

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
NORTON-JUXTA-KEMPSEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
25 APRIL 2024

See Appendix 1 for Public Question Time discussions.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** C. Rega, M. Stafford and J. Waizeneker. These apologies, and the reason for them, were accepted and approved.
Attending: K. Fincher (Chairman), C. Arrow, C. Dawson, A. Job, M. Pollard, P. Richmond, Cllr R. Adams (WDC District Councillor), Cllr Mrs L. Turier (WDC District Councillor), Cllr Mrs L. Robinson (WCC County Councillor) and J. Greenway (Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer).
2. **Changes to Membership**
None.
3. **Declarations of Interest**
 - a) Reminder and requirements noted.
 - b), c) and d) Cllr Richmond declared an interest in planning application W/23/02496/FUL. Cllr Fincher declared an interest in item 18 due to the company assisting with the migration project being Cllr Fincher's employer. After considering the nature of the interest, it was agreed for Cllr Fincher to take part in discussions under agenda item 18. Proposed Cllr Arrow, seconded Cllr Job and agreed by all.
4. **2024/91 Minutes**
 - a) The minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2024 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Richmond, seconded Cllr Pollard and agreed by all.
 - b) The minutes action summary was reviewed and will be updated following the meeting. Discussions pertinent to agenda items are recorded within the relevant section of the minutes. **Action: Clerk**
5. **2024/92 Reports**
 - a) **Cllr R. Adams and Cllr Mrs L. Turier (Wychavon District Council (WDC) District Councillors)**
Cllr Mrs Turier advised that the area outside NJK CE Primary School has been added to the WDC traffic warden rota for visits. The WDC Parking Services Manager has offered help in organising liaison between the Police and the PTA to assist in easing parking issues. This was welcomed. It was noted that School is sending messages out to remind parents not to park across drives etc., but some drivers continue to park inconsiderately and unsafely. Cllr Mrs Robinson advised that an offer of funding has been made to school for purchase of 'no parking figures' to assist with the situation, but no request for this to be progressed has been received as yet. It was agreed to raise this with the Head Teacher at the library opening event on 3 May. **Action: Cllr Job, Cllr Fincher**
Cllr Adams provided updates on delays in the SWDP Review inspection/adoption process, planning matters and funding of projects by WDC e.g. seatbelt covers to help neurodivergent children and adults. Details will be provided for the Parish Council to publicise. **Action: Cllr Adams**
Cllr Adams provided further information regarding the Armed Forces Covenant. It was agreed for Cllr Fincher to sign up to the Covenant on behalf of the Parish Council. **Action: Cllr Fincher**
 - b) **Cllr Mrs L. Robinson (Worcestershire County Council (WCC) County Councillor)**
Cllr Mrs Robinson's report circulated in advance of the meeting was noted. The EnviroSort visit has been rearranged for Friday 17 May, 1.30pm and Cllr Mrs Robinson asked Parish Council members to advise whether they would be attending. **Action: Parish Council Members**
Cllr Mrs Robinson highlighted the 'Orange Button' suicide prevention work and training available. Details will be publicised. **Action: Clerk, Cllr Pollard**
Cllr Mrs Robinson will attend the Active Travel Forum on 21 May; Cllr Fincher also hopes to attend. As a result of a Parish visit with Cllr Adams and Cllr Fincher, the WCC Highways Liaison Officer will visit to assess maintenance work requirements to the Crookbarrow Way Bridleway Bridge and the access route along Brockhill Lane. The need for hedge/tree maintenance along the section of the Barracks curtilage wall along Brockhill Lane that isn't being re-built has been recognised, and work will be carried out in autumn 2024 (after the bird nesting season).
Cllr Mrs Robinson advised that ATC improvement and safety issues have been raised directly with the WCC Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council, and will be raised at the Active Travel Forum on

21 May. It is understood that WCC is seeking further funding.

Following discussions at the March Parish Council meeting, Cllr Mrs Robinson and Cllr Adams have carried out a site visit to observe and discuss the drainage issues around the old Methodist Chapel with residents; both WCC and WDC are working to resolve the issues. Parish Council members understand that a letter was sent to the landowners by WCC some months ago requesting that discharge of water from the site ceased. In view of the lack of visible action to remedy the situation, a request was made for WCC to follow up its earlier letter with enforcement action.

Action: Cllr Mrs Robinson

Following discussions under agenda item 4b, efforts will continue to:

- Arrange a meeting between the WCC Public Rights of Way Manager and Parish Council representatives to discuss WCC changes to PRoW management.

Action: Cllr Mrs Robinson

- Press WCC Highways to take action to resolve flooding along Wadborough Road, Littleworth (in the vicinity of school), including enforcement if required.

Action: Cllr Mrs Robinson

- Press WCC Highways to resolve the safety issue relating to the Crookbarrow Way Bridleway Bridge surfacing when icy.

Action: Cllr Mrs Robinson

- Press WCC Highways to take action to improve safety along the ATC route, particularly the Woodbury Lane section. Another near miss between a car, an Astons bus and a pedestrian along the Woodbury Lane ATC was reported. The Parish Council continued to stress that WCC needs to make the ATC route through the Parish safe or to de-classify it as an Active Travel Corridor which promotes its use by pedestrians and cyclists.

Action: Cllr Mrs Robinson

Cllr Mrs Robinson gave her apologies and left the meeting.

c) Finance

(i) Balances: current account £5,696.93, instant access deposit account £64,934.99, 32-day notice account £50,499.68 (25 April). These balances include the £18,100 UK Share Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) grant relating to Parish Green Spaces Working Group projects. Members were reminded that whilst balances are healthy, funds are committed or earmarked for future expenditure.

(ii) The monthly accounts and bank reconciliation to 31 March 2024 are not available due to preparation of the year end accounts.

(iii) The 2023/24 annual accounts are in the process of being prepared, and following review of these by the Responsible Finance Officer, the internal and external audits will be arranged which includes completion of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) and supporting papers. All will be presented for review and approval at the Council meeting on 20 June. The Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer highlighted the significant amount of work involved in completing this work.

d) Social Media Communications

The report circulated in advance of the meeting was noted, including most popular Facebook (FB) posts (local roadworks, Parish Council Chairman's Blog and Parish Green Spaces Vision consultation). The number of FB followers continues to increase (to 687), with website subscribers stable at 105.

e) West Mercia Police

The report and Police.uk data circulated in advance of the meeting was noted. The Safer Neighbourhood Team has visited the Parish Hall recently and a free property and home security event is being held at the Parish Hall on 10 May. This has been publicised.

g) St. James the Great Church, Norton

The report circulated in advance of the meeting was noted. Mowing of St James churchyard for the 2024 growing season was discussed following receipt of revised proposals from the Parochial Church Council (PCC). To manage the process in a less complicated manner, it was agreed for the Parish Council to provide its 2024/25 churchyard mowing budget of £1,680 as a grant to the PCC, so removing the need for the Parish Council to become involved in arrangements for contractor appointment and payment of invoices. Proposed Cllr Arrow, seconded Cllr Fincher and agreed by all. The PCC will be advised, with an invitation to submit a grant funding application for a contribution towards the 2025 churchyard mowing costs.

Action: Clerk

6. 2024/93 Community Ownership Fund

Members will give consideration to potential opportunities.

7. 2024/94 Community Apiary

Updates received in advance of the meeting were noted, with the apiary group continuing to work well. The previously agreed 2024/25 grant of £250 has been paid across to the apiary group.

8. 2024/95 Parish Green Spaces Working Group (PGSWG)/Biodiversity Matters

PGSWG updates received in advance of the meeting were noted. The UK Share Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) £18,100 grant will fund work to re-establish/re-define one of the tenanted field boundaries (following an area being relinquished by the tenant) and will assist with development of the area as 'The King's Meadow'. Other grant opportunities continue to be explored including sources such as Natural Networks and National Highways. Members were reminded that if grant opportunities require a commitment to land use, the implications of this need to be fully investigated with the potential for legal advice to be needed. The WDC Communities Officer continues to be an excellent source of support.

9. 2024/96 Public Rights of Way (PRoW) / Parish Paths Warden (PPW)

The PPW report was noted and feedback relating to the need for maintenance to the tarmac surfacing of bridleway NJ501 (between the end of Brockhill Lane and the Crookbarrow Way Bridleway Bridge) will be raised with Cllr Mrs Robinson. **Action: Cllr Fincher**

10. 2024/97 Public Open Space/Verge Maintenance, Highways and Drainage Matters

Works to rebuild/repair sections of the Barracks curtilage wall along Brockhill Lane will continue once there is no risk of frost (due to use of lime mortar). See items 5a and 5b above for discussions relating to WCC safety improvements to the Active Travel Corridor (ATC), Wadborough Road flooding matters and parking issues.

Following delivery of the wooden verge posts (with reflectors), it was agreed for Cllr Dawson to install along the driveway edge of the Gazala Drive grass verge (installation by hand in case of services in the area). **Action: Cllr Dawson**

A letter will be provided for delivery to adjacent properties to explain the installation. **Action: Clerk**
Changes to the WCC Lengthsman Scheme were noted, including the potential for a lengthsman to carry out maintenance to Public Rights of Way (after authorisation by the WCC PROW team). In future, Council members will assist in monitoring work undertaken by the lengthsman due to Clerk workload/time constraints. Following discussions, it was agreed to remain as a member of the WCC Lengthsman Scheme for 2024/25. Proposed Cllr Arrow, seconded Cllr Pollard and agreed by all. **Action: Clerk**

11. 2024/98 Norton Connector (NC)

The update circulated in advance of the meeting was noted, with passenger numbers continuing in the usual 60-90 range.

12. 2024/99 Employment Matters

a) This item was discussed on a confidential basis, with minutes prepared on a summary/overview basis. The job adverts have been published as agreed, with a closing date of 12 May 2024.

It was agreed to assess litter picker hours 6 months after appointment and to discuss whether additional hours should be considered as part of 2025/26 budget discussions. **Action: Clerk**

b) It was agreed for carry forward of 29.75 'banked' hours for the Clerk into 2024/25 plus carry forward of 40.5 hours holiday into 2024/25. It was noted that the level of hours/holiday carried forward by the Clerk is reduced from that carried forward into 2023/24 as requested by the Parish Council. After considering the holiday/banked hours position alongside the Clerk's planned leaving date, it was agreed to revise the Clerk's leaving date to 30 September 2024, with the Clerk's last day in the office being Friday 30 August and the period 31 August to 30 September taken as paid holiday. The Council and Clerk will seek to manage workload to avoid further banked hours being accrued, and to allow planned holiday (before August) to be taken. Proposed Cllr Job, seconded Cllr Pollard and agreed by all.

Cllr Mrs Turier gave her apologies and left the meeting.

13. 2024/100 Planning

a) Cllr Richmond declared an interest in application W/23/02496/FUL (Parish Council comments were prepared without input from Cllr Richmond). The following current planning applications were noted, and it was agreed to object to planning application W/24/00760/PIP. Any additional objection comments relating to Appeal: APP/D1835/W/2/3340942 (Worcester City Council application: 22/00751/FUL), Land off Broomhall Way, will be submitted to the Planning Inspector.

	<u>Application</u>	<u>Description of Proposal</u>
Approvals:	Unit 8, Crucible Business Park, Woodbury Lane W/24/00356/DEM	Demolition of Unit 8. Existing Walls to Sub Station 1 to Remain. Comments submitted without support or objection.
	Rockilla, Hatfield Bank W/24/00312/OL	The replacement of existing overhead wires with new material to the existing overhead electricity line. There is no change to the alignment of the overhead line and the pole heights will not be increased. No comments submitted.
Refusals:	Land At (OS 8659 5192), Yew Tree Court, Norton Road, Norton W/23/01836/FUL	Construction of 2 No. dwellings. Parish Council comments submitted.
Awaiting Decision:	Land At (Os 9017 5117), Mucknell Farm Lane, Stoulton W/22/01955/FUL	Development of a 1MW solar farm and associated infrastructure. Parish Council objects.
	Properties 1 and 2, Church Cottages, Church Lane, Norton, W/23/02496/FUL	Creation of 2no. Detached Bungalows. Comments submitted without support or objection.
	Land At (Os 8785 5016), Hatfield Lane, Norton W/24/00507/FUL	Proposed live/work unit. Amendment to application Ref. W/23/02506/FUL. Parish Council objects.
Internal Consultation:	Land At (OS 8888 5113), Woodbury Park, Norton W/24/00760/PIP	Permission in principle for up to 4 detached residential units.
Other:	Retreat Inn, Woodbury Lane, Norton W/23/01207/FUL	Replacement barn and 3 no. 1 bedroomed log cabins and 4 no. touring bays, 2 no. tent bays and a toilet block. Parish Council objects. WITHDRAWN BY APPLICANT.
	Appeal: APP/D1835/W/2/3340942 (Worcester City Council application: 22/00751/FUL) Land off Broomhall Way	Change of use of land to provide 10 permanent Travellers Pitches including the stationing of caravans for residential purposes with ancillary dayroom for each pitch plus associated access, parking, landscaping, engineering and infrastructure works.

b) SWDPR: The Joint Parishes Group/SWDPR Team liaison group is due to meet on 13 May and as at 18 April, the petition has gained 356 signatures. The Planning Inspectors have requested more up to date evidence documents before the Public Hearings will be scheduled.

It was agreed to 'boost' Parish Council Facebook posts relating to the SWDPR petition, the Green Spaces Vision CLG consultation and the Housing Needs Survey, at a cost of c. £30 in total, to highlight closing dates and encourage further responses. Costs to be reimbursed to Cllr Pollard. Proposed Cllr Arrow, seconded Cllr Dawson and agreed by all.

Action: Cllr Pollard

14. 2024/101 Parish Council Owned Land

Quotes for proposed tree work were considered. It was agreed to instruct JH Tree Surgery Ltd at a cost of £650 excl. VAT. The work includes treatment of stumps adjacent to the garages by the allotments (not within allotment plots) as a measure to protect the garage foundations. During site visit discussions with contractors, pollarding of trees in the vicinity of the Pre-School Forest School was professionally advised as not currently required. Proposed Cllr Pollard, seconded Cllr Arrow and agreed by all. A letter of instruction will be issued.

Action: Clerk

Following persistent chasing, culminating in submission of a formal complaint in February 2024, Kidwells solicitors have now provided an update on availability of Land Registry title documents following land adoption from Persimmon Homes. The Council has been advised that the Persimmon Homes transfer documents, which were submitted by Kidwells, require amendment before they will be accepted by the Land Registry. It was agreed as very disappointing that such issues are only coming to light 2 years after the land transfer was completed by Kidwells Solicitors, and 6 months after the date when Land Registry title documents were due to be available. Kidwells Solicitors are seeking to resolve the situation as quickly as possible and at no cost to the Parish Council. An update has been requested by close of 10 May to track progress. The Council has advised Kidwells that it reserves the right to take this matter to the Legal Ombudsman should this become necessary.

15. 2024/102 Allotments

The update circulated in advance of the meeting was noted. The 2023/24 cost/income analysis has highlighted that whilst progress has been made towards the allotments operating on a cost neutral basis, there remains a shortfall of income (rents) versus costs of c. £1,300 when the cost of the Assistant Clerk's time spent on allotment matters is included. To reduce the shortfall, it was agreed to increase rents to a minimum charge of £30 per annum (excluding the additional charge for housing chickens), to increase rents for those plots currently costing above the new £30 minimum charge (excluding the additional charge for housing chickens) by 20%, and to increase the 'chicken charge' (as a contribution towards pest control costs) to £30 per annum. Following research undertaken, it was noted that allotment rent charges vary significantly across different sites. For existing tenants, the changes will be effective from the autumn 2024 annual billing, and with immediate effect for new tenants. Proposed Cllr Dawson, seconded Cllr Richmond and agreed by all. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

Feedback regarding the access track from the main allotment gate towards the Public Right of Way to the rear of the main allotments was considered. It was agreed that this should be used only for occasional vehicle access to plots and that there are no plans to surface the grass track or to formalise this for regular vehicular access to plots. However, consideration will be given to remedying the issue of the rutted surface in places and, as a result, standing water. Costs to infill the rutted areas with heavy duty stone/hardcore will be sought. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

Difficulties in reading one of the allotment water meters was noted and replacement of the glass fascia will be requested. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

Efforts continue to submit water meter readings on a monthly basis.

16. 2024/103 Parish Defibrillators

The defibrillator has been installed and publicised, with signage ordered.

17. 2024/104 Parish Hall Recreation Facilities and Outside Space

See Public Question Time discussions for update on matters relating to drainage in the baseball pitch area.

Enquiries will be made regarding more regular cutting/lower setting mowing of the playing field and collection of cuttings. It was noted that the grass was long when first mowed due to ground/weather conditions and that the cut should become more even, with less grass left on the playing field surface. When explored previously, collection of cuttings had proved to be cost prohibitive. **Action: Clerk**

The weekly play area/recreation facilities checks are being undertaken by the Assistant Clerk in the interim period pending appointment of a new Grounds Person. Following review of the summary of the Sovereign inspection report (7/3/2024 visit), the Play Inspection Co annual inspection report carried out in June 2023, and feedback from the Assistant Clerk, the following was agreed:

- To explore repair to the play area fencing by Council members. **Action: Cllr Dawson**
- To seek quotes for surfacing repair/work (e.g. by fencing and roundabout). **Action: Assistant Clerk**
- To request a quote for the weed spraying contractor to visit. **Action: Assistant Clerk**
- To request that the new Grounds Person re-tensions the MUGA fencing and tightens any loose fittings around the frame of the fence/gates. **Action: Assistant Clerk**
- To accept the risk of low risk items highlighted within the reports, and for these items to be monitored as part of the weekly checks carried out by the Grounds Person.

Difficulties in identifying pest control contractors prepared to use gas (to control moles) in public open spaces was noted. It was agreed to request a visit by the previous pest control contractor, with no traps to be set in the baseball area. If the previous contractor no longer wishes to visit (due to the number of traps 'lost' on the Parish Hall site), other contractors will be approached for quotes. **Action: Clerk**

The Hall rainwater system and flow of water through the rainwater manhole covers in the Hall car park will be investigated as soon as weather conditions and councillor availability allows.

Enquiries continue to obtain quotes for installation of resin/bonded type pathway surfacing around the main entrance to the Hall.

18. 2024/105 Parish Council Website Domain Names and Email Addresses

Members will consider the information circulated regarding transition to a '.gov.uk' domain for discussion at the May Parish Council meeting. It was agreed to explore options with the Council's existing website support provider and any potential issues e.g. increased costs. **Action: Cllr Pollard**

19. 2024/106 Parish Hall

An update was received from Cllr Fincher (Chair of the Hall Trustees and Parish Council representative)

in line with the agreed dispensation, with all progressing well.

20. 2024/107 Worcester Norton Community Interest Company (WNCIC)

An update was received from Cllr Fincher (Parish Council WNCIC Board representative) in line with the agreed dispensation. Good progress continues to be made.

21. 2024/108 Parish Council Newsletter

- a) Items for the summer edition should be submitted to the Clerk by close of 7 May. **Action: All**
- b) The aim of delivering hard copies of the Annual Parish Meeting information booklet to all households in the Parish was agreed. Costs for delivery of an A5 hard copy will be explored. **Action: Cllr Pollard**

22. 2024/109 Annual Parish Meeting (APM) – 9 May 2024

Preparations are progressing as planned. It was agreed not to include allotment rents as an item for discussion following agreements made under agenda item 15.

23. 2024/110 Martyn’s Law - Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Draft Bill

Further guidance is awaited. It was agreed for this item to remain on meeting agendas for discussion of guidance as this evolves.

24. 2024/110 Sentry Statue Landscaping Proposals

The Norton Worcestershire Regiment Group continues to maintain the area e.g. weeding and laying of bark mulch. Following a change of staff at the Garden Centre, spring planting arrangements are now being progressed. Signs to explain the significance of plants are being planned. A budget of c. £600 remains for planting and signage costs.

25. 2024/111 Neighbourhood Plan (NP)/ Parish Aspirations Document

An update on progress to revise the NP was received, with reports included within the Annual Parish Meeting information booklet. The Housing Needs Survey has been issued by Wychavon DC and all were encouraged to complete and return. The next quarterly review of the Aspirations Document is due in May/June 2024.

26. 2024/112 Norton Charities

Confirmation has been received that the current trustees are willing to stand for a further 4 year term.

27. 2024/113 Finance

a) It was proposed by Cllr. Job, seconded Cllr. Arrow **and all were in agreement** that the accounts presented to the meeting, as summarised below, be approved for payment/confirmation.

Accounts for Confirmation:

Category	Detail	Amount £ *
Administration	Apiary grant 2024/25 (agreed 22/1/2024 PC meeting)	250.00
	Printing Parish Green Spaces consultation fliers	101.40
	March/April 2024 printing (ink)	25.49
	Mobile phone contract April 2024 DDR	10.29
	Website fees April 2024	5.98
Capital Items	Purchase of 'Air Skier' – first 50% of cost	596.40
Community Services	Norton Connector March 2024	300.00
Grounds/ Parish Property Maintenance	Lengthsman duties March 2024	368.00
	Verge mowing at Norton 22 March 2024 (commuted sum)	224.40
	Verge mowing at Norton 7 April 2024 (commuted sum)	224.40
	Undergrowth clearance FP20 (NJ543) first of 3 cuts a year	90.00
	Install outdoor sign at Parish Hall and removal of old signs	50.00
	Wooden stakes to mark out fencing boundary for tenanted field	21.01
	TOTAL	2,267.37

* Incl. VAT where payable on invoice

Accounts for Payment:

Payee	Detail	Amount £ *
Staff Costs	April 2024 payroll (gross): Clerk and Assistant Clerk (incl. pension contributions)	1,995.04
Grounds/ Parish Property Maintenance	Verge mowing at Norton 20 April 2024 (commuted sum)	224.40
	Defibrillator signs	88.70
	10 x Timber reflective bollards (for Gazala Drive grass verge)	148.00
	TOTAL	2,456.14
	GRAND TOTAL	4,723.51

* Incl. VAT where payable on invoice

- b)** Renewal of the annual Worcestershire CALC membership was agreed at a cost of £1,057.71 excl. VAT. Proposed Cllr. Job, seconded Cllr. Arrow and agreed by all. **Action: Clerk**
- c)** The CPRE membership renewal invitation is awaited.

28. 2024/114 Correspondence for Information

See Appendix 2 for a list of correspondence received.

29. 2024/115 Clerk's Report on Urgent Decisions/Expenditure Delegations since the Last Meeting

As reported during the meeting.

30. 2024/116 Items for Update to Local M.P.

None.

31. 2024/117 Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agenda

None.

32. 2024/118 Date of Next Meeting

Annual Parish Meeting 9 May 2024

Annual Parish Council Meeting 23 May 2024 (apologies given in advance by Cllr Job).

The meeting closed at 10.45pm.

Public Question Time Discussions

The Treasurer of Worcester Sorcerers baseball team attended to provide an update on Parish Hall playing field drainage issues. Information provided and key discussions are summarised as follows:

- Photos circulated in advance of the meeting were noted.
- Areas around the baseball shed and the baseball pitch are regularly experiencing standing water.
- Water is over-topping the ditch in the above areas.
- There is a clay layer c. 18” below the playing field surface and this is limiting water dissipation.
- The baseball pitch area has suffered with soil compression and standing water, with the field surface now uneven, with many divots.
- The abnormally high rainfall over many months was agreed as a factor, but drainage in this area is known for being poor.
- Potential solutions that are being considered:
 - Installation of soakaway crates filled with stone to act as ‘French drains’. However, due to the clay layer dissipation may still be slow.
 - More fully explore the pipes from the playing field to the ditch by the stile into the agricultural field adjacent to the playing field. Initial investigations suggest that these may be blocked. However, if the ditch is full, water will still be slow to drain away.
 - Work to the playing field surface to provide a cant towards the ditch to improve surface run off.
- Potential issues/complications:
 - Costs to purchase and install soakaway crates and stone. Expertise and equipment needed to install. The baseball team offered volunteer labour but may need to seek appropriate expertise.
 - Standing water is reported in the ditch even when not at full capacity, suggesting an issue further downstream along the watercourse.
 - Land drainage consent would be needed for any work which has the potential to impact on the watercourse/drainage into the watercourse.
- The baseball team has information regarding a potential soakaway crate solution provided by the Wychavon DC Land Drainage Engineer following a site visit.
- The baseball team will develop costed proposals for consideration by the Parish Council, seeking specialist guidance where required. The Wychavon DC Land Drainage Engineer will be asked to provide a view on proposals.
- The Parish Council has previously agreed to provide a contribution to the cost of the works, with the baseball team also providing an element of match funding. Exact contributions/split of costs to be agreed as proposals evolve. Sponsorship opportunities may be available from local businesses to assist the baseball team with costs.
- The Parish Council is keen for the baseball team to continue to play on the Parish Hall playing field.
- Other matters raised:
 - Could the playing field be cut more regularly or at a lower setting? Could the cuttings be collected? The Parish Council will discuss/explore.
 - Could a bin be sited in the area by the baseball pitch? The baseball team will provide details of proposed sites/bins for the Parish Council to consider.
 - Use of Parish Hall electricity for field maintenance days. The baseball team will liaise with the Hall Manager in advance to ensure that use is agreed and that Health & Safety considerations are covered.

The baseball team representative was thanked for attending the Public Question Time session.

<u>Correspondence Received for 25 April 2024 Parish Council Meeting</u>	
Sender	Subject
CALC	Updates including: Community Orchard Funding, Local Council Conference HR Update - including Minimum Wage, Unity Trust Bank, Home energy improvements, D-Day 80 - Flag of Peace, NALC Events, Dates for the Diary, Reminders from CALC, Clerk Vacancy, NALC Chief Executive's bulletin, CALC Wychavon Area Meeting March 2024 - Minutes and Presentation
Community First	Newsletters/bulletins
CPRE: The Countryside Charity	Campaign updates
Resident	Enquiry re Parish Green Spaces projects
Resident	Parking issues around NJK CE Primary School
NALC	Newsletters, Chief Exec's bulletins
One Network	Local roadworks reports
Police / Police & Crime Commissioner / Neighbourhood Watch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Mercia Police Fraud Bulletin, Economic Crime Unit, April 2024 • Contacting your local Safer Neighbourhood Team • Our News Neighbourhood Watch Newsletters April
Rural Bulletins	Bulletins: Rural opportunities/funding/vulnerability service/news
Soc. Local Council Clerks	Chief Exec news bulletins and updates
Worcs CC	Invitation to Southern Link Road Phase 4 Stakeholder Workshop: Divisional, Ward and Parish Councillors – 21 May, 16:30 to 17:30 via Teams
Wychavon DC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government Community Ownership Fund • Residents urged to back British asparagus • Service celebrates 50 years of Wychavon • More than £3 million to slash leisure centres' carbon emissions
Wychavon DC Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda Planning Committee meeting 25 April 2024 • Minutes Planning Committee meeting 28 March 2024 <p><u>Withdrawal Notices:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W/23/02520/FUL - Cooksholme Farm, 3 Wadborough Road, Littleworth: Conversion of 3 agricultural buildings to residential dwellings, erection of 4 new dwellings, change of use of agricultural land to residential use, partial demolition of agricultural buildings. (Variation of condition 2 Ref 17/00972/FUL). • W/23/01207/FUL - Retreat Inn, Woodbury Lane, Norton: Replacement barn and 3 no. 1 bedroomed log cabins and 4 no. touring bays, 2 no. tent bays and a toilet block. <p><u>Refusal Notice:</u></p> <p>W/23/01836/FUL - Land At (OS 8659 5192), Yew Tree Court, Norton Road, Norton: Construction of 2 No. dwellings</p>