

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

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MINUTES: of Naunton Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 21st September 2026 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Charles Hanks, Keith Russell, David Pickup, Wendy James.

APOLOGIES Received in advance from Cllr Gibberson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Maxi Freeman, Clerk, CDC Cllr Len Wilkins

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None

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 of minutes of the previous meeting (July 2026)** The meeting approved the minutes, and the Chairman signed them. **Action: Clerk to post to website.**
4. **Chairman's announcements.** The Chairman asked CDC Cllr Wilkins to address the meeting. Cllr Wilkins reported that:
 - Local Government reorganisation has been paused. The Unitary is now expected to become operational in May 29. There will be CDC elections in May 27.
 - The New Neighbourhood Units had not been defined yet but were expected to cover 20,000 or 50,000 residents. Five representatives would be elected from the PCs for that area to form a committee with other representatives.
 - PCs will refer upwards to these committees instead of their current CDC Councillors
 - CDC has hired a contract Enforcement Officer who has reduced the number of outstanding cases from 946 to 684
 - Waste collection is being changed in April 27 with currently non-recyclable plastics being included.
 - The CDC Local Plan has a policy of not allowing development on Cotswold National Landscape (AONB) land. It has not designated any development areas within the CNL. However small 'windfall' developments will still be permitted.
 - The Plan will be approved in 2027 but, until then, speculative applications will continue to be submitted.
 - From 31st October, CDC Councillors will not be able to request that the Planning Committee reviews the plan. Decisions will be taken by the case officers.
5. **Clerk's Report.** Councillors noted supporting information for items 4, 5, 6, 8(c), 9, 12
6. **Planning applications**

Councillors noted that CDC had approved the tree felling at Cromwell House and that the applicant had appealed against the refusal of 26/01400/FUL Glebe House. Football pitch and garage.

Councillors confirmed the objection comments between meetings for application 26/02151/FUL Naunton Downs Golf Club. Variation of condition 7 (holiday let use) to allow manager accommodation. Objections focused on creation of open market housing in the open countryside, removal of units permitted as support for the golf club, failure to justify 24/7 manager presence, errors in design, planning history.

No further information was available regarding the outstanding 26/0012/CWS75M Grange Hill Quarry application submitted in April 26.

26/00039/FUL Littons. See 8 (a) below.

7. Assets and risk assessment.

Recreation field and benches	Cllr Hanks reported that the cricket field had been reseeded.
Play area	Cllr Pickup noted that one of the swings was damaged and that graffiti had been sprayed onto some of the equipment. The playground repairs were still outstanding. Action: Cllr Hanks to contact Greenfields and arrange repairs.
Flood Monitoring	Cllr Russell reported that the annual river clearance would take place on Saturday 30 th October. Overhanging branches of a number of large trees should be removed to avoid possible future river blockages. Action: Clerk to contact tree experts for a quote for this and for overhanging trees opposite the chapel.
Village Hall	Cllr Russell reported that the Village Hall was using budgeted funds to carry out necessary works.

8. Highways

- a) **Right of Way to the church.** Cllr James reported that the Land Registry showed that the PC was likely to own the land in question but with a right of access for the owners of Littons. The 2009 Streetmap shows a path and the PC has strimmed the path in the past. The Register was not entirely clear and the Registrar was investigating further. The Cotswold Wardens have recommended making the path a permissive way. Councillors agreed to restart strimming the path and clearing the area of dead branches with the help of volunteers. Once further information was available, the PC would support the creation of a permissive path. Councillors also agreed to allocate a budget of £500 to make the path safer by gravelling it and to replace the broken support for the water pump on the site. **Action: Councillors to arrange volunteer working party.**
 - b) **Grit Bin and winter preparation.** **Action: Cllr Hanks to ask the snow warden to bring 1 pallet of grit/salt bags to the rear of the church hall.** The Clerk reported that GCC had not progressed the request for an acceptable location for a new grit bin but that, as part of formal winter preparation, GCC had been asked to provide two further grit bins.
 - c) **Gully blockages.** Cllr Pickup reported that the gullies in the village were clogged, which could lead to flooding. **Action: Councillors to remind owners that they were responsible for clearing any gullies at their properties. Councillors will organise volunteers to help with clearance if necessary.**
 - d) **Hedge maintenance.** Councillors decided to remind the complainant that they should use the 'Fix my street' app as many times as possible to alert GCC to the problem.
- 9. Noticeboard.** **Action: Councillor Pickup will provide a quote for the November meeting from a local woodworker to repair/replace the noticeboard to see whether the existing quotes can be improved.**
- 10. GDPR training.** **Action: Councillors to complete training by the November meeting.**
- 11. Defibrillator training.** Cllr James reported that 16 residents had attended the training. The trainer noted that the shell containing the defib was old and did not have a window which would show the battery level without unlocking it. Battery levels should be checked every month. Cllr James reported that a replacement shell would cost around £630 + VAT. **Action: Cllr James agreed to share the code to open the shell with other councillors so that they could respond to anyone who needs to**

use the defib and any of them could check the battery level. Cllr Hanks agreed to install a checking chart for councillors to note when they had checked the battery.

- 12. Clerk position.** Cllr Hanks reported that no suitable applicants had been found. **Action: Cllr James to send new request to residents. Clerk will contact local clerk to another parish. If neither of these works, the PC will appoint a locum. PATA to calculate clerk's outstanding salary.**

13. Finances

- a) Councillors noted the current balances and the reconciliation, which the Chairman signed
b) Payments and receipts. Councillors noted recent receipts, including the second part of the precept (£4825.00).

The following payments were approved:				
Epay	M Freeman	Clerk's salary: June 11 to June 30 th , July, August, September. Plus backpay due from April 1 st (national rate increase from £14.35 to £15.07 p.h.).	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)	£t.b.c.
Epay	HMRC	Tax	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)	£t.b.c.
Epay	PATA	New payment & arrears calculations,	LGA 1972 s.111	£15.00
Epay	Wendy James	Expenses for defibrillator training 10 th September 26	LGA 1972 s.111	£408.00
Epay	Wendy James	Land Registry 26180284	LGA 1972 s.111	£24.99
Epay	Wendy James	Land Registry 10724621	LGA 1972 s.111	£7.00
Epay	GALC	New councillor training	LGA 1972 s.111	£50.00
Epay	Parish Online	Web and email services	LGA 1972 s.142	£286.80

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for 16th November 2026.

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Chairman

Date 16th November 2026