

# NAUNTON BEAUCHAMP ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016

Present                    Cllr A Howarth    Chairman  
                                 Cllr F Mitchell  
                                 Cllr D Hudson  
                                 The Clerk  
                                 Ted Howarth Representative of the church  
                                 Liz Holpin Parish Paths Warden  
                                 1 members of the public

**1. Apologies** - Cllr M Butler Cllr S Brand, Gayle Rowe  
Community Speed Watch, County Councillor R Adams and  
District Councillor L Robinson.

**2. Previous Minutes**  
The minutes of the 2015 Parish Meeting were approved and  
signed.

**3. Chairman's annual report of the Parish Council**  
The Parish Council met six times over the last year. Particular  
thanks should go to Lynne East our parish clerk who so  
efficiently carries out her duties and also advises the Parish  
Council as to all the relevant standards and regulations. She  
is painstaking in her diligence to keep accurate records and  
we do thank her for all her hard work.  
Thanks also to Councillors Mitchell, Hudson and Butler for  
their support and work during the year and also to our newly  
co-opted Councillor, Sandy Brand.  
We are also very grateful for the support of County Councillor  
Rob Adams and District Councillor Linda Robinson who  
although both very busy with senior positions in their  
councils, regularly attend our meetings and keep us up to  
date with District and County issues.  
Other thanks also go to Peter Holpin for continuing to  
complete the internal audit of the Council's accounts.

## PARISH LENGTHSMAN

This is a fully funded service provided by Wychavon. The  
lengthsman, is in fact a team of three who regularly visit the  
village, digging out the grips (the run offs from the road into  
the ditches), keeping the drains in the ditches clear and  
tidying up the verges. Our thanks to the lengthsman and his  
assistants.

Thanks must go to Councillor Dave Hudson who regularly  
mows the village green and is looking so attractive with tulips  
and cowslips.

## HIGHWAYS

The speed activated sign which we share with Kington and Dormston has continued to be monitored and to be taken down and put back on a regular basis by Councillor Butler. Councillor Butler gives the Parish Council regular reports and keeps a tally of the number of vehicles registered as exceeding 30 miles an hour past the sign. The readings taken from the sign have shown that an incredibly high number of vehicles are exceeding the speed limit on a regular basis at all times of the day. As a Council we are still convinced that moving the thirty mile an hour sign at the east end of the village to adjacent to the Village sign by Honeybourne cottage would have a calming effect on traffic entering the village from the east. Residents also alerted us to their concerns about the speed of Dudley's coaches passing through the village. Responding to this, we invited Mr Dudley to our March Parish Council meeting to hear the details of the village's concerns. Mr Dudley said he regularly reminds his staff about taking care through villages and has a notice in the driver's room telling them to slow down through villages. Mr Dudley promised to make his drivers aware of the difficulties negotiating through Naunton Beauchamp, where there are three bends and a narrow bridge. The Community Speed Watch volunteers have been active, monitoring traffic speeds at both ends of the village and have recorded speeding vehicles even when there have been signs out alerting drivers to the speed watch taking place. We do thank all the volunteers and urge more villagers to volunteer as more people are needed to make sure there are regular speed checks.

## DONATIONS

Donations have been made to the church to contribute towards the cost of regularly mowing the churchyard which helps to keep this village amenity tidy and attractive. An annual donation is also made to the church for the use of the church for Parish Council meetings and to the Parish magazine.

## PLANNING

The council has considered 4 planning applications for house extensions and replacement windows in a listed building, all with no objection from the Council.

There has been no further planning applications for building consent on land at Frogmore Farm. However at the March meeting Liz Holpin, representing WPAG informed the Council that the Environment Agency had made a draft decision to approve an Environmental Permit for 250,000 broiler chickens to be housed in sheds on Frogmore Farm. A

consultation period with an opportunity for residents to attend a drop in session was held in April; no final decision has yet been made as regards the permit.

#### DRAINAGE

Although it has been a wet winter and the fields and the ford have been flooded several times, no village properties have been affected. The Council has continued to monitor the drains at the bridge and these were inspected in November by Highways as promised. The lengthsman has kept the drainage ditches and drain holes clear and has rodded the culvert adjacent to the road in Seaford lane.

#### FOOTPATHS

Thanks must go to Liz Holpin who has taken over as Footpath Warden. Several modifications have been made to stiles and a gate added. Also brambles and branches have been cleared from stiles and paths.

#### BROADBAND

Residents continue to express their extreme dissatisfaction of the broadband speed in the village. At our March Parish Council meeting we invited Rob Shakespeare, the Contract Manager in charge of the BT roll out scheme for super fast broadband in our area to attend and had his assurance that we would be connected to super fast broad band by September of this year.

#### **4. Accounts**

The Parish Clerk presented the un-audited accounts for 2015-2016 the opening balance stood at £5336.16+(£392.37 for the Parish Plan) Expenditure during the year was £4634.88 Income received was £4363.30 Closing balance was £5456.95 - (£142.37 Parish Plan) =£5314.58

#### **5. Annual report of District Councillor L Robinson**

A report was read out by the clerk to the Parish Council: as your District Councillor I have also been the new Leader of the District Council I am pleased to be able to give you all a brief update from Wychavon for your Annual meeting. Nearly a year in since the election it has been a successful period of time for us though not without its challenges. We are working well with the County and its new leader plus the other five districts in Worcs and of course with all our Conservative MPs. and MEPs. Similarly with the Local Enterprise partnership or LEP on whose board I sit as the STH Worcs representative. Their main role is to encourage inward investment and support major infrastructure projects. We are also supporting their World Class Worcs Campaign.

Together we have a strong voice for our area and its promotion nationally.

### **Council**

Finally adopted the SWDP this Feb together with Malvern Hills & Worcs. City (9yrs.work -cost £1.3m)

New strategy for next 5 yrs, People, Place, Prosperity

New 4 yr, Business Plan which will be our Efficiency plan.

Our Response to Gov. Grant reductions to avoid service cuts.

Grow, Save, Charge

Already reduced our 2019/20 budget by £4 million

Need to find a further £1 million per year by 2020/21

through:

Efficiency savings of £125,000

Business Rates £250,000

Joint waste procurement £200,000

Negotiations are underway for a new improved joint Waste Contract with Malvern Hills & Worcs City.

Joint working with Malvern Hills £240,000 we already have shared chief exec & joint SMT in April + other shared services

Other reductions £305,000

Strong Economy

Direct investment in employment sites and Infrastructure -

e.g. Vale Park, Evesham and Worcester Six & Pinvin

£190 million current commercial construction

New Waitrose store in Evesham - opening in March 2018

Housing -Last year 886 new houses occupied (one of highest in country)

Built 778 affordable homes and brought 280 long-term properties back into use

We have made land investments such as Vale Park in Evesham+

Good rate of return

### **Environment**

Invested in Pershore wet lands and green energy in Pershore hydropower scheme on the Avon. More green flag awards than ever before in our parks

### **For our Communities**

New Homes Bonus, over £1m gone direct to Parishes & towns.

150k. to Droitwich High Street and the same amount to Pershore and Evesham for transport related improvements.

In Pershore this will most likely be a contribution towards the Northern link scheme including Pinvin crossroads and a new bridge which would make a huge difference to local traffic flows bringing benefits to residents and businesses.

Satisfaction with the council is higher than ever even before the recession and no services have been cut in the last 4 yrs.

Finally according to a recent Halifax survey Wychavon is the best rural place to live in the West Midlands ...and 24th nationally and I hope you would not disagree.

**6. Reports of County Councillor R Adams**

Apology received.

**7. Report From Parish Paths Warden** – Work is progressing on the footpaths and many problems are being solved, Fiona Argyle continues to offer support.

**8a) Report from the Women’s Institute-** No report received.

**b) Report from Naunton Beauchamp church-** A report for the last 12 months was read out to all present, the church has maintained its presence in Naunton Beauchamp through its various services although these have decreased since last year the church continues with the social events that raise much needed funds.

The Rev Gary Noyes took his first service on the 1<sup>st</sup> November and was welcomed into the village; Gill Jubb and Delia Harding were thanked for their continued support in taking services.

The social events were a beetle drive a quiz night harvest supper and the dog and fete show which resulted in a record profit.

The matter of the Glebe Land has not yet been completely resolved although it is nearing a conclusion.

The heating inside the church continues to be a problem and various firms have been asked to quote for upgrades.

Thanks were given to all members of the committee and the Parish Council for its continued support.

**c) Report from Community Speed Watch**

Work continues by the volunteers and any relevant information is being passed to Ian Connolly Acting Traffic Management Advisor for any action to be taken regarding speeding motorists. The equipment is now being shared with Inkberrow Parish the scheme will be promoted at the Dog show in Naunton Beauchamp to try and recruit more volunteers.

The speed activated sign continues to be used showing considerable activations above the speed limit.

**d) Report from Neighbourhood Watch**

From April 2015 - there has been 5 reported incidents of burglary; 2 “other” thefts; 1 vehicle crime and 1 anti-social behaviour.

Unfortunately the information I have access to simply records the reported incidents and doesn't provide details as to whether these have been solved.

I have only received 1 e-mail to date from Julie Pardoe (the local PCSO) relating to the lost dog from Grafton Flyford which was successfully rescued.

**e) Annual Police Report 2015-16**

The last 12 months has continued to be busy throughout our policing area which extends from Whittington, Upton Snodsbury and Dormston in the north to Bredon and Beckford in the south. We have carried out active engagement within our policing area in the form of monthly police surgeries and local parish events. The whole team remain committed to tackling all levels of crime throughout the area including rural crime and poaching and providing security advice and support to victims and vulnerable residents.

This report is based using the recorded crime figures between 06/05/15 and 07/05/16 the comparison is relating to the corresponding dates in 2014/15.

Overall the police recorded 17 incidents that were reported by members of the public this is compared to 8 incidents reported the previous year.

Of the 17 incidents the Parish had 8 recordable crimes (incidents where a specific offence has occurred) this was in comparison to 0 recordable crimes the previous year.