

NAPTON ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Cllr J Veasey (Chair)
Cllr R Pelter (Vice Chair)
Cllr B Alsop
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 W Watson. - Received from Cllr I Williams. - Received from Cllr N Rock.	Action
2. To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. Item 13 – Cllr J Veasey.	
3. To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meetings held on Monday 2nd June 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 The concrete columns have been removed. Orders for 6 streetlights have been placed, and quotes are currently being sought for 2 others. Sports Field Floodlights Corrective works have been completed, and light levels have been remeasured; however, they are not yet at the required standard. Contractors will return this week to carry out further testing, which will be conducted jointly with Cllr IW. Final payment is being withheld until the Council is satisfied that the light levels meet the agreed specifications. Emergency Plan The updated template has been received, and Cllr IW will revise the document accordingly as soon as possible. Grass Mowing	

Chapel Green has been cut. However, several areas remain outstanding, including Patrick Durham’s memorial tree on the A425, the bottom of Butt Hill near the King’s Head, and the strip adjacent to the footpath at the top of Butt Hill. • Warwickshire Highways Community Action Fund The application has been submitted, and a response is currently awaited. A copy of the submitted application to be sent to WCC Cllr AC. • Neighbourhood Development Plan NPC agreed that preparatory work may begin, and a working party has been established, with the first meeting scheduled for Thursday, 17th July 2025 at 4:00pm in the Committee Room, Napton Village Hall. Anyone wishing to attend is asked to inform the Clerk in advance of the meeting.	
5. Update from District/County Councillors: • Reports circulated in advance and are available on the PC website. • An appeal case is ongoing regarding SDC’s five-year housing land supply. SDC maintains that it has the required land supply, while the applicant disputes this claim. • Health Screening Events: A health screening event will take place on 13th September at Stratford 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.	
6. Comments and questions from the public: • It was noted that a consultation by SDC on the proposed two-unitary authority model for Warwickshire is expected to be released in the coming months. SDC Cllr NR will provide further information and updates when available. • A large hole has been reported in the pavement outside 7 The Crescent. This has been referred to the WCC Highways for urgent inspection and repair. • Police drop-in sessions seem to have changed location, and all future session may possibly be held in Napton Village Hall carpark instead of in front of Napton Village Stores.	
7. Finance Matters RESOLVED: Bank Reconciliation: Unity Trust: May 2025 £88,323.45 & June 2025 £85,296.59; April, May, & June 2025: Skipton: £75,466.75 & Nationwide: £5,000.00 (Total: £165,763.34) Signed by Cllr BA. All payments approved, and payment list can be found under supporting documents.	

8. Planning Matters: Application(s) reference: 24/00002/FUL Planning Inspectorate Reference Number: APP/J3720/W/25/3365936 Proposed: Erection of buildings 3 and 5 comprising storage units and associated yard area (retrospective) At: The Paddocks, Shuckburgh Road, Napton-on-the-Hill For: Mr Adrian Dollar RESOLVED: No further comment. Application(s) reference: 23/03454/FUL Planning Inspectorate Reference Number: APP/J3720/W/25/3365935 Proposed: Erection of buildings 1 and 2 comprising storage units and associated yard area (retrospective) At: The Paddocks, Shuckburgh Road, Napton-on-the-Hill For: Mr Adrian Dollar RESOLVED: No further comment. Application(s) reference: 23/03455/FUL Planning Inspectorate Reference Number: APP/J3720/W/25/3365938 Proposed: Erection of building 4 comprising storage units and associated yard area (retrospective) At: The Paddocks, Shuckburgh Road, Napton-on-the-Hill For: Mr Adrian Dollar RESOLVED: No further comment. Application(s) reference: 23/03456/FUL Planning Inspectorate Reference Number: APP/J3720/W/25/3365939 Proposed: Erection of buildings 6 and 7 comprising storage units and associated yard area (retrospective) At: The Paddocks, Shuckburgh Road, Napton-on-the-Hill For: Mr Adrian Dollar RESOLVED: No further comment.	
9. Padel Courts at Napton Sports Association (NSA) UPDATED: The NSA provided the following information: • The proposed project has an estimated total cost of £175,000 to £195,000, which will be funded through a combination of grants and sponsorships. • A recent survey indicated strong local support, with 99% of responses positive. In-person visits were conducted at the five properties within 100m of the site: ○ 3 households were supportive ○ 1 household was unaware of the sports field ○ 1 household could not be contacted • The business case forecasts: ○ 50% usage in Year 1, increasing to 95% usage by Year 3 ○ A projected £26,000 surplus based on a conservative estimate of 100 members, using court hire fees lower than comparable facilities in the area ○ Facility operating hours from 7:00am to 10:00pm, supported by planned lighting installation	CA

RESOLVED: Agreed to apply for planning permission for the padel courts with full support from the NSA. The Council further agreed to allocate £2,000.00 from the Sports Field Contingency Reserve Fund to help cover the associated planning application costs. All future grant applications must be submitted in the name of either the Parish Council or the Clerk, as appropriate. Delegated authority was granted to the Chair and Clerk to approve all future related grant applications prior to submission.	
10. Mobile Phone Mast RESOLVED: Agreed to assist Atlas in conducting a resident survey.	CA
11. School Field RESOLVED: Agreed to proceed with the quote for £4,104.00 from Carlton Contracting to fill in and level sunken channels with fresh topsoil and seed, subject to the proposed timescales being appropriate.	WW
12. Granton Playing Field UPDATED: The new multi-play unit installation is complete, and a mandatory 48-hour post-installation period is in process during which time the equipment must not be used. Safety fencing will remain in place throughout this period and will be removed as soon as possible once the 48-hour period has elapsed. Tamping down the grass and remove the rubble. RESOLVED: Agreed to obtain quotes for recycled plastic tables and Cllr WW to obtain quotes for the surfacing.	WW/C A
13. Naming Unnamed Road RESOLVED: Cllr JV left the room for the duration of this item. Agreed to write to the property owner confirming that NPC will contribute up to, but no more than, £100 towards the cost of legally required address changes. This item will be carried forward for further discussion once a response is received from the resident.	CA/RP
14. Civility and Respect Pledge RESOLVED: Agreed to pass a resolution to sign up to the civility and respect pledge.	CA
15. Community Governance Review (Informal Consultation) RESOLVED: Agreed to express interest in participating in SDC's proposed partial Community Governance. No specific changes were proposed at this time, but NPC is keen to be involved to explore potential options.	CA
16. Folly Lane RESOLVED: Agreed to the formation of a multi-agency working party to address matters relating to Folly Lane.	

17. Allotments RESOLVED: Agreed to adopt the revised plot size categories and associated rental charges. The allotment deposit will be increased to £100 with immediate effect, or £50 for tenants in receipt of benefits or drawing a state pension. The ash tree on site was inspected by the Council's tree inspector for signs of ash dieback. The initial assessment indicates the tree is in fair condition, with no significant signs of the disease observed at this stage. A more thorough inspection of the tree base can be carried out once the fallen limbs have been cleared. Cllr WW will coordinate this work.	WW
18. Climate and Environment UPDATE: No updates at this time.	
19. Councillor Updates: - Potholes reported on Poplars Road. - Concern raised about not receiving emails on mobile phone. - Drains at the top of Hackwell Street have been repaired. However, Severn Trent are responsible for the others that still need attention.	
20. Closed Session RESOLVED: Deferred until further information can be obtained.	
21. Close The meeting closed at 21:36 . [Note: The next Ordinary Meeting of the Council (19:15) will take place on Monday 4th August 2025 Napton Village Hall (main hall)]	

Signed: _____

Date: _____