

NAPTON ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of Napton on the Hill Parish Council held on **Monday 2nd June 2025** at 7:15 p.m.

Present: Cllr J Veasey (Chair)
Cllr R Pelter (Vice Chair)
Cllr I Williams
Cllr R Woodcock

SDC Cllr N Gist
WCC Cllr A Crump

Mrs C Adam (Clerk to the Council)

7 members of the public were in attendance.

Abbreviations: (NPC) – Napton Parish Council; (SDC) – Stratford District Council; (WCC) – Warwickshire County Council; Cllr - Councillor	
1. To receive apologies for absence. - Received from Cllr B Alsop. - Received from Cllr W Watson.	Action
2. To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. None received.	
3. To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meetings held on Monday 12th May 2025: Approved by the Council & signed by the Chair.	
4. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only: Items Street Lighting Several streetlights are awaiting repair and NPC will continue to remind WCC to address these. A streetlight cable between houses 2 and 3 on Poplar Road has been damaged and is no longer operational. Responsibility for the damage is to be determined through discussions with WCC, the property owners and the contractors involved. Sports Field Floodlights Approximately 41% of the fees have been paid to the contractor. However, the light levels remain unsatisfactory. The contractor has been contacted and has agreed to carry out the necessary adjustments to rectify the issue. Final payment is being withheld until NPC are satisfied the work is complete. Emergency Plan The CSW Resilience Team representative is to send over the new template and Cllr IW is to complete the necessary documentation for	

submission to CSW. The emergency box has been checked and is confirmed to be easily accessible. • New Zealand Spinney The location has been confirmed and corrected with UK Planning Maps. Payment for the updated plans, approximately £100, will be arranged under delegated authority. Once this update has occurred, the Land Registry application can continue. • Village Green Power Supply A further meeting is to be arranged with SDC planners. An updated quote from Western Power has also been received. • Grass Mowing Good progress has been made with the latest round of mowing. • School Field A set of recommendations and quotes has been received from two contractors. Quotes from two additional contractors are still pending. • Naming Unnamed Road A letter has been sent, and a response is still awaited.	
5. Update from District/County Councillors: • Reports circulated in advance and are available on the PC website. • Speeding Group: Efforts are underway to establish a local speeding group, WCC Cllr AC will utilise information and practices from the Stockton Speed Group to help move forward in Napton. • Gratings Issue: Gratings close to Godson's Lane are lower than the road surface, causing a banging noise when vehicles pass over them. This issue requires inspection and resolution. An email is to be sent to WCC Cllr AC to request a site inspection and necessary remedial action. • Reporting Issues: Residents are encouraged to continue reporting unresolved highways problems to both WCC and NPC. • WCC Councillor Grant: The grant scheme will be opening in June and is available to both local councils and residents. • Concrete Posts and Lighting: WCC Cllr AC will follow up on the removal of concrete posts (three at Cox's Lane and one leading up to the church) and the current awaiting light repairs. • Health Screening Events: A health screening event will take place on 12th July at Southam Leisure Centre, running from 10am to 2pm. The tests offered cost £14 each but are subsidised by Stratford District Council. ○ For men over 40: PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen) screening. ○ For men and women aged 18 and over: diabetes and cholesterol screening. • Dog Control: Residents are reminded to keep dogs on a lead in public areas. • SDC Climate Change Fund: The fund is currently open for applications and is available to local councils and properly constituted community, charity, and sport groups.	
6. Comments and questions from the public:	

Copies of all council papers are available to download at

www.napton-pc.gov.uk

(*) indicates that a supporting document is available on the website

• Item 19: Concerns a legal matter and cannot be discussed in public. • Item 8: A Napton Sports Association representative attended the meeting to answer any questions NPC may have.	
7. Planning Matters: Application(s) reference: 25/00823/OUT (Adjoining PC) Proposed: Outline application for the erection of up to 80 dwellings, associated infrastructure and biodiversity enhancements, with all matters reserved except for access to the site from Sycamore Close, and a temporary construction access from the A426. At: Land At, Sycamore Close, Stockton For: Richborough and Christopher Philip Williamson RESOLVED: Comment Only: The proposed development of 80 homes lies outside the Built-Up Area Boundary (BUAB) for Stockton, which has been set by Stratford District Council due to the absence of a made Neighbourhood Development Plan. The proposal does not meet any of the exceptions listed under Section 4 Built-up Area Boundaries Policy SAP.8 of the Site Allocations Plan. Approving it would conflict with local planning policy, set a concerning precedent for large-scale development in open countryside, and place unsustainable pressure on Stockton's limited infrastructure. Application(s) reference: 25/00346/OUT (Adjoining PC) Proposed: Outline application for up to 217 dwellings, public open space, together with landscaping and associated infrastructure (all matters reserved). At: Home Farm Land Off A423, Southam By Pass, Southam For: Kler Group Limited RESOLVED: No Comment Application(s) reference: 25/00347/FUL (Adjoining PC) Proposed: Provision of new traffic island, pedestrian crossing, tie in and associated works to deliver up to 217 houses with all matters reserved. At: Home Farm Land Off A423, Southam By Pass, Southam For: Kler Group Limited RESOLVED: No Comment	
8. Padel Courts at Napton Sports Club RESOLVED: Agreed to support the Napton Sports Association in undertaking a feasibility study for the potential installation of two padel courts. Also requested clarification on what level of funding, if any, may be sought from NPC. This item will be included on the agenda for the July meeting for further discussion.	
9. SNT Meeting UPDATE: Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) visited on 13th May 2025 and will be attending the village monthly over the coming months. Patrolling levels are proportionate to local crime rates. According to Warwickshire Police data, Napton accounted for 0.9% of reported crime in the area, with 6 incidents recorded in March 2025. For personalised local updates and crime information, residents are encouraged to register with Warwickshire Connected —a police-	

run community messaging service. The next PCSO visit is scheduled for 25th June 2025 at Napton Village Stores from 10:00–11:00.	
10. Mobile Phone Mast UPDATE: Atlas Tower Group (ATG) held a Teams meeting with the Chair and Clerk to provide an overview of potential solutions to improve mobile phone signal in Napton. They propose installing a mobile phone mast at no cost to NPC. Three potential sites have been identified; however, no contact has yet been made with the landowners. Confirmation from NPC that the community supports the proposal is required before proceeding. This item will be added to the July agenda for a formal decision on how NPC wishes to proceed. ATG's presentation slides can be found on the NPC website under supporting documents.	
11. Grass Mowing Maps RESOLVED: Agreed actions regarding grass mowing maps: • Map 1 ○ Hillside and Kingshead areas are now included ▪ Note that 50% of the area in front of Kingshead is now concrete ○ Area around the grit bin located at the bottom of Butt Hill by the Kingshead needs strimming • Map 2 ○ Verges to be cut on both sides up to the top of Chapel Lane ○ Mill Road corner to be strimmed, when required ○ Memorial Trees to be added to the map and strimmed, only if overgrown • Map 3 ○ Send email regarding the wild patch in Chapel Green and inquire about the gap between Chapel Green Cottage and The Fens • Map 4 ○ Inner line by the triangle at the top of Butt Hill to be strimmed ○ Hackwell Steps to be maintained as additional work outside the contract, when required	
12. NPC Standing Orders & Financial Regulations RESOLVED: Agreed to approve, subject to the deletion of the 'A' in item 14.	
13. Councillor Roles & Responsibilities RESOLVED: Agreed to defer to the July meeting.	ALL
14. Warwickshire Highways Community Action Fund RESOLVED: Agreed to submit a funding application for the remainder of the street light upgrade project. Agreed to postpone the decision on the suitability of potential Folly Lane projects for funding until the July meeting.	CA/JV
15. Climate and Environment UPDATE: • No updates at this time.	

16. Exercise of Public Rights - Dates that the financial records will be available to the public via appointment will be between 09/06/2025 – 18/07/2025. - Declare that the accounting statements are as yet unaudited and are published on the NPC website: - Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 - Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25	
17. Finance Matters RESOLVED: Bank Reconciliation May 2025: Unity Trust: £88,323.45. To be signed at the July meeting due to councillors' absence. Note: Skipton & Nationwide accounts will be reconciled quarterly in line with the VAT return. All payments approved, and payment list can be found under supporting documents.	CA
18. Councillor Updates: - Concern raised about not receiving emails on mobile phones; arrange an in-person meeting with the IT technician to assist with email setup. - Follow up with Stratford District Council regarding the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) and promote via Facebook, private messages, and posters to recruit members. - The zip wire repair is underway, including the installation of a new seat and chain.	
19. Closed Session RESOLVED: A motion to exclude the public from the meeting was made for item 19 to discuss ongoing footpath issue.	
20. Close The meeting closed at 21:22 . [Note: The next Ordinary Meeting of the Council (19:15) will take place on <u>Monday 7th July 2025</u> Napton Village Hall (main hall)]	

Signed: _____

Date: _____