

MINUTES - NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 12th March 2025 at 7.00 pm in Nassington Village Hall

25.2542. Attendance and apologies for absence

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

25.2543. 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.

25.2544. Approval of Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes, circulated in advance of the meeting, of the meeting held in February 2025, noting that bank ledger balances in earlier minutes did not include £72.00 uncleared cash receipts, although council advised via the correct figures distributed as part of the agenda pack accounts summary.

The chairman of the meeting signed the minutes.

25.2545. Questions or address from members of the public:

There were none.

25.2546. Planning and Development (1):

a) NE/25/00260/FUL | Single storey rear extension. Re roof existing extension. Replacement garage. | 60 Church Street Nassington. It was **RESOLVED** that the council has no objections or further comment to make.

25.2547. Planning and Development (2):

a) **Neighbourhood plan:** The councillors tasked with addressing each of the points raised by consultees and responded to by the planning consultants had circulated the summary document in advance of the meeting and thanked for their efforts in addressing the points. It was agreed to forward to the planning consultants, requesting a meeting to address the points raised by the council and to request clarification regarding the matter of the SEA mentioned by Historic England in the consultation responses.

b) **Heat Nassington.** The latest update had been covered in the earlier Annual Parish Meeting, which had been held prior to the parish council meeting. A first draft report had been received and will be rolled out to the parish residents in due course via public meetings in the first instance.

25.2548. Playing field

a) Progress regarding **licence for use of playing field to play cricket.**: The nominated members of the Task and Finishing group had met with officers of the cricket club the previous evening. It was agreed that the following changes be applied to the draft licence:

Clause 1 Duration of Licence: This Agreement shall align with the term of the Lease for the Pavilion, with effect from the date of this agreement.

Clause 3.15 To be able to protect the square throughout the year (in season and out of season), and to recognise and protect rights of way. During matches and training to ensure reasonable, appropriate and sufficient signage is in place (in line with Risk Assessment) to protect all users of the field.

Clause 3.21 A meeting between NCC and a committee of the parish council will be held on or before 01 March each year for the purpose of reviewing this License, agreeing dates in order to resolve potential clashes with the use of the playing field, and reviewing the required risk assessment.

Clause 4.4 Not to install, or allow to be installed, anything that would impinge on the defined playing area (within the Risk Assessment). Not to knowingly build or adjust any equipment that would negatively impact the Licensee's Risk Assessment.

Clause 5.5 The Licensor shall have the right to terminate this Licence at any time if the Licensee fails to meet the obligations of this License or fails to continue occupancy;

It was further agreed that the final issuing of the licence is dependent on receiving the independent risk assessment (RA) for playing cricket which will detail legislative and critical distance criteria, however non signature/issuance of the licence will not prevent the playing of cricket once the season has started as all parties are in agreement in principle.

b) **Play area:** Slide: It was agreed to call an on-site meeting with the preferred supplier, because the council is unable to decipher the technical drawings, as they do not appear to take into consideration the topography of the site. The ideal scenario would be to take the whole unit to the west as far as is possible. The clerk is working with the grant funding body to finalise the administration of the grant compliance process.

c) **Play area / playing field safety inspection:** The monthly inspection highlighted an detached link on a rope ladder on the recently repaired multi play unit and the fact that the bin was over full. These issues were addressed on receipt of the report. The firm who carried out the repair had been notified and requested that they repair the fault, and the bin problem reported to NNC.

The next monthly inspection would be carried out by Andy Russell.

It was agreed that the clerk will instruct RoSPA to carry out a routine checklist specifically tailored to our site that will be used as part of the monthly template once received.

25.2549. Governance matters:

a) Elections:

- A link to nomination papers had been circulated in advance of the meeting, and hard copies were distributed.
- The signing of nomination papers was adjourned to a special meeting to be held the following Wednesday lunchtime.
- It was agreed that the chairman would undertake delivery of papers to the nominated electoral office by appointment,
- Pre election period guidelines were noted.

b) **Mildmay Trust:** At the annual parish meeting earlier, a candidate had put themselves forward for consideration as the parish council's representative to The Mildmay Trust. They agreed to speak with the outgoing trustee to establish the demands of the role before finally committing.

c) **Nassington Twinning Association:** Following commendation from the annual parish meeting earlier the same evening, it was agreed to receive final funds from the twinning association and take on the role of contact point for twinning matters, whilst moth balling the association's committee.

d) **Parish Forum:** The email circulated on 12th February was noted. No members were able to attend. The clerk will be attending.

25.2550. Environmental matters:

a) Opportunity to receive arboricultural inspection report. Consider and actions. This was not dealt with at the meeting and will be carried forward to a future meeting.

b) **Magnolias in churchyard:** It was agreed to furnish the council's regular tree surgeon with a copy of the arboriculturist's report. The work has been booked in, to carry out the works agreed, I,e, to

protect the fabric of the building in accordance with the PCC's quinquennial report, but will be moved to late spring as recommended in the latest report.

c) Publication of the North Northamptonshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy was noted

25.2551. Community / Projects

a) Allotments:

It was agreed that the greenhouse on allotment 3 can be replaced and a shed erected on 27b. It was agreed that unpaid invoices will be issued with a final demand which will be followed by eviction proceedings.

b) **Pocket Park:** Nassington Nature, in its role as the parish council's lead working group regarding environmental and nature recovery matters, had met with the person who undertakes a voluntary role at the pocket park.

The following arrangements were agreed or are in place:

- The parish council's grass cutting contractor will continue to cut the grassed area within the fenced area;
- The grass cutting contractor will be asked to strim and leave the cow parsley in June;
- The grass cutting contractor will be asked to quote for supplying and spreading wood chipping to the paths that already have wood chipping on.
- Zoning: The area closest to the road (north side) will be the most garden-like zone. The middle zone to be planted with more wildlife-friendly/deer resistant shrubs which will also reduce maintenance. The area along the back (south side) to be the wildest - cow parsley and trees currently. Wildlife-friendly shrubs/climbers to be added. The areas each end also to be left wild. They are currently heavily grazed by deer. It was suggested that the wilder areas should be left free of ornaments.
- Health and Safety: A contractor will be instructed to remove thick wire twisted around some of the residual logs. Ornaments that have deteriorated are to be removed and the safety of the concrete bird-baths on stands to be reconsidered by the volunteers to make them more stable.
- The council recognised the great job undertaken by the volunteer, giving her time and energy to look after the pocket park. She is happy to continue carrying out planting and light maintenance.

c) **Village interpretation board project and village signage:** These projects will be carried forward to a future meeting, but were noted as a project of intent for the council. In the meantime, the matter of urbanisation and minimal street furniture addressed in the emerging neighbourhood plan would be considered by individuals.

d) **Blue plaque project:** The council understands that the launch date of the project has been pushed back due to manufacturing lead times. It was agreed that the press release should be edited in part and sent to the project volunteers.

25.2552. Highways

Unmetered electricity supply It was *RESOLVED* to continue with SSE for the unmetered supply for street lighting.

25.2553. Financial matters:

a) The accounts to 28th February 2025 had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was *RESOLVED* to approve accounts at 28th February 2025 as follows:

ledger balance current account	291.58
Tailored reserve	29,468.88
Nationwide 95 day saver	93,023.83
Total cash:	122,784.29
Per cash book	
Balance b/f	141,210.77
Add receipts for year	77,412.23

less payments for the year	95,838.71
Balance c/f:	122,784.29

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

Receipt	Goods/service	Supplier
£277.48	Interest	
£37.00	Allotment rents	
£186.00	History group income	
£160.00	Carol singing proceeds donation	
£534.20	NNC S136 grasscutting contract	
£2,500.00	OPFCC grant for SIDS	

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

Goods/service	Supplier	Nett	Gross	Power
Membership	SLCC		190.00	LGA S111 ⁱ
Arboricultural report	Rebecca Peace		550.00	LGA S111 ⁱ
Membership	GMRP		441.25	LGA S111 ⁱ
Legal fees	Wellers Headley	262.00	314.40	LGA S111 ⁱ
QR stickers & booklets	Peterborough Print	231.00	237.20	LGA S144 ⁱ
Churchyard maintenance	Plough env'ntal		150.00	LGA Act S215 ⁱ
Water at allotments	Anglian Water		52.49	SHA Act S26 ⁱⁱ
Hire for Biscuit Tin	Nassington Village Hall		1020.00	LGA S145 ⁱ
Hire for meetings/Neat	Nassington Village Hall		389.00	LGA S111 ⁱ
Hire for History Group	Nassington Village Hall		50.00	LGA S144 ⁱ
Printing costs	Nassington School		65.00	LGA S111 ⁱ
Office costs	S Rodger		278.77	LGA S111 ⁱ
<u>Direct debits/SOs/Credit card:</u>				
Bolts for bench fixing	Earth Anchors	19.95	23.94	LGA S111 ⁱ
Website reader	Calameo		111.16	LGA S111 ⁱ
Streetlighting	SSE	110.07	118.15	PCA ⁱⁱⁱ 1957 s3/ HA ^{iv} 1980 s301
AED in phonebox	SSE	8.91	10.69	PHAV s234
<u>Under Delegation for contracted works:</u>				
Blue Plaque Signs	Ward Signs	3031.00	3637.20	LGA S144 ⁱ
Salary and pension			1107.44	LGA ^{Error! Bookmark not defined.}
	S112 & pensions act			

- d) Councillors Sam Attenborough and Andy Russell completed the bank mandate form adding them as signatories and internet payment authorisers to the council's bank accounts and two existing signatories signed the form to confirm.

- e) It was noted that the audit of 2024/25 accounts and governance would be taking place on April 4th 2025.

25.2554. Announcements and correspondence –.

- Shire connect community transport update
- Northants ACRE newsletter.

25.2555. Newsletter / Social Media / community communications

Shire connect community transport reminder and NNC health and wellbeing survey.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 9TH April 2025

Approved by Nassington Parish Council:

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

ⁱ Local Government Act 1972

ⁱⁱ Smallholding and allotments act 1908

ⁱⁱⁱ PCAct -Parish Councils Act 1957

^{iv} HA- Highways Act 1980

^v PHA – Public Health Act 1936