NORTH CLAINES PARISH COUNCIL (NCPC)
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD on Monday March 2nd 2026
Held in Okeys Lane Baptist Church Hall at 19:30 hrs

PRESENT

Cllr Farmer (MF)
Cllr Harris (AH)
Cllr R Whitgrove (RW)
Cllr B Allen (BA)
Cllr E Johnstone (EJ)

Dst Cllr Nicolas Wright (NW)
Cty Cllr S James (SJ)

1. To receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons for absence.
Cllr Tubby (MT) Cllr V Nelms (VN) Cllr S Challoner (SC) and Cllr M Challoner (MC)

2. Declarations of Interest and Council vacancies
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.
c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. Cllr MT declared an interest in the planning application on Okeys Lane.
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 The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2026 were confirmed as a correct record and signed.

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.
Members of the public attended to discuss development on Station Road.

5 Finance.
5.1 Invoices for consideration and payment at the Council meeting.
Finance March 2025/26 approved as below.
Please note all invoices are brought to each meeting and Cllrs were able to examine them.

Top Cut Mowing Services Contract mowing for February 26	£3678
Nature Sign Design 4 aluminium signs (previously agreed 3)	£4620
Worcestershire CALC Training for 4 sessions	£192
Worcestershire CALC Training for 1 session	£48
Clerk salary, NI/Tax/Pension for February 2026	Confidential
Green Self Storage	£99
Vodaphone. March 2026	£19.30DD
AI Media Shared web hosting annual	£100
Information Commissioners Office	£47 DD
Warndon football club Donation	£100

5.2 The Finance meeting has been held, and the minutes were signed as a correct record.

5.3 Internal audit arrangements for 2025-26. The internal auditor is meeting with the clerk on Monday 9th March to go through the years finances.

5.4 Bank reconciliation to the end of February. £89,186.73

6 Public areas in North Claines Parish.

6.1 The Brum Recreation ground
Lighting on the Rec – The Council have previously approved the work for the electricity work on the lights on the recreation ground and Cllr MT is to action this work.

6.2 Bull Meadow

- Bird feeder sculptures. Two quotes received and for the Council to consider this action. The Council approved the bird feeder as submitted by Steve the Blacksmith at a cost of £2000 galvanised and installed.
- 4 signs for Bull Meadow. To be funded by a grant for £5775 - " Projects to help integration in the community".
  The additional sign will be to provide the history of Bull Meadow so this will be interesting for people who live here and for school visits/history society etc. The Council approved the 4th sign.
- Cllr AH noted that she was investigating the use of rubber matting on the pathway on Bull Meadow at a cost of around £13 for 1.5m. More information will be brought to the next meeting.

6.3 Events run by the Parish Council update. Cllr MF.
Fun on the Brum – 18th July 2026. It was agreed that toilet facilities would be booked for this date until the end of summer. MF is collecting bric-a-brac and bottles for this occasion, and it was agreed that the profits from this should be evenly distributed between air ambulance and St Richards Hospice. Scarecrows are planned for the Autumn half term.

6.4 Opportunity for Councillors to raise matters regarding other open recreation areas in the Parish.

7. Highways, Footpaths and Lighting.

7.1 Update from Highways/lengthsman Councillor.
Cllr RW is arranging for the drains on Station Road to be cleared.

7.2 Lighting problems in the Parish.
Light number 13 on Station Road has been knocked down, and the clerk has raised a report to highways asking for it to be replaced. Streetlighting Report (Reference #106040). This light is the property of WCC.

7.3 Highways information or problems.
Road naming - Fox Drive, Badger View & Mink Gardens will be used for the William Davies Homes development off Dilmore Lane.

7.4 Update from the Councillor re the Parish contractor. Cllr SC not available for comment. It was noted that Jamie Wyton would like instructions early in the month to enable work to be completed in a timely manner.

7.5 Trees and Hedges update. It was noted that there had been a lot of complaints regarding the hedge cutting in the area. This was due to the unsightly appearance after flail cutting which is the cost-effective method of cutting hedges. The Council noted that when the leaves grow again, they were confident that the hedges would recover.
It was noted that the cutting of the hedge on Gentian Close had been a large task and would cost £3.5k. This hedge will be included on the annual contract and actioned yearly in the future to avoid this type of expense.
New hedge whips had been planted in various locations where the hedges were thin.

7.6 Dilmore Lane missing footpath update. Correspondence attached to agenda. MF and the Clerk were in correspondence with the developer re this ongoing issue and it is anticipated that this will be built in the next financial year.

8. Correspondence.

CALC. Councillor training planning pack.
Wychavon newsletter
Road closure notices
Briefing note following meeting of North Claines Parish Council and Communities.gov.uk from 9th February 2026.
Parishioners re hedge cutting over the last month.
Calc newsletter
Wychavon invitation to consultation on local govt reorganization.

9 Planning

9.1 Planning applications for consideration.

Application Number : W/26/00262/RM
Location: Land At (Os 8436 5879), Ombersley Road, Worcester
Description of Proposal: Approval of Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale pursuant to outline planning permission ref. W/22/02148/OUT for the construction of a 4 bedroom detached house.
The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

Application Number : W/26/00247/HP
Location: Highways, 277 Droitwich Road, Fernhill Heath, Worcester, WR3 7SU
Description of Proposal: Construction of front Porch.
The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

9.2 Planning applications approved by Wychavon.

Planning Ref: W/26/00017/PIP
Proposal: Permission in Principle for residential development of up to a

maximum of 6 dwellings
Location: Oak Farm, Okeys Lane, Fernhill Heath, WORCESTER, WR3 8RL

Planning Ref: W/25/02545/FUL
Proposal: Proposed construction of a new estate office including parking (Use
Location: Daniels Farm, Vicarage Lane, Claines, Worcester, WR3 7RP

9.4 Planning application
Potential planning application homes off Station Road by Lovell Partnerships. The Council agreed that they did not wish to meet the developer in this instance.

9.5 Offer of land for a potential new hall/hub for NCPC and the subsequent borrowing of money to fund this Community Building.
As Cllr SC was unable to attend the meeting, this was deferred until April.

10 Report from County and District Councillors.

10.1 Report from S James

10.2 SJ to contact Platform Housing re the gardens that look as if they are about to fall on the Brum (Cresswell Close) Clerk has also alerted the Housing group and noted that this presents a danger to the public.

10.3 Report from N Wright

- SWDPR about to be adopted and this will have a positive impact on the planning process.

11 Newsletter and social media

11.1 Update on newsletter. The newsletter is currently being delivered around the Parish.

11.2 The website has been updated to accommodate the information on the memory trees. AH has the access codes to update information as desired.

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.

13th April 2026
18th May 2026
1st June 2026

Abbreviations
Cllr – Councillor
NCPC – North Claines Parish Council
WCC – Worcestershire County Council
WDC – Wychavon District Council