

**MINUTES - NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.00 pm in Nassington Village Hall

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**25.2528. Attendance and apologies for absence**

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

**25.2529. 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/governorship 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.

**25.2530. Approval of Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes, circulated in advance of the meeting, of the meeting held in January 2025. The chairman of the meeting signed the minutes.

**25.2531. Questions or address from members of the public:**

There were none.

**25.2532.** Agenda item 7a was dealt with at this point – Playing Field licence for use of the field to play cricket. The nominated members of the council had had two meetings with officers of the cricket club since the last parish council meeting. The risk assessment (RA) submitted in 2018 has not been updated. It is not appropriate to use that RA as it stipulates the necessity for netting supported by padded stainless steel poles to be erected between the play area and the cricket outfield, a sufficient distance away from the boundary to stop players running/sliding into the structure causing injury. The councillors had reiterated the point that a risk assessment must have been undertaken before the licence can be put in place. It was **RESOLVED:**

- To create a Task and Finishing committee to take the matter of the licence forward, by formalising the latest draft received from the club chairman as a committee, meeting with the cricket club again to progress further and then bring back to the next meeting for formal adoption.
- The licence is to be an annual licence that would carry forward year on year.
- The council would encourage the cricket club to create an email account (or receive a Nassington.org.uk email address) that would act as a constant address that could be a distribution address for all officers of the cricket club.
- The new risk assessment is critical.

**25.2533. Planning and Development (1):**

a) NE/24/01259/OUT | Outline: Erection of four dwellings (All Matters reserved except access) | Land Rear Of The Lily Pads Northfield Lane, Nassington. It was **RESOLVED** that the council would submit an objection to the proposals outlined in the application. The following observations were noted:

- The council feels that Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) guidance has not been followed correctly and there is insufficient detail regarding nett gain.
- The proposals are outside of the existing village envelope/settlement boundary. The settlement boundary in the emerging Nassington Neighbourhood Plan remains in accordance with the 2011 Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Local Plan at this site and has been subject to a number of public consultations and publicly supported.
- There are strong concerns about flood risk and drainage.

- b) NE/25/00126/TPO/ | T1; Holm Oak - reduce entire crown by up to 2.5m. | 30 Church Street Nassington. It was **RESOLVED** that the council has no objections or further comment to make.
- c) NE/25/00158/TCA/ | T1/T2; Magnolia crown reduction of 3m. | St Marys Church, Church Street Nassington. It was **RESOLVED** that the council is in support of this application.
- d) NE/25/00184/FUL | Replacement garage. | 58 Church Street Nassington. It was **RESOLVED** that the council has no objections or further comment to make.

#### 25.2534. Planning and Development (2):

- a) **Neighbourhood plan:** The responses to the Regulation 14 consultation had been circulated in advance of the circulation of the agenda. It was agreed that all councillors would familiarise themselves with the document before the next meeting. Where the consultant has stated “noted”, there is little more to consider but the notes in the document written in red are questions/matters for the council to address. It was agreed that Cllrs Attenborough, Lemmon and Mortimer would meet and deal with the document in readiness for further consideration the March meeting, with a view to holding a subsequent stand-alone meeting with the consultants. The chairman will advise Cllr Burns, as chairman of the Neighbourhood Development Plan committee, and ask for his input.
- b) **Heat Nassington.** The latest update had been received from the NEAT committee. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the claim form, as circulated with the agenda, to submit to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority to secure release of the next tranche of funding for the project.

#### 25.2535. Playing field

- a) **Play area:** The meeting congratulated the clerk in securing an offer of a grant of £23,500 for the new slide project. It was agreed that as part of the submission of governance requirement, a short explanation why three comparable quotes are not available. The council will strongly make the point that proper processes were followed to try to obtain the quotes (Four companies were approached in the first instance). Over time, the topography of the site, the council’s requirement for the equipment to be as inclusive as possible, and the wider needs of the project have led to a bespoke design. It was agreed that the clerk and the chairman will agree a quote to include with the submission that will encompass how thrilled the council is with the prospect of being able to offer an exciting and challenging new flagship play equipment at the play area. The point was made that the footprint might be slightly more to the south than currently, to accommodate the access steps.

- b) **Moles.** The contract with the current pest control company is coming to an end, due to a change in their business model. There was a discussion regarding the way forward regarding mole activity. It was agreed that the wider field would be inspected as part of the monthly inspection of the play area and that the monthly inspection itself would be formalised. The inspection report would be a standing item on the agenda and a councillor would be appointed each month for the next inspection, using the form at <https://bit.ly/NassRoSPA> . Cllr Downey undertook to carry out the first inspection in February.

The council’s contractor would be asked to flatten any mole hills in the area he cuts at the play area.

#### 25.2536. Community / Projects

##### a) **Allotments:**

- There was a brief update on the current situation at the allotments.
- It was **RESOLVED** under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude members of the public present from the following agenda item as content could be prejudicial to the public interest.
- **Future management of plot allocations:** Background information was shared to explain the current situation with a person who has previously shown an interest in an allotment. The allotment contract outlines a high level of expectation of behaviour, civility, and respect shown by all allotments holders to one another and to officers and councillors. The council is adamant that it has a duty of care to allotment holders. It was agreed that the chairman and one another would

meet to discuss the matter further with the third party, but making the point with third parties that the decision was a unanimous one by the council.

Additionally, allotments are not allocated as a right nor in order of applications received.

- b) **Pocket park:** Nassington Nature are meeting on site with the volunteer to discuss management of the area.
- c) **Nassington Nature:** It was agreed to pay TagSigns to produce the agreed logo, which is expected to cost around £30
- d) **Blue Plaque Project.** The revised arrangement without QR codes was noted. The order for £3,031 was approved.
- e) **Village Hall.** It was *RESOLVED* to cover the village hall's Third Party Contribution of £874 for grant funding purposes. The clerk will complete the necessary documentation for submission to GrantScape.
- f) **Village Green Bench.** It was *RESOLVED* to proceed with procurement of services to fix the bench to the ground, under the council's scheme of delegation.

#### 25.2537. Highways

- a) **SID Installations** Installation has taken place. Programming of the units would be carried out as soon as possible.
- b) **Unmetered supply** It was *RESOLVED* to agree to 36 months and 35p per unit for the AED in the phone box.

#### 25.2538. Financial matters:

- a) The accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025 had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was *RESOLVED* to approve accounts at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025 as follows:

|                                |                   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| ledger balance current account | 965.71            |
| Tailored reserve               | 61,271.88         |
| Nationwide 95 day saver        | 92,746.35         |
| Uncleared cash                 | 72.00             |
| <b>Total cash:</b>             | <b>155,055.94</b> |
| <b>Per cash book</b>           |                   |
| Balance b/f                    | 141,210.77        |
| Add receipts for year          | 73,737.53         |
| less payments for the year     | 59,892.36         |
| Balance c/f:                   | 155,055.94        |

- b) Detailed accounts to third quarter of 2024/25 financial year had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The lead member for internal control confirmed that these had been checked and verified. It was *RESOLVED* to approve the accounts as a true account of the council's financial affairs. The accounts detailed expenditure and income year to date against anticipated budget. It was *RESOLVED* to approve the recommended virements between budget headings, as follows:
  - Virement B: Increase Carol Singing Biscuit Tin budget to £191.60 made up of 41.28 c/fwd from previous financial year plus £150.32 rec'd from Dec 23 event (ie effectively from reserves).
  - Virement C: Increase History Group Income to £564.00 to account for takings.
  - Virement D: Introduce/increase Camb&Peterboro' joint authority grant to £30,000 to account for environmental planning grant.
  - Virement E: Introduce/increase OPFCC grant to £2,500 to account for grant
  - Virement 3a: £5817 to highways for SID project £2500 from grant income, £3317 from reserves.
  - Virement 4: Increase NDP by £15,000 from grant income
  - Virement 5: Vire £3,000 from future reserve to allotments
  - Virement 6: Increase future capital project by £1,000 from income from higher interest received
  - Virement 7: Allow to carry forward £15,000 from unspent environment planning grant.

- c) 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           |
|---------|-----------------|--------------------|
| £306.19 | Interest        | Since last meeting |
| £20     | Allotment rents | Since last meeting |
| £3.45   | Wayleave        |                    |

| Goods/service  | Supplier             | Nett      | Gross     | Power   |
|--|----------------------|-----------|-----------|---|
| Membership   | Acre                 | 35.00     | 42.00     | LGA S111 <sup>i</sup>                           |
| Groundworks  | AMT                  | 8,432.00  | 10,118.40 | OS SS9-10 <sup>ii</sup>                         |
| SID Units  | ElanCity             | 5,816.97  | 6,980.36  | HA S274a <sup>iii</sup>                         |
| Legal fees   | Wellers Headley      | 262.00    | 314.40    | LGA S111 <sup>i</sup>                           |
| History group expenses   | Peterborough Print   |           | 35.00     | LGA S145 <sup>i</sup>                           |
| EnviroPlanning Consultant<br><i>1190S61F(1),(2)<sup>iv</sup></i> | Locogen              | 10,217.00 | 12,260.40 | NPLocalism/T&PA                                 |
| Moles at playing field   | P'borough Pestforce  |           | 75.00     | OS SS9-10 <sup>ii</sup>                         |
| Churchyard maintenance   | Plough env'ntal      |           | 140.00    | LGA Act S215 <sup>i</sup>                       |
| Install SIDs   | GMLawrence           | 1,494.00  | 1,792.80  | HA S274a <sup>iii</sup>                         |
| <u>Direct debits/SOs/Credit card:</u>                            |                      |           |           |   |
| Biscuit Tin games  | Amazon               | 20.00     | 24.00     | LGA S145 <sup>i</sup>                           |
| Streetlighting<br>s301   | SSE                  | 110.07    | 118.15    | PCA <sup>v</sup> 1957 s3/ HA <sup>vi</sup> 1980 |
| AED in phonebox  | SSE                  | 8.91      | 10.69     | PHAvii s234                                     |
| <u>Under Delegation for contracted works:</u>                    |                      |           |           |   |
| Allotments works   | J Boughton l'scaping | 1,950.00  | 2,340.00  | Allotments Act 1908 S26 <sup>viii</sup>         |
| Benches at playing field   | J Boughton l'scaping | 370.00    | 444.00    | LGA S145 <sup>i</sup>                           |
| Salary and pension<br>S112 & pensions act                        |                      |           | 1107.44   | LGA <sup>Error! Bookmark not defined.</sup>     |

- d) Remaining agenda items would be held over to a future meeting.

**25.2539. Announcements and correspondence – circulated in advance of the meeting.**

- Good Neighbours Rural Peterborough (GNPR), info and fees updates
- Invitation to GNRP AGM
- Insurance training webinar on risk management
- Spring Clean information
- Oundle race event overview and maps
- Parish Path warden scheme – Cllr Lemmon undertook to be the lead member on this
- Climate and Action survey – Cllr Lemmon undertook to respond on behalf of the council
- Section 136 verges contract renewal – It was agreed that the arrangements would remain that the parish council is responsible for the urban verges.

**25.2540. Newsletter / Social Media / community communications**

The new SIDs and passing on details of the Oundle race, as well as 'Spotlight on' next month being the parish council, with a view to buoying interest in standing for the council.

**25.2541. Items for following agendas:**

The March meeting will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 6pm.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 12<sup>TH</sup> March 2025**

**Approved by Nassington Parish Council:**

**Signature of Chairman**

**Date:**

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<sup>i</sup> Local Government Act 1972

<sup>ii</sup> Open Spaces Act 1908

<sup>iii</sup> Highways Act 1980

<sup>iv</sup> T&P ATown & Country Planning Act 1990

<sup>v</sup> PAct -Parish Councils Act 1957

<sup>vi</sup> HA- Highways Act 1980

<sup>vii</sup> PHA – Public Health Act 1936

<sup>viii</sup> Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908