

NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES - NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 11th December 2024 at 7.30 pm in Nassington Village Hall

24.2494. Attendance and apologies for absence

Present: Cllr Sam Attenborough (chairman), Cllr Alan Burns, Cllr Rebecca Downey, Cllr Alain Kingsley, Cllr Derrick Mortimer, and Cllr Andy Russell. Apologies received from Elliott Clark for personal reasons. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the apologies. Apologies received from Charlotte Lemmon retrospectively. Officer present: The clerk. One member of the public present.

24.2495. Declarations of Interest

Dispensations are in place for all members of the council who are also members of the cricket club, for members with allotments, for members with association with the school, preschool, and for members with association with the church. The council has previously acknowledged that associations with and membership of other organisations might on occasion be pecuniary in nature but felt those to be incidental to the member's council role rather than of pecuniary advantage or disadvantage to the member, that the roles would not conflict, and that members would put their statutory duty as duly appointed members of the council as priority in any decision-making process.

24.2496. Approval of Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes, circulated in advance of the meeting, of the meeting held in November 2024, with a correction to a spelling typing error and noted that the date had been corrected. The chairman of the meeting signed the minutes.

24.2497. Questions or address from members of the public:

There were none.

24.2498. VE Day:

A copy of an email outlining broad proposals for use of the playing field by Nassington Cricket Club for an 80th anniversary VE Day commemoration event in May 2025 had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The secretary of the cricket club was in attendance to outline some of the ideas being considered for the event. The most likely date would be Saturday 10th May 2025. Various suggestions are under consideration.

The parish council does not have the capacity to become involved in the organisation of the event, precluding its involvement. It would be supportive in terms of granting a licence allowing the event at the playing field and possibly supporting financially, but this would be on the strict condition that all statutory requirements and governance procedures were in place. These would include:

- Adhesion to the legislation expected to be in place, known as Martyn's Law (then currently going through parliamentary process as The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill) at either standard or enhanced duty level, depending on the expected number of attendees.
- Completion of the North Northamptonshire Event Safety Partnership (ESP) notification process.
- Fully compliant insurance in place for the event.
- Temporary events licence(s).

It was agreed that a firm written project management proposal for the event would be brought to the next parish council meeting, including but not limited to timelines, activities, and publicity, as well as costs of the elements that the parish council would be invited to consider financing.

24.2499. Planning and Development (1):

- a) NE/24/01152/LBC and NE/24/01141/FUL Timber workshop extension to garage | 61 Station Road Nassington. It was **RESOLVED** that the council would offer no objection or further comment.

24.2500. Planning and Development (2):

- a) Neighbourhood plan: The regulation 14 stage of the consultation has closed and submissions sent to the consultants. The clerk is in discussion regarding the acceptable format of the forms and will progress with the consultants.
- b) Heat Nassington. The consultation survey is live and the NEAT team is engaging with the community.

24.2501. Finance:

- a) Budget: There was an extensive discussion covering the various considerations for 2025/26 financial year. The council is keen to understand the effects of increasing reserves via unspent revenue income to allocate to the recreation reserve, which is earmarked for the future community hub, as well as increases on running costs, whilst income from interest is likely to reduce.

The clerk undertook to provide members with a comprehensive breakdown of the impact of precept increases on actual bills to households, including the proposals from the other parties who make up council tax bills (North Northamptonshire Council Unitary Authority, and the Police and Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner).

- b) Bank signatories: It was agreed that Sam Attenborough and Andy Russell should become additional signatories for the bank accounts.

24.2502. Governance:

Burial Board update: A very positive meeting of the burial board had taken place. The commensurate apportionment of costs would be 60:40 going forward, to reflect the relative number of people on the electoral register in Nassington and Yarwell. A further meeting has been scheduled for January followed by interviews for the role of clerk to the committee. The precept will remain the same, as the board felt there to be sufficient reserves, burial board members appointed by each council need not necessarily be councillors and the quorum would be three people. There had been an acknowledgement of the huge input to the success of the past 15 years by the previous clerk to the board.

24.2503. Playing field

- a) The recent track and car park repair and maintenance works discussed, following receipt of an email which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. It was agreed that the clerk should check the situation regarding the edging of asphalt with the contractor. A meeting would be arranged in between two nominated councillors and the contractor.
- b) Positive feedback had been received regarding the new trim trail equipment and refurbishment of other play equipment.
- c) Governance / management of the playing field:
- The council's decision for removal of the fence alongside the play area was rescinded. It was agreed instead that the cricket club temporarily remove the fencing and cut back the vegetation and reinstate the fencing to minimum 2 metres from the centre line of the zip wire
 - The matter of licences to all users of the playing field was revisited, with a brief update on the history to date. The clerk undertook to send the latest draft of the licence for the cricket club as a starting point, with the licence for other users such as the garden show and the school to follow. The clerk would also send a paper outlining the legal definition of 'ancillary use' of facilities in terms of the lease of the pavilion building.
- d) The grant application for the replacement slide has been submitted. Feedback from the body administering the grant had differed during the two discussions with separate officers, with the latest feedback less encouraging than the pre-application understanding of the situation. The outcome should be known by the February meeting.

24.2504. Community / Projects

- a) **Allotments:** The bonfire had taken place without event. The clearance works would be commencing shortly and continuing after Christmas.
- b) The **pocket park** will be carried forward for discussion.
- c) **Churchyard.** It was noted that the working group had met and carried out extensive coppicing and carried out a number of biodiversity enhancement activities. Gratitude was expressed to all who had taken part.
- d) **History Group Update:** An email from the history group had been circulated in advance of the meeting. A copy of the booklet referred to was available at the meeting too.
- e) **Village Hall Funding :** An email from the village hall committee chair requesting that the parish council consider paying the third party contribution to Augean grant funding had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. As the grant included works to the wall, which the parish council had agreed to finance, it was agreed to meet this request.

24.2505. Highways

Adoption of Fenn Close third phase and transfer of streetlights to Nassington Parish Council was noted. Information about DMMOs would be circulated to members, with a view to a working group investigating matters.

24.2506. Financial matters:

- a) The accounts to 30th November 2024 had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to approve accounts at 30th November 2024 as follows:

ledger balance current account	16,571.75
Tailored reserve	78,672.92
Nationwide 95 day saver	92,125.42
Total cash:	187,442.09
Per cash book	
Balance b/f	141,210.77
Add receipts for year	75,522.99
less payments for the year	26,291.67
Balance c/f:	187,442.09

- b) It was **RESOLVED** to note the following receipts and approve the following payments, details of which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

Receipt	Goods/service	Supplier			
£309.41	Interest	Since last meeting			
£44	Allotment rates				
£15,000	Grant funding for NEAT/ N'hood development planning consultations				
Goods/service	Supplier	Nett	Gross	Power	
Playground repairs	Playscape	3,072.60	3,687.12	PHA ⁱ S162A	
Playground equipment	Wicksteed	11528.94	13,834.73	PHA ⁱ S162A	
Email management	Toucan	80.06	96.07	LGA S111 ⁱⁱ	
Sample stickers	Ward signs	14.00	16.80	LGA S144 ⁱⁱ	
Project Mgt NEAT	KateCook		3940.12	NP Localism/ T&PA 1190S61F(1),(2) ⁱⁱⁱ	
Support for NEAT	Just 1 Action		300.00	NP Localism/ T&PA 1190S61F(1),(2) ⁱⁱⁱ	
Cemetery groundworks	Peter Riddington landscaping	2083.00	2,499.60	LGA S215 ⁱⁱ	
<u>Under delegated powers:</u>					
Allotment clearances	James Broughton Landscaping	1,200.00	1,400.00	SH&A Act ^{iv} 1908 S26	
<u>Direct debits/SOs/Credit card:</u>					

streetlighting	SSE	110.07	118.15	PCA ^v 1957 s3/ HA ^{vi} 1980 s301
AED in phonebox	SSE	8.91	10.69	PHAVii s234
Xmas decs	CC – solar centre	112.48	134.97	LGA S144 ⁱⁱ
Xmas decs	CC – Xmas shop	49.88	59.85	LGA S144 ⁱⁱ
Salary and pension			1067.78	LGA ⁱⁱ S112 & pensions act

An erroneous payment of £5.35 had inadvertently been charged to the council’s credit card by an error on the clerk’s part. This was credited back to the bank account on 9th December and the clerk apologised. She was instructed that an error of this nature must not recur.

24.2507. Announcements and correspondence – circulated in advance of the meeting.

- a) A communication regarding community projects should be passed to the village hall.
- b) A communication from Sibson Garden Village requesting a visit to a parish council meeting. The council declined the request as it has no strong opinion about the proposals received to date.

24.2508. Newsletter / Social Media / community communications

Matters to include in the next newsletter were agreed

24.2509. Items for following agendas:

Meetings will commence at 7pm from now on.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 8TH January 2025

Approved by Nassington Parish Council:

Signature of Chairman		Date:
------------------------------	--	--------------

ⁱ Public Health Act 1875

ⁱⁱ Local Government Act 1972

ⁱⁱⁱ T&P ATown & Country Planning Act 1990

^{iv} Small Holding and Allotment Act 1908

^v PCAct -Parish Councils Act 1957

^{vi} HA- Highways Act 1980

^{vii} PHA – Public Health Act 1936