

# NAUNTON BEAUCHAMP ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2017

Present                    Cllr A Howarth    Chairman  
                                 Cllr F Mitchell  
                                 Cllr M Butler  
                                 Cllr S Brand  
                                 Cllr D Hudson  
                                 The Clerk  
                                 County Councillor R Adams  
                                 Gill Edwards Representative for Neighbourhood Watch  
                                 Ted Howarth Representative of the church  
                                 1 members of the public

1.    **Apologies** - Liz Holpin Parish Paths Warden, Gayle Rowe Community Speed Watch, and District Councillor L Robinson.

2.    **Previous Minutes**  
The minutes of the 2016 Parish Meeting were approved and signed.

3.    **Chairman's annual report of the Parish Council**  
The Parish Council has met six times over the last year. Despite being very ill last summer the clerk has continued to work unstintingly for the Parish Council throughout the year. Thanks also to Councillors Mitchell, Hudson, Butler and Brand for their support and work during the year. 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. Thanks to Councillor Dave Hudson who regularly mows the village green, it is once again looking very attractive with tulips and cowslips. Thanks, also go to Liz Holpin who has continued to act as Footpath Warden

## 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, keeping the drains in the ditches clear and tidying up the verges.

## HIGHWAYS

Councillor Butler has continued to monitor the speed activated sign which continues to show that cars are often exceeding the 30 miles an hour speed limit. There are still concerns over the speeding of Dudley's coaches through the village and the chairman has again been in contact with Chris Dudley about this matter.

The Community Speed Watch volunteers have been less active this year and are desperate to recruit more volunteers to be trained.

Highways have been contacted about the state of the end of Seaford Lane, the village side of the bridge which is full of dangerous potholes also the state of the road surface of the ford that crossing the ford is quite perilous, particularly for horses and motor bikes.

### DONATIONS

An annual donation is made to the church for the use of the church for Parish Council meetings and to the Parish magazine. Thanks, must go to Richard Greenwood and Clive Butler who has undertaken to mow and tidy the church yard it has never looked so well cared for.

### 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.

An environmental permit has been granted for the proposed chicken farm at Frogmore Farm. But another application for an egg rearing with free range hens and with three large sheds has recently been rejected by Wychavon District Council. Although the proposed free range farm is not within the bounds of Naunton Beauchamp Parish Council, the Council raised concerns that drainage from the site would have a detrimental effect on the Piddle brook and the triple SSI.

### DRAINAGE

Highways have continued to monitor the drain by the Main street bridge, so far this has been a dry winter and spring but we hope that should we have future deluges, the drain and the cleared ditches will be able to cope with any excess flow of storm water.

### BROADBAND

After assurances by the Worcestershire Super-Fast Broadband roll out team that broadband would be installed by September 2016 - we are still waiting. We again requested a meeting with Rob Shakespeare as we were concerned that a detailed survey of the village had not been undertaken and

that the new cabinet would not be placed in the best possible place to ensure that the maximum number of residents would receive an upgrade in their broadband reception. The cabinet has now been installed at the corner of North Piddle lane but has still not been connected and we are now being told this could be delayed until July. We do feel that the Worcestershire Roll Out team have failed to show that they have a co-ordinated approach to this installation and have repeatedly failed to supply the Parish Council with accurate information.

#### DOG FOULING

Concerns have been expressed by villagers about the amount of dog excrement left on the verge and near the road particularly along Seaford Lane. District Councillor Linda Robinson supplied the village with 4 brightly coloured posters reminding dog owners of their responsibilities; these were duly placed around the village particularly along Seaford Lane. Out of the 4 only one remains in place the others have been deliberately removed.

#### RUBBISH

Concerns were expressed by villagers about the smell of burning of unsuitable materials regularly wafting over the village. The local firm of PJ Laight at the Yellow House do burn offcuts of their joinery business. After contacting them they have had their boiler upgraded, inspected and passed by Environmental Health. At the other end of the village concern has been expressed about the burning of waste materials such as old sofas, this is under an ongoing investigation. There was also an incident over the Easter weekend with a group of caravan owners who parked their vehicles and horses on the verge of North Piddle lane, partly blocking the road. This was reported to Highways, the Police and Worcestershire Gypsy Services. The group left after a week, leaving a lot of rubbish - up to 20 black bags left on the side of the road, a generator and an old lawn mower plus using the hedge as a lavatory. This was also reported to the police and Worcestershire County Council. We had hoped the prompt reporting of this incident would lead to the perpetrators brought swiftly to account for this irresponsible behaviour.

Two other incidents of fly tipping have occurred and have been reported to Worcestershire. In both cases the response from Worcestershire has been prompt, with rubbish being cleared within a few days. Like all councils, we are keen to see all these perpetrators brought to account for spoiling the countryside.

### BT Telephone Box

BT have informed the Parish Council that they will no longer maintain the phone box in the village and wish to know if the village wishes to keep the box. Having asked the village in the Parish magazine, the Parish council have decided to adopt the box at a cost of £1. It has not yet been decided what use to make of the telephone box.

#### **4. Accounts**

The Parish Clerk presented the un-audited accounts for 2016-2017 the opening balance stood at £5456.95 includes (£142.37 for the Parish Plan) Expenditure during the year was £4934.22 Income received was £6310.82 Closing balance was £6833.55

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

A report was read out by the chairman of the Parish Council: As Leader of Wychavon & your District Councillor I am pleased to be able to give you all a brief update on our work over the last year and what we have planned for the future.

Nearly two years since the District election; it has been a successful time for us, though not without its challenges.

A recent Halifax survey rated Wychavon as the 2<sup>nd</sup> best rural place to live in the country. And I'm sure you would agree with that. (Only the Orkneys were ahead of us)

Our joint working with Malvern provides ongoing savings and no doubt they'll be more to come. Importantly, we have a mature working relationship with colleagues at Malvern and there are no threats of one council taking over another!

We have continued to provide direct investment in employment sites and infrastructure for businesses - at Vale Park, Evesham, Worcester Six and Pinvin. Worcester Six has started on site and will be of major significance to growing our business rate base for the future

We've directly helped to create 115 new jobs.

We have delivered 341 new affordable homes and brought 84 long-term properties back into use

We have successfully run a new scheme in South Worcestershire providing a Business and Rural Crime programme. This has given advice, security equipment, property marking and farm alarms to victims of crime. You may have also seen details of a recent ground breaking study that, with partners, seeks to develop geothermal heat networks - largely for the growers in the area. It appears we

are lucky to have the right conditions in the Vale well below ground for energy capture!

We have given over £1 million in New Homes Bonus to parish and town councils for projects that benefit their communities - used for things like play areas and village halls.

We've attended dozens of community events across the districts from community games and village fetes to car shows and festivals.

We are soon entering our new waste contract which will deliver at least £200k of savings - which is much needed. We had hoped that this would be a joint contract with Worcester and Malvern Hills but that didn't happen.

Next year we will see a new Waitrose store opening in Evesham and work starts on site in June this year. - to revitalise the town, attract new investments and provide us with a financial return.

We're also working on developing and promoting the unique heritage of the area - working with the Droitwich Brine Heritage Group to investigate the feasibility of using brine water to create edible salt and the associated place branding around that.

We are delighted with the Chancellor announcing the monies for the Midlands Engine which includes growth fund money for Worcestershire. Importantly that includes around £5m for the Pershore northern link which I have been campaigning for. This will include much needed improvements to Pinvin crossroads.

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

Cllr Adams reported that he was disappointed with the two structures that had been erected at junction 6 and hope further designs would be improved.

The Chief Executive of Worcestershire County Council, Clare Marchant, is to leave the Council to become the new Chief Executive of the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, UCAS at the end of June.

Children's services in Worcestershire have been deemed "inadequate" following an inspection by the education watchdog, measures have now been put in place to improve this.

The Boundary Commission for England has produced its initial recommendations for all English parliamentary constituencies. Substantial changes to the boundaries of the seats in Worcestershire and across the West Midlands The

proposals are subject to consultation and nothing will be finalised until 2018.

**7. Report from Parish Paths Warden-**Apology received.

**8a) Report from the Women's Institute**

Naunton Beauchamp WI continues to thrive with a membership of 27. Over the year, a varied programme has been enjoyed with various talks and outings, some have taken place at county level.

On a competitive level the WI are doing well at skittles have won all four matches.

The highlight of the year was the participation in the Annual Council meeting where they entered most of the categories and were awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the photographic class and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Mad Hatter's tea party arrangements of cookery and preserves.

National level two members visited Denman College and the outgoing president attended the Annual Meeting at Brighton.

**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 18 services including a wedding and a funeral.

The social events continue to be well supported with all profit going to the church enabling the church to meet its commitments

The state of the churchyard is now in a better condition thanks to the voluntary efforts of Clive Butler and Richard Greenwood.

Some remedial work is needed on the church to repair a crack in the tower quotes have been obtained and work will be carried out in the near future.

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

**c) Report from Community Speed Watch**

Currently the group is inactive they are trying to recruit more volunteers.

**d) Report from Neighbourhood Watch**

An in-depth insight was given by Gill Edwards the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator as to the workings of the scheme, she is in the process of obtaining email addresses for everyone that wishes to be contacted

**e) Annual Police Report 2016-17**

**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.

DRAFT