

# NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



## Minutes - Nassington Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7.00 pm in Nassington Village Hall

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### 26.2686. Attendance

Present: Cllr Matt Blakeley, Cllr Elliott Clark (chair), Cllr Marcus Hurcombe, Cllr Alain Kingsley, Cllr Charlotte Lemmon, and Cllr Andy Russell. Officer present: The clerk. Also present 6 members of the public.

### 26.2687. Declaration of interests.

Dispensations were agreed for all members of the council who are also members of the cricket club, 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.

### 26.2688. Approval of Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes, circulated in advance of the meeting, of the meeting held in February 2026. The chairman signed the minutes.

### 26.2689. Questions or address from members of the public:

NNC Ward Cllr Fairhall had sent apologies to the meeting. The members of the public present raised concerns regarding social media activity advising of potential speculative development intention on land between Homefield and the pocket park as well as planning applications later on the agenda related to The Black Horse pub. A highways matter relating to the pavement at 1 Church Street was raised.

### 26.2690. Co-option of new members to the parish council.

No candidates had put themselves forward.

### 26.2691. Planning and licencing applications:

a) 26/00088/LBC|Change of use of public house to single dwelling house (Class C3); minor external alterations including replacement front door and new rooflight; minor internal alterations; and construction of new garage to rear of property|The Black Horse 2 Fotheringhay Road Nassington PE8 6QU.

b) 26/00087/FUL|Change of use of public house to single dwelling house (Class C3); minor external alterations including replacement front door and new rooflight; minor internal alterations; and construction of new garage to rear of property|The Black Horse 2 Fotheringhay Road Nassington PE8 6QU.

The applications were dealt with as one matter. It was **RESOLVED** that the council objects to the application rather than, at this stage the actual planning proposals/principle of residential conversion for this Grade II listed building in the future. However, it strongly objects to the applicant's failure to demonstrate that the loss of this community facility is justified under local and national planning policy. The pub has at no point, under the current ownership, been marketed as a business, which means that the applicant is unable to claim that it is not viable. The loss would be a permanent loss to the village's social fabric and economic resilience. Many pubs locally are thriving, even in villages with more than one pub. Heritage considerations: a primary significance of the building as a Listed Building includes its historical use as a public inn - change of use to a private dwelling permanently removes the public aspect of the pub as a 17th-century heritage asset. The council will request a proper and robust, independent viability assessment as well as a specialist licensed business marketing campaign to test the market. The council will also request that should the planning department be minded to approve the application, it is referred to the planning committee for determination.

c) NE/22/00266/FUL | Change of use of land to the west of Jacks Green at Rockingham Forest Park to provide a range of tourist accommodation (64 caravan lodges) along with the construction of a facilities building, with supporting infrastructure, including hard standing bases with drainage and service provision and landscape planting | Rockingham Forest Park Wansford Road Kings Cliffe Peterborough PE8 6FR. It was **RESOLVED** to engage the assistance of ELF on the basis that the parish council would like to engage positively with this planning process. It is not necessarily against the proposals, but keen that the expansion is carried out as proactively sustainable as possible, protects environmental resources, and enhances biodiversity whilst adding value to the surrounding area.

d) 26/00596/SCR | Screening opinion for change of use of land to the west of Jacks Green at Rockingham Forest Park to provide a range of tourist accommodation (64 caravan lodges) along with the construction of a facilities building with supporting infrastructure including hard standing bases with drainage and service provision and landscape planting was noted.

e) Financial contribution towards NE/22/00266/FUL –judicial review process update. No request for payment had been forthcoming from the solicitors as they had not received contribution from NNC to date

f) The clerk had liaised with members following the decision at the last meeting to object to the Peterborough City Council Local Plan proposals for an alternative site putting forward a site for 3000 dwellings between Wittering village and the A47, for later ratification and submitted the objection. It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the previous decision.

#### **26.2692. Planning and Development policies:**

a) **Neighbourhood plan:** It was agreed to obtain quotes for SEA-HEA deemed necessary by NNC as part of the Nassington Neighbourhood Plan Project. Cllr Blakeley agreed to lead on this part of the project.

b) **Heat Nassington.** The group is progressing the possibility of grant funding for a further viability study into alternative energy.

#### **26.2693. Governance:**

a) Revised internet users and signatories to the Unity Trust Bank account had been confirmed by the bank. One of the new signatories had ratified his login with the bank. The other two signatories would endeavour to do so imminently.

b) Procurement of bench to be sited at village hall, as per October 2025 minute 2628 was noted. The council will take ownership of the bench, and a family donation has been received.

c) The steps toward an Oundle ward T&P councils and village meetings cluster meeting forum was noted.

d) **Nassington & Yarwell Joint Burial Committee:** It was noted that £1,600 had been requested from the burial committee. This was in part to match a donation from Yarwell Charities and partly because of a misunderstanding on the part of the committee during its budgeting process in that cost of staffing comes from the committee budget, not from the parish councils.

#### **26.2694. Community / Projects:**

a) **Trees:** Following the council's site meeting with Rebecca Peace, the report presented by her had been circulated. It was agreed to proceed with submitting TPO requests for the areas/trees suggested, under advice to the property owners/custodians. Cllr Lemmon agreed to lead on a project to identify tree planting within the parish.

b) A grass-roots group was coming together in the parish to put together craft initiatives. It was agreed to support this initiative by purchasing materials and tools (such as knitting and crochet equipment, and yarn)

c) A request had been received from Nassington Nature for a noticeboard to be placed inside the church porch. It was **RESOLVED** to procure the noticeboard from the Nassington Nature budget.

#### **26.2695. Playing field**

a) The monthly inspection had been completed and the report lodged. The 'farmy' rocker was the most urgent matter and the clerk will chase HAGS. At the same time, HAGS will be asked for advice about

repairing the planks on the 'pirate' activity unit. The clerk will approach NNC regarding 'Dogs on Leads' notices.

b) Cricket club: The NPC chairman is planning to meet the cricket club chairman.

**25.2511. Maintenance and Services:**

a) **Allotments:**

- It was **RESOLVED** to approve the arrangements for a deposit agreement arrangement for new tenants, which had been implemented under delegation arrangements.
- There was an update on allotment uptake, tenants and unpaid invoices and cessations/evictions.
- Information regarding a rat infestation at the allotment and quotes/management solutions from potential suppliers had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was resolved to appoint a contractor on a twelve-month contract.
- There had been a recent committee meeting of the clerk, Cllr Hurcombe, as the allotment lead member, and four allotment holders who act as liaison with the council. It had been a positive meeting. The fruits of the work of the committee is apparent at the allotment site as it is being cleared and kept tidy by the allotment holders and in particular one or two volunteers who help out other holder. The compound for collecting non-combustible/compostable rubbish was almost full, meaning that a skip would be required before too long.
- It was agreed that a magnetic noticeboard back could be procured to go in the noticeboard.

b) **Allotment wall:** A report and costings for the wall had been forthcoming following a meeting with a specialist contractor. It was agreed that the situation would need to be re-assessed, partly to investigate grant funding and partly because it retains the road, which forms part of unregistered and unadopted highway.

c) **Pocket Park:** An OS survey as part of adverse possession application will be carried out in the coming weeks.

d) The traffic calming gateway on Fotheringhay Road has been damaged and in the first instance would be reported on Fix-My-Street/HORT

e) Highways – note NNC’s preferred method of reporting highway faults – HORT- as an alternative to FixMyStreet.

**26.2696. Financial matters:**

a) It was **RESOLVED** to approve invoices / accounts for payment or paid under delegated authority, and note income as listed below

b) The month end accounts to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026 had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to approve accounts on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026 as follows:

ledger balance current account	13,361.39
Tailored reserve	38,514.30
Nationwide 95 day saver	96,345.40
Uncleared cash receipts	25.00
<b>Total cash:</b>	<u><u>148,246.09</u></u>
<b>Per cash book</b>	
Balance b/f	133,743.53
Add receipts for year	116,552.09
less payments for the year	102,049.53
Balance c/f:	<u><u>148,246.09</u></u>

<b>Goods/service</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Nett</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Power</b>
Biscuit Tin Hire	Nassington Village Hall		880.00	LGA <sup>i</sup> S145
Hire for Neat	Nassington Village Hall		161.50	LGA <sup>i</sup> S111
Hire for History Group	Nassington Village Hall		50.00	LGA <sup>i</sup> S144
Hire for PC meetings	Nassington Village Hall		161.50	LGA <sup>i</sup> S111

Churchyard maintenance	Plough env'ntal		150.00	LGA <sup>i</sup> S215
Office costs	S Rodger	174.48	195.00	LGA <sup>i</sup> S111
NEAT booklets	K Cook		149.27	LGA <sup>i</sup> S111
Payroll services	DCK Payroll	15.00	18.00	LGA <sup>i</sup> S111
Land registry survey	Wellers Hedley		40.00	LGA <sup>i</sup> S111
Training	Northants CALC	53.00	63.60	LGA <sup>i</sup> S111
Mobile phone plan	Lebara (Feb & Mar)	8.16	9.60	LGA <sup>i</sup> S111
Churchyard planting	Burncoose Nurseries		278.10	LGA <sup>i</sup> S215
History website	Wix	108.00	129.60	LGA <sup>i</sup> S144
Postage	Royal Mail		6.80	LGA <sup>i</sup> S111
Churchyard planting	Woodland Trust		278.10	LGA <sup>i</sup> S215
Water at allotments	Anglian Water		34.57	SHAA <sup>ii</sup> S26
Streetlighting	SSE	152.69	160.32	PCAct <sup>iii</sup> 1957 s3/ HA <sup>iv</sup> 1980 s301

**Income**

Goods/Service	Payer	Nett	Gross
Interest			235.93
Allotment rents		274.00	

**26.2697. Official announcements, notices or reports / Correspondence / representations of note:**

News updates had been received from ACRE and The Big50 initiative. A notification about NorthantsCALC strategic plan was noted along with information from Lee Barron MP regarding a campaign to improve mobile phone signals.

**26.2698. Newsletter / Social Media / community communications**

Thank you to the public attendees; mobile phone signal improvement campaign, and NNC new alternative to Fix-My-Street

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026**

**Approved by Nassington Parish Council:**

<b>Signature of Chairman</b>		<b>Date:</b>
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<sup>i</sup> Local Government Act 1972

<sup>ii</sup> SHAA – Small Holding and Allotments Act 1908

<sup>iii</sup> PCAct -Parish Councils Act 1957

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