

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

www.nauntonpc.org

MINUTES: of the Annual Naunton Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 18th May 2026 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Charles Hanks, Keith Russell, David Pickup, Wendy James.
CDC Cllr Wilkins, GCC Cllr Bradley

APOLOGIES Received in advance from Cllr Gibberson

IN ATTENDANCE: Maxi Freeman, Clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None

1. **To elect the Chairman of the Council for the year 2026/27**
Cllr Pickup proposed and Cllr James seconded Cllr Hanks as Chairman. Cllr Hanks accepted the nomination and signed the Declaration of Acceptance form.
2. **To appoint the Vice Chairman of the Council for the year 2026/27**
Cllr Russell proposed and Cllr Hanks seconded Cllr Gibberson as Vice Chairman.
3. **To receive Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda (Localism Act 2011)** None.
4. **To hear representations from the public** regarding items on the agenda. None.
5. **Approval of minutes of the previous meeting (March 2026)** The meeting approved the minutes, and the Chairman signed them. **Action: Clerk to post to website.**
6. **Matters Arising** The Chairman asked GCC Cllr Bradley to give his report:
 - * Cllr Bradley had attended a meeting where local farmers explained the pressures they were under. To help, Cllr Bradley and Cllr Corps proposed that GCC support farmers by prioritising local food and drink anywhere that GCC has control over supplies e.g. schools, offices. GCC adopted this policy.>
 - * Gloucestershire, when reorganised, would have to belong to a larger 'Combined Authority'. The options are: WECA (West of England Combined Authority) which stretches as far as Somerset; or combining with Worcestershire, Warwickshire and Herefordshire (Mercia). Cllr Bradley expressed a strong preference for Mercia as being more relevant to this area.
 - * At an Environment Committee Cllr Bradley raised the issue of 'failed' potholes. GCC has no data to monitor this issue.
 - * The Community Speedwatch programme has been abolished.
 - * GCC Council voted in favour of a review of housing targets covering the whole county's position (as well as the existing reviews by the 6 District Councils).
 - * A New Minerals and Waste policy is expected later this year.
 - * The Government consultation on reorganisation has now closed. A decision on the proposed structure had been expected in July but may be postponed.

Cllr Wilkins reported that:

- * Staff are leaving CDC due to the imminent reorganisation. This includes Enforcement officers. Enforcement is not a statutory duty. Officers can take action if it is in the public interest.
- * New housing targets are overriding protective measures such as the National Landscape (AONB) priorities. This is setting a precedent for developers to apply for permission where it would never previously have been permitted. Areas without adequate infrastructure are still protected.
- * CDC is supporting the 'Future Gloucestershire' <https://futuregloucestershire.org.uk/> initiative comprising 10 programmes run by GCC and the 6 District Councils to prepare for reorganisation. The area is well prepared for the future.

The Chairman then reported that the overhanging trees on Summerhill have been trimmed or removed. Hedges will be addressed in October after bird nesting season. He had also contacted the Snow Warden who agreed to bring grit down to the village for storage at the Village Hall/bins.

- 7. **Insurance.** Councillors decided to renew the policy with Community First. **Action: Clerk to arrange payment.**
- 8. **Planning applications**
New applications: Councillors had no objections to 26/01400/FUL and 26/01310/FUL. **Action: Clerk to comment on the planning portal.**
- 9. **Dog waste disposal signs.** No report available.
- 10. **Assets and risk assessment**

Recreation field & benches	Cllr Hanks reported that there were no issues with these. Councillors noted end of year ringfenced funds of £1,321.42 which the Council holds for the Naunton Recreation Ground Management Committee.
Play area	Cllr Hanks reported that the annual RosPA report had highted that swings needed attention. Action: Clerk to contact Greenfields for repairs to their equipment.
Flood Monitoring	Cllr Russell reported that the river was flowing smoothly and that water levels were currently low.
Village Hall	Cllr Russell reported that the Village Hall Trust had put good financial and event planning systems in place.

- 11. **Defibrillator familiarisation.** Councillors decided to organise familiarisation and CPR in October for residents at a cost of £340 with Severnside defibrillators. Tuesdays or Wednesday were recommended. **Action: Clerk to check regular activities scheduled for October. Cllr James to ask residents for suitable dates.**
- 12. **Annual fees for use of recreation field.** Councillors decided to keep the existing rates.
- 13. **Governance.** Councillors approved the current Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct. **Action: Clerk to update website.**
- 14. **AGAR – Certificate of Exemption from external audit.** Councillors approved the Certificate. **Action: Clerk to submit form to external auditor.**
- 15. **AGAR - Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26**
 - a. **Annual accounts: Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2025/26.** Councillors approved the annual accounts.
 - b. **Annual accounts: Section 2 Accounting Statement 2025/26** Councillors approved the accounting statement.
 - c. **Annual accounts: Notice of commencement of Public Rights.** Councillors noted dates. **Action: Clerk to post documents to the website and Notice to noticeboard..**

21) Finances

- a. **To receive current accounts and bank reconciliation**
Current account balance A/c 00462740: £37661.61 (11th May 2026)
Deposit account balance A/c 01612290: £494.77 (11th May 2026)
Councillors approved the bank balances and the reconciliation. The Chairman signed the reconciliation.

Draft

Naunton Parish Council Reconciliation			
Period 1 April 2025 to 12 May 2026			
Current account 00462740 Online			
	Balance @ 11 May 2026	£37,661.61	
Deposit account 01612290 Online			
	Balance @ 11 May 2026	£494.77	
Total		£38,156.38	
Less outstanding cheques			£0.00
Reconciled balance		£38,156.38	
Cash book summary			
	Opening balance 1.4.25	£24,195.87	
	Add receipts to date	£14,575.43	
	Less payments to date	£614.92	
Cash book balance		£38,156.38	
Signed:			
Clerk & RFO			
Chairman			
Date: 18th May 2026			

a) Direct debits and standing orders for 2026/7.

Councillors approved the following:

- Lloyds Bank account fee £4.25 per month per account
- Public Works Loans Board (1) every 6 months £1,616.95
- Public Works Loans Board (2) every 6 months £1,610.97
- PATA payroll services £40.35 per quarter
- St Andrews Church £1 p.a.

b) Payments and receipts

The following payments were approved:				
Epay	M Freeman	Clerk's salary April/May @ £230.07 p m	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)	£534.86
Epay	HMRC	Tax	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)	£76.80
	RoSPA	Annual inspection report	LG(MP)A 1976 s.19 (3)	£128.40
Epay	GAPTC	Annual subscription 25 26	LGA 1972 s.143	£111.86
Epay	GAPTC	GDPR training (approved at March meeting. Mandatory)	LGA 1972 s.111	£90.67
Epay	GPFA	Annual membership 26 27	LG(MP)A 1976 s.19 (3)	£50.00
Epay	Community First	Annual insurance	LGA 1972 s.111	£431.52

The following credits were noted:				
	Deposit a/c	Interest April and May 2025		£0.43
	CDC	Precept part 1		£14,475.00
	J Duval	Rent of Recreation field		£50.00
	B Hawkins	Rent of Recreation field		£50.00
Payments between meetings:				
PAY	Lloyds	Account fees @ £4.25 each p mth		£4.25

22) Dates of 2026/27 meetings Naunton PC normally meets on the third Monday of the month, every other month. The following dates were approved:

27th July, 21st September, 16th November, 18th January, 15th March, 17th May (27/28)

23) Items for the next meeting:

Councillors noted that some properties in the village were using a large number of lights at night, causing light pollution in a dark skies area, but that action was thought to be limited.

Note: The Clerk announced that she was retiring. The Council is actively seeking a replacement. Details are available on the Parish Council Noticeboard and on the website: www.naunton-pc.gov.uk

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Chairman

Date 27th July 2026