

Clerk: Maxi Freeman, Charlwood, Kineton, nr Guiting Power, Cheltenham, GL54 5UG

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MINUTES: of the Naunton Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 11th March 2025 at 7.00 pm.
 PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Nicki Gibberson (Chairman), Keith Russell, David Pickup.
 GCC Councillor MacKenzie-Charrington, CDC Councillor Wilkins
 APOLOGIES: Received in advance from Charles Hanks (Chairman).
 IN ATTENDANCE: Maxi Freeman, Clerk
 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: One

- 1) To receive Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda (Localism Act 2011) None.
- 2) To hear representations from the public regarding items on the agenda. None.
- 3) Approval and signing of the previous meeting's minutes (January 2025). Councillors agreed that the minutes were accurate and the Vice Chairman agreed to sign them as she had chaired the last meeting.
- 4) **Matters Arising.** GCC Councillor MacKenzie-Charrington reported that he would not be standing again at the May elections but that there would be an increase in the number of GCC Councillors from 53 to 55.

Looking further ahead, the Devolution programme would mean that all the district councils in the GCC area would merge under GCC. Some services may be delegated to urban areas but there should be no difference for parish councils. The objective is cost savings. Each unitary authority must cover a minimum of 500,000 residents to enable cost savings and GCC covers 650,000. Splitting the county would reduce the number of residents to less than is feasible. If a mayoral system is proposed, it must cover 1.5 million residents so Gloucestershire would need to merge with a neighbouring county.

New mandatory housing targets for the county require three times the previous number of new houses to be built. However, 85% of the county is in the a designated National Landscape, which means that new homes must be built on the remaining 15% of land. Towns offer the sustainability required. In the North Cotswolds, development will focus on Moreton-in-Marsh.

Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington announced a 'Made in Gloucestershire' campaign to support local products including food and manufacturing. This would also support the council's farming tenants

A national crime report found that the North Cotswolds is the safest part of the county, with only 48.9 crimes p.a. per 1,000 population, compared with 150 in Gloucester. .

5) Planning applications

To comment:

25/00502/FUL Roundhill Farm, Lower Harford GL54 3AQ. Change of use from agricultural outbuilding to holiday let, extension and associated works. Councillors agreed to post 'No objections' comment with the following conditions:

- a) The Heritage Statement notes that the building is sited between two listed heritage farm buildings. CDC should consider the impact of any building works in the context of pre-existing heritage assets and their contribution to the heritage architecture of the setting.

- b) The plan proposes that 10 windows are inserted into the roof and that a further 5 windows are built into the new kitchen extension. This is likely to radically alter the suitability of the area for bat roosting and nesting, whether bat boxes are installed as mitigation or not.
- c) Although the location is secluded and unlikely to be visible to other residents in the area, the presence of these 15 windows will also affect the quality of the night sky and would not support the Council's commitment to the Dark Skies initiative. Automatic blinds could help mitigate the impact. **Action: Clerk to post comments to the CDC planning portal.**

To confirm comments made between meetings:

24/02718FUL Colts House, Dale Street. Changes to approved new roof of conservatory. Councillors agreed that the 'No objections' comment submitted reflected their views.

25/00053/FUL 4 Mill View, Naunton. Demolition of single storey rear extension, erection of 2-storey rear extension and side porch extension. Councillors agreed that the 'No objections' comment submitted reflected their views.

- 6) **Dog waste disposal.** Councillors decided to attach laminated signs on gates in the village showing where the nearest dog waste disposal bins were located to encourage dog walkers to dispose of the bags properly instead of leaving them in the village. **Action: Cllr Gibberson to design signs and install them.**
- 7) **20's Plenty signage.** Councillors decided to attach signs to the four village entrance signs already in place. The '20's plenty' signs will be the same size as the village signs. **Action: Cllr Gibberson to design signs and install them.**
- 8) **Neighbourhood Plan.** Cllr Gibberson reported on progress. **Action: Cllr Gibberson to draft list of steps required for the PC to draft a neighbourhood plan. Clerk to check whether Sport England would be able to protect facilities in the village.**
- 9) **Internal Financial Controls.** Cllrs Pickup and Russell had completed the internal financial controls report and councillors accepted the report.
- 10) **Emergency Plan.** Cllr Gibberson reported that the Village Hall committee had agreed to allow the village hall to be the 'safe place' for the village in an emergency. **Action: Clerk to forward copy to the Chairman to check contact details. Clerk to forward completed plan to CDC.**
- 11) **Information Commissioner's Office.** Councillors decided not to register with the Information Commissioner's Office as the minimal amount of personal data stored is not processed in the ways listed by the ICO.
- 12) **Asset Register.** Cllr Hanks will check items on the asset register except those related to flood prevention. Cllrs Russell and Pickup will check flood kit. **Action: Councillors to update register for the next meeting.** Cllrs discussed making residents aware of the kit, which is available to all, although the majority of flood-affected houses should already be aware. **Action: Clerk to include notice on website giving Cllrs Russell and Pickup as contacts for sandbags etc for any property in danger of flooding. Cllrs Pickup and Russell to have two new keys cut for the unit where the sand bags are kept.**

13) Assets