

# NAUNTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES OF THE JULY MEETING OF NAUNTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

Held in the Church  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 7:30pm

**Present:** Cllr A. Howarth (Chair)  
Cllr N. Roberson  
Cllr D. Hudson  
Cllr G. Edwards  
Cllr D. Dickens

**In attendance:** Clerk

A two minute silence was held before the start of the meeting to address the sad passing of HM The Queen.

**Public Question Time-** None present

1. **APOLOGIES-** District & County Cllr L. Robinson
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST-** Cllr D. Hudson declared an interest in Item 8 and left the building whilst the item was discussed.
3. **TO CONSIDER ANY REQUESTS FOR THE COUNCIL TO GRANT A DISPENSATION-** None requested
4. **THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5<sup>th</sup> JULY 2022-** Approved as true and correct
5. **PROGRESS REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

### **A. County & District Councillor's Report-Linda Robinson**

I hope you have all enjoyed the summer break. Whilst no formal meetings were held in August there has still been plenty to keep me busy. Today saw the first full Council meeting at County with a full agenda. Most state schools went back today as well.

July and August saw a heatwave with record temperatures and drought conditions across the County. Worcester reached a new record of 37.1c. in July. County Gritter teams were put on alert in the event of road surfaces melting and creating a hazard to motorists. Evidently, we just managed to avoid a hosepipe ban. Fire crews have been on high alert and dealt with double the amount of usual callouts for the time of year.

For info. more than 120 miles of roads have been resurfaced in Worcestershire so far this year. This is equivalent to travelling from Worcester to Buckingham Palace.

We have also seen the worsening of the crisis in Ukraine and the latest data shows 170 hosts registered in Wychavon with 402 anticipated guests. 276 have already arrived in the District and received their £200 welcome payment.

Covid cases have continued to fall after a spike at the beginning of July. The infection rate has dropped by 14% in the last week down to 56% per 100,00. Wychavon's figures continue to be amongst the highest in Worcestershire and above the English average of 44%. The number of hospital cases has fallen considerably. A fourth booster designed to tackle new variants is to be offered along with the annual flu jab to our most vulnerable later this month. Pensioners

over 75 will receive invitations from the NHS from yesterday as will care workers and those who are immunosuppressed. The advice remains to 'stay alert to stay safe'.

The ongoing cost of living and Energy crisis is a huge concern to us all and one of the ways Wychavon are looking to help eligible residents can be seen below. Free energy efficiency improvements on offer. Some of the least energy efficient homes across Wychavon could get a free upgrade as part of a new scheme. Wychavon has been given more than £1.1 million from the Government's Sustainable Warmth Fund to spend on improving the energy rating of the district's homes. The work will not only help cut energy bills but also carbon emissions to help tackle climate change. The money will be targeted at households with a combined income of less than £30,000 and whose home has been given an Energy Performance rating of D or below.

Work costing up to £25,000 will be fully funded. How much someone receives will depend on the energy rating of their property and whether or not they are on the mains gas network. Properties off the mains gas network can still apply.

The grants will cover energy efficiency measures including:

- Energy efficient replacement of electric storage heaters
- Replacement windows and doors
- Loft insulation
- PV panels
- Air source heat pumps

Residents are being encouraged to check their Energy Performance Certificate, which they can do through Wychavon's energy advice page. If their home is a grade D or below and they meet the other qualifying criteria then they are being urged to register their interest in the scheme. An online expression of interest form is available at [www.wychavon.gov.uk/energy](http://www.wychavon.gov.uk/energy) or people can call Act on Energy, who are administering the scheme for Wychavon, on 0800 988 2881. WCC are also working on a scheme via 'act for energy' until the end of September for pensioners who are receiving pension credit or are on a low income pension. Letters containing vouchers will be issued in September to those who are eligible.

The SWDPR development plan has seen some delays but is expected to come before Wychavon councillors in October with public consultation from 1st November -13<sup>th</sup> December. The proposed strategic sites are at Parkway, Throckmorton which will be your closest, Rushwick and Mitton. Please keep your eyes open for more detail if you wish to make any comments.

Finally I was sorry to hear of an unfortunate accident to a cyclist who slipped whilst crossing the ford at Seaford recently. He unfortunately broke his hip and had to wait I am told four hours for an ambulance. Having received news of this from residents I contacted my Highways liaison officer Barry Barnes to request some signage warning of the slippery conditions. Some temporary signs have been put up but County are reluctant to make them permanent as it might imply liability. However, they would prefer pedestrians and cyclists to use the footbridge which has been inspected and is evidently due for some repairs. Highways have also put the ford on the list for scraping which lessens the risk of slipping but only for a limited amount of time

## **6. HIGHWAYS**

A road closure notice was circulated to all Cllrs from 3<sup>rd</sup> October closing part of Naunton Road to North Piddle Lane by Severn Trent (see notice).

Cllr Hudson reported that the drain is blocked again on the Main Road outside Naunton Court Barns- Clerk to log to Highways.

Cllrs reported that the broken tree is still blocking the Ford- Clerk has logged the incident with the Environmental Agency for inspection who also urged all local residents to report such incidents when they come across them.

## **7. LENGTHSMAN**

Nothing to report

## 8. PLANNING

Cllr Hudson left the room whilst Cllrs considered the following planning application:

<a href="#">W/22/00418/HP</a>	Old House Farm Naunton Beauchamp Pershore WR10 2LQ	Extension to existing garage and convert roof space to home office with shower room.	Pending Decision
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Cllr Howarth agreed a comment from the Parish Council was to be published on the consultation and this was agreed by all Cllrs present.

## 9. FINANCE

a) The following payments were approved and cheques were signed:

Luke Farnsworth	L/man June/July	£160.00	Cheque 100639
Lisa Cope	Postage/ Stationery/ Expenses	£71.50	Cheque 100640
HMRC	Tax	£108.60	Cheque 100641
Lisa Cope	Staffing costs	£434.32	Cheque 100642

b) Barclays banking forms were signed by Cllrs Hudson and Howarth removing old Cllrs from the banking and adding the Clerk as administrator to the account.

## 10. NEW VILLAGE BENCH

Cllr Dickens presented research on the bench proposals and all Cllrs agreed that the Recycled Plastic Bench Pad would work well under a large wooden bench. Cllr Dickens to confirm costs with the supplier before the bench is ordered

## 11. CIVILITY & RESPECT PLEDGE

The 2022 Civility and Respect pledge was adopted by all Councillors.

## 12. COMMUNITY BUS SCHEME

The Clerk shared the email from local parishes regarding a community bus scheme- will await more details and share if the project moves forward

## 13. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk shared correspondence from Worcestershire Wildlife Trust that the hedge into the village would be cut- this has now been actioned.

## 14. COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Cllr Edwards asked that the SWDP consultation be placed on the November agenda and the Clerk offered to share more information with residents via the facebook page beforehand- agreed by all Cllrs this was a good idea.

Cllr Edwards stated that more VAS speed data would be shared at the November meeting

Cllrs discussed how the passing of HM The Queen could be commemorated in the village and it was agreed that they would organise a flag to be flown at half mast and pages of condolence will be available for residents to sign from the Church and these can then be added to the official Wychavon Condolence Book.

## 145. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022 starting at 7.30pm in the Church.

Signed .....

Dated.....