North Cerney Parish Council
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
on 7th September at 7.00 pm at
The Memorial Hall, North Cerney

Present: Councillors Mark Tufnell, Jonathan Dryland, David Barrel, Neil Brown, Claire Cannock, Cathy Martin, Adam Stoten
Guest: Lucy Eccles Community Resilience Officer GRCC
Presiding: Mark Tufnell
Apologies: Councillor Paul Hodgkinson, Barry Koch
Clerk: N/A - minutes taken by Councillor Jonathan Dryland

1. Minutes & Matters Arising
1.1 Minutes of NCPC meeting 22 May 2026 approved
1.2 North Cerney Flood Investigation: Lucy Eccles Resilience Officer at GRCC made a presentation to the meeting on the approach and latest status of flood management - a natural flood management approach has been adopted to help increase resilience to flooding and reduce/ delay flood peaks. There are five local flood reduction initiatives live in the Churn Valley/ North Cerney area. Local farmers and landowners can access grants to implement natural flood management schemes.
Action: circulate the presentation to Councillors once received from LE: Parish Clerk
Action: Claire Cannock and Adam Stoten nominated as Volunteer Flood Wardens for the Parish. CC and AS to investigate the role of Flood Warden and report back at the next meeting: CC / AS
Action: Explore your River Days sessions planned for 18th & 26th September and 2nd & 10th October. Parish Councillor to join one of the sessions: CC/ AS
Action: Building Local Resilience Event targeted at local Councillors planned for 16th September in Cirencester: CC/ AS

2. County and District Council Issues
Councillor Paul Hodgkinson provided an email update for Councillors
2.1 Local Plan: Government has insisted 18k new homes built in the Cotswolds by 2043. North Cerney Parish has no planned development included in the plan but the expectation that 'windfall' one off new homes will be permitted
2.2 Planning Enforcement: the development of Owl Barn is awaiting the allocation of a new Enforcement Officer to pick up the case. Rendcomb Airfields Section 106 breach of conditions is a legal issue and is still under consideration by CDC's Legal Team.
2.3 LGR: The Government has decided that a single unitary authority of Gloucestershire Council will be created.
7th September: Note the Government announcement to pause for this local government change to allow time for further review
2.4 A417: project remains on track to be fully completed by February 2027
2.5 Speed Limited Reduction A435: on track for implementation in the autumn 2026

3. Financial Matters
3.1 BK not able to attend the meeting and will circulate the latest financial report after the meeting
3.2 The following expenditures were approved:
- A&B quote for £348.60 + VAT to replace the broken gate post at the Community Park
- Oliver Whitaker invoice for £600 + VAT to be paid for repairs to the Woodmancote bus shelter steps
- New warning sign for Community Park as identified in ROSPA inspection - estimated cost £50

Action: JD to work with NB to produce and install
3.3 Councillor Cannock requested a new dog waste bin for North Cerney - approved by the Parish Council. Cost for bin and installation likely to be £150-180, no ongoing cost for collection
Action: JD to share information on Woodmancote installation with CC/ Parish Clerk

4. Community Park
4.1 Quarterly Inspection: completed by JD 20th July 2026. Ball zone surface is in poor condition, but this will be rectified by the current project with target completion date of November 2026. No other major issues raised. MT approved and signed report
4.2 Project to resurface ball zone: Funding Agreement with Enovert Community Trust signed on 2nd September 2026 and 10% 3rd Party Donation of £888 paid to Enovert.
Preferred contractor Cheltenham Surfacing ready to proceed with resurfacing work.Target completion date by end of October 2026
Action: JD to agree dates for work with the Contractor and communicate part closure of the Community Park to the Parish
4.3 New basketball ball post protector installed
4.4 Unused raw materials from Phase 1 Community Park Project: there are some unused raw materials remaining from Phase 1 of the Community Park project including paving slabs and oak sleepers. It was agreed to offer these items to local charities and good causes FOC
Action: JD to discuss with Lynsey Redford, as Chair of the Parent Teacher Association, if these materials could be used by North Cerney school: JD

5. Woodmancote Matters
5.1 Car Park: The poor state of the Bromford Housing Car Park in Woodmancote continues to be a source of complaints from the community particularly those living in close proximity to it. The key issues are the general poor state of maintenance, overgrown vegetation and parked 'unroadworthy' vehicles. The Parish Council has received letters from residents asking for their support in getting action to help improve the area and Councillor Dryland has met with residents from Rookery Field to discuss the issues.
While the Parish Council is supportive of the issues raised, we are conscious that this is private land and therefore we will have limited ability to take action. We would consider supporting Bromford in action they propose provided it is aligned with a collaborative approach and did not involve a financial investment from the Parish Council. The Parish Council agreed the following approach: encourage local residents to raise the issue direct with Bromford, Councillors to remain aware of the situation and continue to monitor the appearance of the car park.
Councillors Paul Hodgkinson has raised the issue with CDC Environmental Health team. **It is recommended we await for their view/ report before deciding on further action**
Action: Report back following Environmental Heath Team report: PH

5.2 Neighbourhood Watch: Sue Fellows is no longer our PCSO - she has been replaced by PCSO Ed Maina.
The Parish Council still wants to relaunch Neighbourhood Watch in the Parish
Action: invite Ed Maina to next Parish Council meeting to introduce himself and discuss launch of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme: Parish Clerk

6. Community Speed Watch & Crime Prevention
6.1 Safer Roads Initiative: no further action at this time. Focus on implementing reduced speed limit on A435
6.2 Councillor Dryland reported three incidents in Woodmancote - hooded people prowling the village in the early hours on 5th May and 16th June plus a badly damaged village planter on 8th August 2026
Action: Relaunch Neighbourhood Watch scheme- invite PCSO to next meeting: Parish Clerk

7. Highway Issues
7.1 Winter Action Plans: reviewed requirements for grit bins and snow clearance
MT will hold reserve salt supply for the Parish and replenish grit boxes on request. MT will provide snow plough coverage for Calmsden and up to the North Cerney crossroads on the Whiteway - Woodmancote and North Cerney are not currently covered.
Action: Two additional grit bins required in Woodmancote and one in Churnside. NB,DB and JD provide 'what three words' location for MT to complete Parish return. NB,DB,JD,MT

8.Planning Application
8.1 No applications to review

9.Correspondence
9.1 No recent correspondence to review other than the correspondence on the Woodmancote Car Park discussed in point 5.1

10. Defibrillator
10.1 Agreed that Calmsden should also have a defibrillator in addition to new one at Churnside and one already in place at Woodmancote - this will give the Parish good coverage
Action: MT to provide location for proposed Calmsden defibrillator to AS.
Action: AS to proceed with process and costings for two new defibrillators - one in Churnside and one in Calmsden Workspace

11. Other Items
11.1 New Parish Clerk: The role for a new Parish Clerk has been advertised and one very strong application has been received from Lynsey Redford. MT has completed an interview of the candidate and the Parish Council fully endorses that we offer the role to Lynsey.
Action: MT to offer role to LR and if accepted send letter of appointment.
11.2 Road Mirror Churnside: DB raised the request for a Road Safety Mirror to help vehicles leaving Churnside onto the A435.
Action: DB to check with Highways if they would support and implement this request

11.3 School Warning Sign: request to install a School Warning sign on the A435 at North Cerney to raise awareness of school children crossing the road and using the footpaths along the main road.

Action: DB to email PH for support in implementing this request

Next Meeting:
19th November 2026
18th February 2027

Meeting Closed at 21.00pm