

NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes - Nassington Parish Council Extra Ordinary Meeting

Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 7.00 pm in Nassington Village Hall

26.2651. Attendance

Present: Cllr Matt Blakeley, Cllr Elliott Clark (chair), Cllr Charlotte Lemmon, and Cllr Andy Russell. Apologies received from Marcus Hurcombe and Alain Kingsley due to personal reasons. Officer present: The clerk. Also present North Northamptonshire Council Ward Member Simon Fairhall.

26.2652. Declaration of interests.

Dispensations were agreed 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 or registerable under the council's code of conduct 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 to act in the best interest of the council as duly appointed members of the council as priority in any decision-making process.

26.2653. Approval of Minutes

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

26.2654. Questions or address from members of the public:

There were no members of the public and nothing of public note, not on the agenda, was raised. The opportunity was taken to allow Cllr Fairhall the opportunity to update members with current matters pertaining to North Northamptonshire Council. (report appended to these minutes)

26.2655. Co-option of new members to the parish council.

No candidates had put themselves forward.

26.2656. Planning and licencing applications:

a) 25/01925/HFUL| Garage conversion to studio, external alterations. |1 Fotheringhay Road Nassington PE8 6QU. Concerns were raised about the lack of clarity and clear detail in the planning application to allow proper consideration of the application. There were extensive discussions to try to establish what the plans were trying to convey.

It was **RESOLVED** that the council would not actually object to the proposals put forward, as there are not strong material planning applications to warrant objections, but comment regarding the lack of clarity of the plan; the fact that the parish council supports the response from the Highways Agency and also making the point that the council did consider the concerns raised by neighbours regarding the use of the proposed studio as a business premises. The council would be keen to see such a proposal made under due process by change of use planning application.

b) 25/01378/TPO|T1/T2; Maple - Crown thin by 30%. |4 Prebendal Close Nassington PE8 6SBU. It was **RESOLVED** that the council has no objections or further comment to make.

c) Consider financial contribution towards NE/22/00266/FUL –judicial review process update. There was a thorough review of the process that led to the action taken. The council had initially understood that the legal service provided would be pro-bono, and that professional fees would be to the account of North Northamptonshire Council as it had caused the legal proceedings. However, the legal firm had asked the council to consider a contribution to its cost in excess of £5,000 since the planning application was quashed. It was concluded that evidence via the Neighbourhood Development Planning process strongly demonstrates the residents of the parish are supportive of the ecological and environmental approach proposed for the part of the parish that would be affected by the expansion. It was **RESOLVED** that the council would contribute £991 to the legal costs for the legal works to date.

26.2657. Planning and Development policies:

a) **Neighbourhood plan:** It was agreed to meet the following weekend for a working party briefing so that all members can be brought up to date on pertinent matters. Contact with the North Northamptonshire Council Neighbourhood Development Plan officer to be re-established to clarify next steps.

b) **Heat Nassington.** A report had been received from the steering group, distributed in advance of the meeting and taken as read.

26.2658. Governance:

a) It was *RESOLVED* to adopt the following budget:

Receipts

Precept	66,628.00
Interest	3,750.00
Allotment Rents	412.00
NCC highways	734.00
Wkg income	<u>71,524.00</u>
(Vat	12,500.00)
(Reserves	131,615.00)

Payments

Salary	14,852.00
Pension Provision/NIC	814.00
Clerks expenses	250.00
Office expenses	800.00
Bank charges	120.00
Professional fees	1,000.00
Training budget	800.00
Insurance	1,000.00
Website	850.00
NALC & SLCC	666.00
Meeting facilitation	300.00
Audit	676.00
NDP unfunded	7,500.00
Y&N JBC	3,160.00
Street Lighting	1,500.00
Footpaths / Environment	1,750.00
Allotment Expenditure	1,500.00
churchyard	2,000.00
Highways / amenities	2,500.00
Tree inspection/works	2,500.00
Playing Field	1,750.00
New play equipment	6,500.00
Cohesion / wellbeing	2,000.00
Pocket Park	400.00
Nassington Nature	1,200.00
Interpretation board project	5,000.00
History Group	750.00
Grant funding	3,136.00
VH Grant	1,000.00
Contingency/c'man's allowance	250.00
Village Hall	5,000.00
Revenue exp budget	<u>71,524.00</u>

RESERVES

Village hall	12,000.00
Recreation reserve	70,000.00
General Reserve	45,635.00
Cohesion reserve	1,480.00
Election reserve	2,500.00
Working cash	84,024.00
Total reserves	131,615.00

- b) It was **RESOLVED** that the precept demand for the forthcoming financial year would remain at £66,628.
- c) The application form papers to nominate members as internet users and signatories to the Unity Trust Bank account were signed.
- d) The matter of members' interests, registers of interests, and the code of conduct were discussed. The code of conduct was explained, with particular reference to 'other registerable interests' whereby the code states "You have a personal interest in any business of your authority where it relates to or is likely to affect: a. any body of which you are in general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority; b. any body (i) exercising functions of a public nature; (ii) any body directed to charitable purposes; or (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union)." It was agreed that a more judicious approach to the dispensation process would be observed going forward and that the current all encompassing dispensation may not always be seen to be compliant with the spirit of the Localism Act which enacted the legislation specific to interests.
It was further noted that failure to declare employment, office, trade, profession or vocation; sponsorship; contracts; land interest; licences; corporate tenancies and/or securities constitutes a criminal offence.
- e) **Community Governance Review:** It was agreed that a no changes are necessary to the current parish council arrangements and no submission is necessary.
- f) **Land registry update:** It was noted that the of change of address to the council's PO Box address had been enacted for the allotment land holding.

26.2659. Community / Projects:

- a) **Village Hall:** The village hall trust is yet to establish the extent and costs of works it deems necessary to the building. Ward councillor Simon Fairhall will contact the trustees to provide details of building firms he has worked with in the past at the extensive Kings Cliffe active project.
- b) **Black Horse Pub:** No reply has yet been received, but the clerk will share with members once it is forthcoming.
- c) **Trees:** North Northamptonshire Council is working with the Woodland Trust promoting the supply of saplings for planting. It was agreed that this is not something the council should undertake at the current time, but that it would publicise the scheme via the newsletter.
- d) **Christmas 2026:** This will be carried forward to a meeting in the summer.
- e) **Community safety:** Details of the latest PLR update had been circulated in advance of the meeting and taken as read. As part of the response to the circulation of the information, Cllr Alain Kingsley had put herself forward as the PLR. It was noted that the clerk is currently the PLR but going forward, this should be re-assigned to Alain. The details of a crime prevention in a box initiative had also been circulated and was noted. An application had been submitted already for a box.

26.2660. Playing field

- a) The monthly inspection for insurance purposes will be reported at the next meeting.
- b) **Cricket club:** The NPC chairman is planning to meet the cricket club chairman.

25.2511. Maintenance and Services:

- a) **Street Lighting:** Quotes had been received from several suppliers for the repair or replacement for a faulty light on Church Street. It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with Midland Signs and Lighting.
- b) **Highways:** Details of a highways briefing had been circulated – the clerk will attend online.

26.2661. Financial matters:

- a) It was **RESOLVED** to approve invoices / accounts for payment or paid under delegated authority, and note income as listed below
- a) The month end accounts to 31st December 2025 had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to approve accounts at 31st December 2025 as follows:

ledger balance current account	1,245.94
Tailored reserve	53,364.02
Nationwide 95 day saver	95,840.33

Total cash:	150,450.29
Per cash book	
Balance b/f	133,743.53
Add receipts for year	115,773.02
less payments for the year	99,066.26
Balance c/f:	150,450.29

Goods/service	Supplier	Nett	Gross	Power
PO box renewal	Royal Mail	371.50	455.80	LGA ⁱ S111
AED pads <small>defined.</small>	CHT	50.95	61.14	PHA Act S234 ⁱⁱ <small>Error! Bookmark not</small>
Bat Walk Donation			30.00	LGA ⁱ Act S145
Training	Northants CALC	35.00	42.00	LGA ⁱ Act S111
Streetlighting	SSE	152.69	160.32	

Income

Goods/Service	Payer	Nett	Gross
Interest			598.47

26.2662. Official announcements, notices or reports / Correspondence / representations of note:

An Email had been received regarding youth clubs for young people – it was agreed to liaise with Rev. Jane at Nassington church, on the back of their youth club initiative. A charity supporting children’s mental health had been in touch looking for support – this would be publicised.

26.2663. Newsletter / Social Media / community communications

Information regarding the precept; tree initiative

26.2664. Matters to note / to be carried forward.

Interpretation boards

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 11TH FEBRUARY 2026

Approved by Nassington Parish Council:

Signature of Chairman		Date:
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ⁱ Local Government Act 1972

ⁱⁱ PHA = Public Health Act 1936