate.

10 Report from County and District Councillors.

10.1 Report from M Bayliss.

- The County is in financial difficulty due to the care obligations.
- They are trying to retain the same budget for Highways.

10.2 Report from N Wright/D Birch.

Nick Wrights comments

- noted that he had visited the residents of the platform housing homes and they are hoping the garage will be refurbished.
- The SWDP should be finalized in 2025 which should help the Parish Council determine planning applications.

Dan Birch comments.

- DB noted that the football club application was not going ahead in Fernhill Heath.
- 21/02974 – Dilmore. If this application is approved, DB will try and ensure it is used positively for the Parish, he is going to ask for shared ownership. This will also provide allotments for the Parish.
- £8m is being made available for the Lido and the
- The anaerobic digester in Hindlip is fiercely opposed by the residents and people are encouraged to sign the online petition.
- W/24/3346731: Land at Dilmore Lane -this has been approved at appeal, there was an original willingness to sell a piece of land to NCPC, and Dan will approach the developers to this effect.

11 Newsletter and social media

11.1 Update on newsletter. Nothing to report.

11.2 Cllr AH is handling the social media for the Council and there were no issues reported.

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

13 Date of the next Parish Council meetings.

3 February 2024

3 March 2024

7 April 2024 plus an Annual Parish Meeting.

Abbreviations

Cllr – Councillor

NCPC – North Claines Parish Council

WCC – Worcestershire County Council

WDC – Wychavon District Council