

**NORTH CLAINES PARISH COUNCIL (NCPC)**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD on Monday April 13<sup>th</sup> 2026**  
**Held in Okeys Lane Baptist Church Hall at 19:30 hrs**

**PRESENT**

Cllr Farmer (MF)  
Cllr Harris (AH)  
Cllr R Whitgrove (RW)  
Cllr Tubby (MT)  
Cllr V Nelms (VN)  
Cllr S Challoner (SC)  
Cllr M Challoner (MC)

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

- 1. To receive apologies for absence** and to approve reasons for absence.  
Cllr B Allen (BA) and Cllr E Johnstone (EJ)
  
- 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.
  - 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 and IT policy approval.**
  - 3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2026 was signed as a correct record
  - 3.2 Progress reports from the previous minutes and any matters arising for information were considered within the meeting and documented accordingly.
  - 3.3 The Council approved the IT policy, and the Clerk will publish this on the Council website.
  
- 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.

- Parishioner noted pavement in bad condition on Station Rd, (clerk reported to WCC 111055)
- Parishioner asked if a dog waste bin could be installed on Firlands Close.
- Pat Holland – PCSO West Mercia attended and noted that issues with car parking could be sent to her with evidence for action. She will also be meeting with Platform Housing to address some issues. Her email is droitwichwest.snt@westmercia.police.uk

## 5 Finance.

### 5.1 Invoices for consideration and payment at the Council meeting.

Please note all invoices are brought to each meeting and Cllrs are welcome to examine them.

Top Cut Mowing Services Contract mowing for March 26	£3678
Clerk salary, NI/Tax/Pension for March 2026	Confidential
Green Self Storage Rent for April 2026	£99
Vodafone. April 2026	£21.10
Droitwich Spa CVS Rent April-June 26	£1065
Pre-planning charge for storage container on Bull Meadow	£54.94
Rospa Play Safety. Annual play inspection	£261.60
Meg Farmer Waders for Bull Meadow	£27.98
Mi Pass Wychavon	£400
Ocean Blue printing of the Parish Focus	£533.25
Alison Harris repayment for key safe	£7.99
Alson Harrs repayment for solar camera	£4.99
Alison Harris repayment for items re placing signs on Bull Meadow	£98.80
Top Cut Mowing services. Hedges Gention Close	£4200
Top Cut Mowing services. Other trees and hedge	£537
Viking Printer ink	£479.96
J Wyton Work in March 2026	£150
Top Cut Mowing services Addition to contract May 26	£1236
Top Cut Mowing services parish lengthsman cost March 26	£78
Amazon Décor for community noticeboard on Bull Meadow	£7.99
Amazon Decor	£11.39
J Wyton Services Ltd. Maintenance for Jan – Mar 2026	£459.70
A Harris items purchased for sign installation, lock box, camera	£111.78
Warndon Villages FC Donation as agreed at previous meeting	£100

### Receipts

Income from the savings account for Jan- March 2026 incl	£175.70
--	---------

- 5.2 The end of year Finance meeting has been held prior to this meeting.
- 5.3 Internal audit arrangements for 2025-26. Clerk has met with the internal auditor in March, and the final documents are to be sent as necessary.
- 5.4 Bank reconciliation to the end of March 2026 is £70, 532.
- 5.5 The staffing committee reported that they had met and a successful review was undertaken and the salary was approved as SCP 37 as per the local government services pay agreement.

## **6 Public areas in North Claines Parish.**

- 6.1 The Brum Recreation ground
- Update on electric work. Cllr MT is to inform J Telford that the completion of the work on the lights on the Brum is still awaited.
  - The Council approved the removal of two dead trees on the Brum.
  - It was noted that the football posts need moving to protect the Brum. Clerk will contact Top Cut to action this.
  - It was noted that the Play area needed attention and it was noted that a project needed to be produced to enable grants to be targeted for this purpose.
- 6.2 Bull Meadow
- Cllr DW agreed to provide a report into the condition of the play equipment on Bull Meadow and the Clerk will contact the suppliers re the warped surfaces and other items.
  - Clerk to purchase stick on signs re ownership of the items.
  - AH still investigating path matting.
  - Information Signs have been installed on Bull Meadow – one more to come, AH submitted expenses for this.
  - A lock box for Bull Meadow has been installed with a spare key on Sling Lane.
- 6.3 Events run by the Parish Council update.  
Fun on the Brum is to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> July and will be followed by Fernhill Heath in Bloom.

## **7. Highways, Footpaths and Lighting.**

- 7.1 Update from Highways/lengthsman Councillor. Nothing to note.
- 7.2 Lighting problems in the Parish. There were no lights out to report.
- 7.3 Update from the Councillor re the Parish contractor. Nothing to note.
- 7.4 Trees and Hedges update.
- Cllr MF and SC visited residents regarding overgrown hedges, and it was noted that the hedge at number 9 Fir Tree Road was blocking the footpath. BB from Highways to contact them in August after bird nesting season is over.
  - Platform housing houses adjacent to the Brum with overgrown and collapsing hedges present a danger to the public. CPSO PH has a contact with Housing and will arrange a meeting.
- 7.5 Dilmore Lane missing footpath update. Cllr MF was in communication with Sarah at Taylor Wimpey and is getting updates on this issue. There appears to be a miscommunication re the traffic management around this, and further information will be sought.

## **8. Correspondence.**

The Council are to raise any matters regarding correspondence as per the correspondence list.  
The correspondence was noted.

## **9 Planning**

- 9.1 Planning applications for consideration.

Application Number : W/26/00630/FUI

Location: Land Off Green Lane Adjacent To, Firs Farm, Ombersley Road, Worcester

Description of Proposal: Erection of 5 dwellings. Planning Committee are to let the Clerk know of their decision for this.

Application Number : W/26/00107/FUL

Location: Linacres Cottage, Linacres Farm, Egg Lane, Claines, Worcester, WR3 7SB

Description of Proposal: Retrospective side extension and new front porch and change of use of land to residential.

There was no objection to this application.

**9.2 Planning applications approved by Wychavon.**

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

Location: Land At (Os 8436 5879), Ombersley Road, Worcester

Planning Ref: W/26/00108/HP

Proposal: Erection of a detached garage and associated works

Location: Martinbrook Farmhouse, Lower Town, Claines, Worcester, WR3 7RY

Planning Ref: W/26/00247/HP

Proposal: Construction of front Porch

Location: Highways, 277 Droitwich Road, Fernhill Heath, Worcester, WR3 7SU

**9.3 Appeals to the planning inspectorate**

Appeal Decision allowed

Land At (OS 8571 5922), Danes Green, Claines WR3 7RS

**9.4 Offer of land for a potential new hall/hub for NCPC via Lioncourt developments**

Cllr SC to update the Council and discuss the next steps.

- It was noted that Cllr SC had met with Calc and the Communities.gov team on this and had received positive feedback.
- A visit to Wichenford Village Hall went ahead and a meeting with their architect. Quotes were received for the architect and quantity surveyor.
- Results of the consultation for the proposed village hall. There were 46 replies which voted 50% in favour for the hall and 44% that it should be funded from the precept.
- It was agreed that a display-stand for information on the proposed hall be in place for the Fun on the Brum day. Wychavon communities' team had noted their willingness to participate.
- The application for the Lioncourt development has been paused for the time being and it was agreed that, until the application is received the resolution to borrow would be delayed.

**10 Report from County and District Councillors.**

- 10.1 Report from S James. The matter of the missing footpath at Dilmore is ongoing. An application for roadworks has been granted for the work to go ahead.
- 10.2 Report from N Wright/D Birch. It was noted that the SWDPR had been approved and this meant that the 5-year housing supply and 5% buffer was reached. This means that objections to speculative development (Staton Rd and Dilmore Lane) will have a better chance of being upheld. It is anticipated that the Government will review the housing numbers in July and the 5-year housing supply and buffer will be exceeded. Neighbourhood plans are still being encouraged for this reason and Cllr SC will contact the planning consultant for a quote to revise North Claines plan.

**11 Newsletter and social media**

- 11.1 Update on newsletter. The newsletter is to come out soon and it was noted that Facebook followers have increased. The Council approved the inclusion of a pdf of the Focus on the Facebook page.

**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.**

Cllr VN sent apologies for the May meeting.

18<sup>th</sup> May 2026

1<sup>st</sup> June 2026

6<sup>th</sup> July 2026

No meeting in August

Abbreviations

Cllr – Councillor

NCPC – North Claines Parish Council

WCC – Worcestershire County Council

WDC – Wychavon District Council