

NORTH CLAINES PARISH COUNCIL (NCPC)
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD on Monday 5th October 2026
Held in Okeys Lane Baptist Church Hall at 19:30 hrs

PRESENT

Cllr Farmer (MF)
Cllr Harris (AH)
Cllr V Nelms (VN)
Cllr S Challoner (SC)
Cllr M Challoner (MC)
Cllr B Allen (BA)
Cllr E Johnstone (EJ)
Cllr R Whitgrove (RW)
Cllr M Tubby (MT)
Dst Cllr Nicolas Wright (DW)

1. **To receive apologies for absence** and to approve reasons for absence. Apologies were accepted from P Hill (PH) (NW) Cty Cllr S James (SJ) and Dst Cllr D Birch (DB)
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.

MF declared an DP interest in the construction of the Bull Meadow path and left the meeting at this point.

AH declared an interest in a financial payment to herself.
 - c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. There were no other declarations.
 - 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 3rd September 2026.

The minutes were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.
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 were approved as follows.
Please note all invoices are brought to each meeting and Cllrs are welcome to examine them.

Clerk salary, NI/Tax/Pension for September 2026	Confidential
Top Cut mowing services September 2026	£3861.60
Top Cut mowing services other items for August 2026	£1368
Chad and Co Pay roll for the Clerk	£375
S Jones Removal of bullrushes on Bull Meadow	£40
Ocean Blue. Printing for newsletter	£446
Vodafone. September 29, 2026	£21.80
AI Media. Website charges	£80
Stocklock monthly storage fees	£130.90
PKF LittleJohn audit fees for 2025-26	£504
Creative play Deposit for the play shelter as prev agreed	£3484.20
A Harris screws for the memorial tree discs	£9.95
M Farmer. Postcrete for installation of fox	£14.53

- 5.2 Receipts
- | | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Wychavon precept pt 2 | £60,255 |
| For memorial bench | £1,500 |
- 5.3 A Finance meeting was held before this meeting of the Parish Council and the proposed budget was agreed to be put to the Council at the November meeting of the full Council.
- 5.5 Bank reconciliation to the end of September - £141,103.85

6 Public areas in North Claines Parish.

- 6.1 The Brum Recreation ground
Installation of horse in place of the roundabout. The Parish Council noted the additional costs to include surfacing and agreed to install the horse at £14,852.99. It was noted that the insurance company had been approached and given their approval for this piece specifically.
- 6.2 Bull Meadow
Cllr MF proposed the purchase of 2 new fruit trees to replace ones that have died and the Council approved this purchase.
It was noted that G Gartland had cleared the wet area as previously approved and an invoice is awaited. It is hoped that the local school will make or provide bird boxes for the area.
The fox as donated by the Mens group is to be installed shortly.
Further discussions on the options for resurfacing the entrance to Bull Meadow as initially discussed in September 2026 went ahead and further quotes are to be obtained by Cllr VH.
Further discussions and updates on the options to repair the path on Bull Meadow went ahead and further quotes are to be obtained by Cllr VH.
- 6.3 Opportunity for Councillors to raise matters regarding other open recreation areas in the Parish.

- 6.4 Cllr NW has noted that he has £5000 that could be given to the Parish for various projects.
It was noted that this could be used for a shed or a noticeboard.
It was also noted that a bench could also be provided for Danes Green.
NW noted that the new planning changes meant that Dst Cllrs could not refer planning applications to planning committee unless they were for more than 9 houses. This will proceed at the start of November and in NWs opinion will restrict local input into planning.
- 6.5 Platform Housing and PCSO Pat Holland are investigating a hedge on a property on Cresswell Close that backs onto the Brum, aiming to establish responsibility of the hedge.

7. Highways, Footpaths and Lighting.

- 7.1 Update from Highways/lengthsman Councillor. It was noted that the Council were still waiting for the installation of the VAS poles around the parish.
- 7.2 Lighting problems in the Parish. Nothing reported to date.
- 7.3 Parish contractor. Two quotes have been received, Council to discuss/agree which contractor to appoint.
It was agreed to use Lee at £20 per hour for odd jobs and if work was beyond his capability, then to approach J.Wyton at £30 per hour. It was noted that a monthly action list would be produced.
- 7.4 Trees and Hedges update. Cllr MF to ask BB from WCC to visit the overgrown hedges to arrange for letters to be sent to residents for action.
- 7.5 Designated Map Modification Order 8th September – public enquiry approved the designation of a footpath from Cyguena to the Memorial Club. Report from Cllr SC. This had been officially adopted and the path will be 0.75 to 0.9m wide. This action was started in 2017 and the Council were delighted to have this completed. The public access sign will go up soon.

8. Correspondence.

The Council are to raise any matters regarding correspondence as per the correspondence list.
It was noted that to use Kennels Lane as a alternative to the closure of other roads was not suitable due too the nature of Kennels Lane.

9 Planning

- 9.1 Planning applications for consideration.

26/02000/FUL

Pound Cottage, 27 Dilmore Lane, Fernhill Heath, Worcester,
WR3 7TE

Description of Proposal: Single storey extension to side of existing dwelling, and alterations.

Cllr SC to send comments from the Planning Group to the Clerk.

W/26/01949/FUL

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

Description of Proposal: Erection of 4 dwellings and associated access.

The Parish Council objected to this application and Cllr SC would send planning comments to the Clerk.

9.2 Planning applications approved by Wychavon.

Nothing to date of the agenda.

9.3 Neighbourhood plan update.

This is ongoing and currently the NPF requirements are being examined.

9.4 Enforcement

Enforcement notified re 13 Butchers Walk after a parishioner emailed the Council re concerns re commercial short-term holiday letting.

10 Report from County and District Councillors.

10.1 Report from S James

10.2 Report from N Wright/D Birch.

11 Newsletter and social media

The Autumn 2026 Parish Focus was distributed throughout the Parish.

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

The Clerk will also email network rail re the footbridge over the railway to check if it is safe and to ask them to repaint it.

13 Date of the next Parish Council meetings.

2nd November 2026

7th December 2026

No meeting in January 2027

Abbreviations

Cllr – Councillor

NCPC – North Claines Parish Council

WCC – Worcestershire County Council

WDC – Wychavon District Council

Actions from October 2026

- 6.2 The Brum Recreation ground
Installation of horse in place of the roundabout. Clerk/wicksteed
- 6.2 Bull Meadow
- Cllr MF proposed the purchase of 2 new fruit trees to replace ones that have died and the Council approved this purchase. Clerk
 - The fox as donated by the Mens group is to be installed shortly. MF
 - Further discussions on the options for resurfacing the entrance to Bull Meadow as initially discussed in September 2026 went ahead and further quotes are to be obtained by Cllr VH.
 - Further discussions and updates on the options to repair the path on Bull Meadow went ahead and further quotes are to be obtained by Cllr VH.
- 6.6 Opportunity for Councillors to raise matters_regarding other open recreation areas in the Parish.
- 6.7 Cllr NW has noted that he has £5000 that could be given to the Parish for various projects. Clerk to apply
- 6.8 Platform Housing and PCSO Pat Holland are investigating a hedge on a property on Cresswell Close that backs onto the Brum, aiming to establish responsibility of the hedge.
- 7. Highways, Footpaths and Lighting.**
- 7.6 Update from Highways/lengthsman Councillor. It was noted that the Council were still waiting for the installation of the VAS poles around the parish. BBarnes
- Trees and Hedges update. Cllr MF to ask BB from WCC to visit the overgrown hedges to arrange for letters to be sent to residents for action.
- 12 The Clerk will also email network rail re the footbridge over the railway to check if it is safe and to ask them to repaint it.

Actions from September 2026

Red – actions. Blue – updates

Actions outstanding from previous meetings.

12.1 Parishioner asked for dog bn on Firlands Close at April meeting of NCPC. The Council agreed to this, and MF will visit the area and send a location to the Clerk. [To be confirmed](#)

6.6 The Brum Recreation ground

- LEAP money from the Dilmore Lane development (Lioncourt) should be used to replace the play equipment as required. To be followed up.
- dedication plaques needed to be affixed to the benches on Bull Meadow. **Cllr MF to arrange.**

Actions from the September meeting

6. Recreation Committee

Play area restoration

Cllr MF is to obtain quotes for the replacement of the "wetpour" surfacing so that this can be included within the budget for 2027-28

Suggestions to replace broken roundabout with a seesaw or rocking horse - £9129.74. [The insurers have accepted this and the final quote is to be received.](#)

New play shelter [This has been ordered.](#)

Bull Meadow Pathway **Cllr VH** to obtain further information for each of these quotes. Other quotes to be sought from two other bodies.

Entrance to Bull Meadow path **VH** is to obtain detailed information re this work so that the Council can make an informed decision.

Final information board update. [AH to work on this board.](#)

Bird feeder installation. Risk assessment to be done by Recreation Committee.

Concrete Fox installation. Parish Council agreed to a donation to Mens Sheds for this at £100. [\(Clerk awaiting BACS\)](#)

The hedge from the pedestrian entrance to the first gate needs infilling and some metal work removing. [The Clerk has asked Top Cut to quote for this work.](#)

7.7

VAS posts. Council agreed to ask for posts at these suitable sites. [BB at WCC contacted.](#)