Norton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held on the 26th September 2024 at 19:30 in Norton Village Hall

Present:

Cllr Richard Page - Chairman
Cllr Helen Costin
Cllr Martin Griffiths
Cllr Jennifer Richardson

In Attendance :

Clerk of the Parish Council
9 Parishioners

24/0041. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Anne-Marie Delaney - Vice Chairman
Internal Auditor

24/0042. Declaration of Interests in items on this agenda

There were none.

24/0043. Public Participation

Parishioner 1

Asked why there was not a representative from the council at the planning meeting where the "Tewkesbury Road" development was discussed. The chairman explained the process and that there was a representation submitted by the council, which they requested was read out at the meeting.

The parishioner also raised their concerns for residents with regards to flooding along Wainlode Lane, Cook Lane and Lime Close. Stating that people in Cook Lane cannot use showers or toilets due to sewerage coming back up. The latest floods stopped just 1 foot from the parishioner's land.

The Chairman shared their concerns, advising that the parish council only have the powers of persuasion not the power to make the changes. Severn Trent are aware of the issues and he has spoken to them regarding this and others. He added that once the rain has abated, the council will collate all messages and submissions using the PC Flood Reporting system and submit them to Severn Trent on behalf of the parish. Severn Trent will be requested to tell the parish council how they will resolve the issue.

Parishioner 2

Asked if "Phase 2" of the Lime Close development was still going ahead. The chairman advised that due to the cyber-attack issues that are being experienced

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by Tewkesbury Borough Council (TBC) it was not possible to confirm. Some applications are being handled by Frank Whitely, who has been contactable as he is a consultant working from home. They had spoken on this application and as it stands it would be difficult for the developer to proceed with the plan in its current form, as the parish council has resolved to not approve the easement required to cross the carpark. Therefore, an amendment is required, and as of last week this had not been submitted.

Parishioner 3

Stated that the gulleys need to be maintained to assist with the flood water. The chairman agreed, saying that all the council can do is keep requesting that this is completed.

They also raised concerns regarding soil that is being moved from the top of the hill at the campsite near the Red Lion at Wainlode, and taken to the bottom of the hill, as this is an offence. The chairman advised that this was raised last summer and has been raised with the Enforcement Team again and is now being investigated.

Parishioner 4

Asked who puts the flood signs up / down in the village, the chairman advised that this was the Flood Warden.

24/0044. To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th July 2024 record any related actions not covered in this agenda

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th July 2024 were resolved as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Costin and seconded by Cllr Griffiths, and were signed as a true record by the chairman.

24/0045. To confirm the dates of future parish council meetings

2025 dates for parish council meetings were confirmed as follows –

8th January 2025
12th March 2025
14th May 2025
9th July 2025
17th September 2025
12th November 2025

24/0046. To receive reports:

a. County Councillor

County Cllr Paul McLain was not present, but the chairman confirmed that he has contacted him regarding the future closure of the road at Combe Hill. Confirming that Cllr McLain is speaking to the relevant cabinet member at Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) to understand the implications for Norton.

b. Borough Councillor

Not present

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c. Chairman

The chairman presented his report, appendix I of these minutes. He highlighted the item on the terrorism protection bill which has now been reintroduced by the new government. The Home Office have taken onboard the suggestions by National Association of Local Councils (NALC) reference to capacity requirements. Premises with a capacity of less than 200 people will now be outside the scope of the bill. The Village Hall, which has a capacity of 150, will therefore be exempt.

He also confirmed that TBC will change its name to North Gloucestershire Borough Council from December 2024, this will be a staged process.

d. Members

Cllr Delaney emailed the chairman and clerk prior to the meeting to advise that she had concerns in relation to the campsite at Wainlodes, and will be raising these with TBC.

Cllr Griffiths, advised that he had completed an inspection of the fence around the pond and across the green, which needs to be replaced. He advised that residents were happy to complete the work and requested the council's approval to get quotations for the cost of the materials required. This was agreed by the council, with the chairman stating that it can be looked at alongside the 2025 budget if current funds were not sufficient.

e. Norton Parochial Church Council (PCC)

A representative of the PCC reported a successful event when the bells were reinstated at St Mary's Church, with their dedication taking place on 27th October at 3pm. The chairman suggested that details of the event should be sent to the Norton News editor so that it can be added to the next edition.

f. Neighbourhood Watch

The clerk read out the report, appendix II of these minutes.

24/0047. Norton C of E Primary School update

None

24/0048. Norton Rugby Club

The rugby club chairman reported that the club is doing well, with 2 teams in the league. The club won their first game, and the mixed ability team won a tournament held at Twickenham. The women are also playing at Norton, and there has been an increase in the youth teams as well.

24/0049. Norton Village Hall – Update from Parish Councillor on Norton Village Hall Management Committee

The chairman reported the following –

- Improvements have been made to the hall's frontage
- The main hall has been repainted and protective panels have been installed along the walls
- Repairs have been made to the roof
- Gutters have been cleaned and refurbished

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- The committee room is to be decorated, and arrangements are being made for this to take place
- The burglary at the school has highlighted an issue with the CCTV. This is likely to need renewal / refurbishment. There are specific angles which must be blanked when the children are in school
- The AGM is to be arranged for October
- Current bank account is £6,940

Cllr Griffiths commented to say that the front of the hall is much improved, and passed thanks on to the committee.

24/0050. Gloucestershire Airport Consultative Committee – Update from Parish Councillor on the committee

As Cllr Delaney was unable to attend this meeting, the chairman referred to the meeting minutes appendix III of these minutes.

He also advised that there was an accident the week before where a two-engine plane had landed heavily, no one was hurt, but the plane is currently out of commission.

24/0051. GRCC Housing Needs Survey – Presentation

The chairman asked if the council were happy to resolve and authorise the survey.

Cllr Richardson asked if the results would be publicly available – the chairman confirmed they would.

Cllr Costin asked if the survey would be door to door – the chairman said that it would be conducted by post to all houses, with a stamp addressed envelope to return the completed survey.

Cllr Richardson suggested that details should be included in the Norton News so that residents know that it is a valid and relevant survey.

The chairman agreed and stating that the survey could provide specific information that might be useful for responses to future planning applications.

Cllr Griffiths said that it made sense to support it as there is a potential benefit to the parish.

All councillors supported the survey taking place, the chairman will confirm with the GRCC contact.

24/0052. Speeding concerns – application to reduce speed on the A38 – progress update

The chairman advised that there was very little to report as the road safety team were still working on their report. If this does go ahead then the cost will be covered by GCC, not the local parishes.

24/0053. Planned Road closures at Coombe Hill junction

The chairman advised that he was aware that the GCC cabinet were reviewing the closure, and that he had written to Cllr McLain to ask him to work on the

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parish's behalf. Cllr McLain had explained that it is all part of a larger highways scheme to widen the A4109 as part of the M5 improvements, and upgrade to the drainage. They hope to award the contract by Christmas, meaning that the work will start early 2025, and will take approximately 1 year, during this time there will be a 12-week period where the closure will be in place.

Cllr McLain has said that GCC will liaise with the parish council and the community if the proposals go ahead. GCC are also speaking with Stagecoach in relation to the bus services, and the service to Norton should be maintained with diversions.

Cllr Costin asked if the work could just be done overnight, the chairman advised that this would mean an increase to the time needed and the cost. Cllr Costin expressed concerns of the parish being cut off if it was to flood at the same time as the closures. The chairman said that he hopes that this would be considered, and that this needs to be raised during the consultation.

24/0054. Norton Nurturing Nature

a. Update from the Norton Nurturing Nature council lead

Cllr Griffiths referred to his earlier report with regards to the fence needing repair in the future. The pond is part of a system that works well, with some areas of the village green being cut and some not. The island has been lightly managed allowing a diversity of nature which works well. The pond does need attention at some point, to reconstruct and make sure that the plants do not take over.

The extra insect life and diversity of flowers in the area and habitat can be an example to Norton in the future, with a sympathetic view to let some areas grow, with deeper roots being beneficial for absorbing moisture, as well as long grass letting off less heat than short grass and tarmac.

The chairman said that he feels it would be beneficial to consult parishioners on which areas that they would like to see wild or maintained. This would help to develop the parishioners' understanding of what is being done and why.

Cllr Griffiths thanked the editor of Norton News for sharing information in relation to Norton Nurturing Nature.

b. To consider making an application to the Ash Dieback Project: replanting scheme 2024-25 Season

Carried forward to the November meeting.

24/0055. Norton Play Space

a. Maintenance inspection plan – update

The clerk thanked the volunteers who are completing the weekly checks, Cllr Griffiths added that it is a well-used space and a good asset for the community.

The clerk added that UBICO have completed the moss treatment on the MUGA.

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24/0056. Planning Matters

a. Land at Brookelands, Norton – Update on a proposal for 45 dwellings on this site

The chairman confirmed that he had visited the site with the clerk, and they were shown around the site by the consultant and developer who attended the previous parish council meeting.

Late on 25th September they sent the plans to the chairman and clerk, and these are to be shared with the council for their initial comments. The application has been submitted to TBC and is currently in the validation process. The timeline around this has been impacted by the TBC cyber outage.

The council can use the plans to formulate their overall approach but cannot move forward without the application.

b. 24/00331/FUL - Land south of Lime Close, Norton (also known as Lime Close phase 2) - Update

The council have submitted their objection, including the refusal to grant an easement across the car park. There have been no further developments.

c. 23/01003/OUT - Re development of 35 houses at Cold Elm – decision

The decision to permit was reported, including a new road layout. The chairman added that this is an outline application and so this is only permission in principle, and will require a full application to be submitted, with the council able to comment further.

d. Update on a proposed review of the Down Hatherley, Norton and Twigworth Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

The chairman advised that he is working on an outline draft of the amendment and that once this is complete it will be shared with Down Hatherley and Twigworth parish councils for review, and then sent to TBC. This will not be a full change of the NDP, just to update items that have moved on since it was "made" 5 years ago.

24/0057. Finance

a. To receive the finance report

All councillors received a copy of the report prior to the meeting and there were no questions. The report was proposed by Cllr Griffiths and seconded by the Cllr Costin. All councillors were in favour of the report and it was recorded as a true reflection of the parish council's current accounts.

b. To approve payments in accordance with the finance report

The following payments were **authorised** by the full council after they were proposed by Cllr Griffiths and seconded by Cllr Costin -

Recipient	Amount	Details	Legal Note

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Clerk – Monthly Salary *(Standing Order)*	£351.00	*September 2024*	*LGA 1972 s.112(2)*
Clerk – Monthly Salary (Standing Order)	£351.00	*October 2024*	*LGA 1972 s.112(2)*
Glasdon UK Ltd	£393.02	*Cost to purchase a "Norton" sign for the Wainlode entrance to the village*	*LGA 1972 s.144 (1a)*
Gordon Playground Inspections Ltd	£96.00	*Inv 0704 – June Operational Inspection*	*Open Spaces Act 1906, s.9-10*
PATA Payroll	£31.05	*Inv 23/1133/PPS – Payroll Services Q1 2024*	*LGA 1972 s.112(2)*
Scribe Accounts	£414.72	*Inv 6116 – Annual charge for Scribe Accounts*	*LGA 2003 s. 22*
Total	**£ 1,636.79**		

c. Record completion of audit requirements for 2023-24

The clerk confirmed that an email has been received from the external auditors to confirm the council's exempt status for 2023-24.

24/0058. Matters arising not on this agenda to be considered at the next meeting

Consideration of the fence renewal at the Village Green.

Actions following meeting –

Detail	**Owner**
Review and update disclosable interests as and when required	All Councillors
Collate flood data to share with Severn Trent	All Councillors / Clerk
Obtain quotations for replacement fence material for the Village Green	Cllr Griffiths
Confirm council's survey approval with GRCC	Chairman
Chase weed treatment for the Play Space	Clerk
Make payments in accordance with the finance report	Clerk

Date of the Next Meeting: Wednesday 13th November 2024.

Meeting Closed 20:53

Signed – Dated –

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Appendices

Appendix I.

Norton Parish Council

Parish Council meeting – Thursday 26 September 2024

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

(1) Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill

Over the last few months I have reported on progress with this legislation, which is also known as "Martyn's Law". The bill had cross party support, but failed to become law because of the General Election and has now been reintroduced by the new government.

This landmark legislation is designed to enhance public safety by mitigating risks posed by acts of terrorism. It applies to qualifying buildings and events, with a focus on ensuring larger venues have documented security plans and robust measures in place to protect the public from potential terrorist threats.

The Bill introduces clearer guidelines, including revisions to the qualifying capacities for venues and events. The good news for Norton is that premises with a capacity of less than 200 people have now been exempted from the provisions of the bill. That means that our Village Hall, which has a capacity of 150, will now be outside the scope of the new anti-terrorist procedures.

The Bill had its first reading in the House of Commons on 12 September 2025, is due to have its second reading on 14 October and is expected to become law by the end of the year.

(2) Borough Council name change

1. Tewkesbury Borough Council has voted to change its name to *North Gloucestershire Borough Council*, following consultation with residents, businesses and town/parish councils. The name change is due to be implemented from December 2024.

2. The decision to change the name originated from discussions on the new Council Plan, where concerns were raised about the outdated logo and the confusion between Tewkesbury Town and the wider borough. The name "North Gloucestershire Borough Council" was chosen to more accurately represent the borough's geographic location and its many communities, and because it also avoids prioritising Tewkesbury Town over other areas.

(3) Proposed amendments to the National Planning Policy Framework

The newly-named Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government has launched a consultation on changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) designed to enact the housing and planning proposals recently announced by Angela Rayner in the House of Commons.

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The NFFP consultation runs to 15 chapters containing a total of 104 questions, with the technical nature of the consultation making it difficult for parish councils like ours to adequately comment. Therefore NALC has issued an online survey to seek the views of local councils on the proposals which will be included in NALC's own response to the Ministry's consultation.

As the closing date for this survey was 9 September, ie before this meeting, I sought and obtained your approval to respond to the survey on the Council's behalf. According, I responded to the survey at the end of August.

I have already briefed councillors on the changes by email, these include:
Making housing targets mandatory and ensure that local plans are ambitious enough to support the Government's commitment of 1.5 million new homes to be built before the end of this Parliament.

Identifying Grey Belt land within the Green Belt suitable for both housing and commercial development.

Supporting economic growth in key areas, including clean energy and support for onshore wind farms and renewables.

Ensuring that local planning authorities are properly resourced by increasing planning fees, including those for householder planning applications.

(4) Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury Strategic and Local Plan

The results of the recent public consultation on the draft Strategic and Local Plan, to which the parish council contributed, have still not been published. I will update the parish council when the consultation results are published.

Richard F N Page
18 September 2024

Appendix II.

Norton Neighbourhood Watch Report - Norton Parish Council meeting 26th September 2024

There are **119 members** of the Norton Neighbourhood Watch WhatsApp Group.

June 2024

Public Consultation re land at Brooklands, Norton
Police Alert: Beware of suspicious emails
Police Alert: Be aware of rogue traders operating in the County
Planning Application re land off Lime Close - application can be viewed online
Anyone wishing to earn some pocket money to do some holiday garden watering?
Agenda for the July Parish Council meeting

July 2024

A40 closed from Longford roundabout to Over roundabout causing traffic back up. Also accident at Down Hatherley A38 junction
Request for local car body repair recommendation
Burglar alarm activated in the village

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Reminders for Parish Council meeting and for Norton coffee morning
Resident requests whether the flooding issue was put to the developers at the meeting
Reminder that comments re Lime Close planning can still be submitted and also to the other two planning applications
School having building work done hence fencing being put up in car park.
Consultation for intended change of name of Tewkesbury Borough Council to North Gloucestershire Borough Council
Explanation given to resident's concern regarding a dog sounding distressed.
Resident requests someone to help start a car in Norton and help provided.
Pet rabbit found on Wainlode Lane and taken to local vet.
Recommendation for house / dog sitter

August 2024

Photos of St Mary's Church bells loaded for delivery back to Norton
Police Alert: Bike Marking events
Missing parcels
Dog warden on route to try to catch loose dog and to identify owner
Resident explains why her dog is howling and assures this won't be for long
Resident advises that more land opposite Jane's Pantry up for development.
Planning application for 10 more properties in Norton which has been on back burner
Resident concerned about smoke near to Red Lion
Concerns about internet connection in village
Problem on M5 resulting in A38 south congestion
Dog missing and sadly later reported as being run over on the A38 with driver not stopping
Event advertised to celebrate the bells of St Mary's Church being rung since renovation
Residents raise many concerns after one of the planning applications is approved.
Villagers confirm that the internet is down in most of Norton. Reported to BT with outage for several hours.
Resident asks for information about a footpath. Track being cultivated to get the ruts out.
Resident asks if Smart meter works OK in the village.

September 2024

Link posted for information regarding 12 week road closure at Coombe Hill.
Residents concerned about more local congestion due to detours
Dead deer reported on footpath at A38. TBC notified to remove.
Lost dog reported.
Police Alert: Telephone fraudsters target Gloucestershire

Christine Williams
Norton Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

Appendix III.

Gloucestershire Airport Consultative Committee Meeting
Thursday 29th August 2024
Member Present

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Dave Haines (DH)	Chairman
Harold Symonds (HS)	Vice Chairman
Peter Earp (PE)	Business Pilots
Tony MacKinnon (TM)	Jet Age Museum
Robert Vines (RV)	Gloucestershire County Council
Simon Johns (SJ)	Staverton Parish Council
Neil Marshall (NM)	Badgeworth Parish Council
Gwynne Parry (GP)	Brockworth Parish Council
Anne Marie Delaney (AMD)	Norton Parish Council
Mark Williams (MW)	Sandhurst Parish Council
Phil Mathews	Fixed Wing schools
Richard Tan	Rotary Flying schools
Jennie Lyons	Local Interests
Mary Jordan	Churchdown Parish Council

Representing Gloucestershire Airport

Brian Rawlings (BR)	Head of Operations

Also in Attendance

Manpreet Shergill (MS)	Airport Safety Officer

1. Apologies

Alex Rose	Private Pilots
Phillip Drew	Down Hatherly Parish Council

2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meetings

Approved

3. Matters Arising – Not covered by the agenda

Invoice for Jet Age Museum previous action – BR has investigated this. There is a review going into the services charges.

4. Consultative Committee Matters:

N/A

5a. Airport Management/Staffing

Interim Property Director, David Moore, has now left the business. Brad Jacklin is now the Head of Property at the airport.
ATC Staffing – There is a national shortage regarding controllers. There are two trainees at the airport, with a hope they will validate in October, which may allow the airport to go back to 7 days a week. The airport is looking at a long-term plan for recruiting controllers. One assistant is currently on the controller's course and the airport has recruited another controller who will be joining at the end of the year. Some days are non-ATC days at the airport, where aircraft can operator under indemnity, this is only available to home-based operators, on the basis the operator has the correct insurance. This will continue for the next few weeks. This decision has been made in conjunction with the CAA. The fire crew, briefing and fuellers will be on-site, however the airport is officially closed. PE stated there was an issue regarding an aircraft who had a flat tyre once the aircraft had landed, the fire crew recovered the aircraft, after broadcasting on the frequency, the support was immaculate. DH queried the slot times on indemnity. BR stated that that 80% of the slot periods are filled. DH further queried how closures are notified to potential visiting aircraft,

BR stated that they are notified via NOTAM, AANs and the aircraft would need to PPR which they would be denied by the briefing team as indemnity is not for visiting aircraft.

5b. Airport Developments

The leader of Gloucester City Council is reviewing the sale of the airport prior to agreeing to move to the next stage. There have been several expressions of interest, however they have not been reviewed formally until the next stage. It was queried if the airport is only being marketed as an airport, BR has confirmed that the airport has been assured that it will be sold as a going concern, an airport. A question was asked regarding if only the Cheltenham share can be sold, BR stated this agreement would have to be made between the councils.

The CGX business park is on hold.

5c. Noise complaints and Environmental Issues

Noise complaint stats will be sent with the final minutes. One noise complaint from Down Hatherly has been actioned by BR. The compliance officer responds to all noise complaints. There have been noise complaints from Uckington.

BR has offered to meet noise complainers, however no response from individuals.
AMD – A noise complaint on the 28th June in Norton. An aircraft doing circuits at midnight. BR stated the airport is closed at this time. Possibility of this being a police helicopter.
JL would like the statics for movements and noise complaints to be sent with the agenda. Action - Tilly

5d. Airport Security

One security incident with a suspicious individual riding a bike around the airfield and taking photographs. This has been reported to the police.
CCTV footage is now working within the airport. Security manuals is also underway.

5e. Local Airspace Issues

No local airspace issues.
PM stated 10 miles away there is a new air strip that has appeared. BR stated this in under investigation.
DME – A helicopter incident occurred in June which made contact with the DME. The physical repairs have been completed. A flight check will be conducted next week, once checked and completed, everything will return to usual.
GPS Approach – PE queried regarding the GPS approach. BR stated that the airport is doing their 5-year review, which will hopefully review some of the restrictions in place, allowing for more flexibility.
Runway Designator – The runway designator should have been changed in 2022. Due to workload regarding AGL, runway works etc this was not previously done. The CAA has allowed the airport to delay this until 2025.

6.Any Other Business

Removal of the grass runway – In 2023, there were only 40 movements on the grass runway. The airport is looking at a new refuelling facility, potentially in this area. Taxiway Romeo is not physically able to be used and will be removed.
New website – The website has been refreshed as well as the logo. The signage is also being refreshed. The terms and conditions of the airport is also being reviewed. DH stated that the front page on the website is an aircraft photo that has not been taken at the airport.

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BR stated there are now 3 handlers, this has increased traffic levels.
The museum has had the highest intake from visitors this year. The museum is working with Ontic and looking at future plans.

7. Date of Next Meeting
Thursday 21st November

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Signed