

NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes – Annual meeting of Nassington Parish Council

Wednesday 13th May 2026 at 7.00 pm in Nassington Village Hall

26.2712. Election of the chair of Nassington Parish Council

It was *RESOLVED* to appoint Elliott Clark as Chair of the Nassington Parish Council. It was further *RESOLVED* that due to his absence this evening, his signing of the acceptance of office of chair can take place at later date, in advance of the next meeting of the council.

26.2713. Election of the chair of the meeting

It was *RESOLVED* to appoint Charlotte Lemmon as Chair of the evening's meeting.

26.2714. Attendance

Present: Cllr Alain Kingsley, Cllr Marcus Hurcombe, Cllr Charlotte Lemmon (chair), and Cllr Andy Russell. Apologies received from Matt Blakeley and Elliott Clark due to personal/business commitments. Officer present: The clerk.

Apologies also received from North Northamptonshire Council Ward Cllr Simon Fairhall.

26.2715. 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.

25.2636. Election of members holding positions of responsibility or representation.

It was *RESOLVED* that members be appointed to following roles:

- a) Vice chair: None would be appointed at the current time, there is not a statutory requirement for this role,
- b) Village organisations with own constitution:
 - o Representative on Village Hall Trust: Cllr Alain Kingsley
 - o Burial Board: Cllr Alan Kingsley and Cllr Marcus Hurcombe plus Sam Attenborough,
 - o Newsletter: Clerk and chair
- c) Committees/working groups:
 - o Allotments: Cllr Marcus Hurcombe.
 - o NEAT: Cllr Charlotte Lemmon and Cllr Matt Blakeley.
- d) Lead Member
 - o Neighbourhood planning: Cllr Matt Blakeley
 - o Neighbourhood Watch / PLR: Cllr Alain Kingsley
 - o Governance/Internal control check: Cllr Matt Blakeley
 - o Footpaths & rights of way: Cllr Andy Russell
 - o Playground / playing field weekly safety checks: Rolling cycle of one councillor per month
 - o **CAN** Champion/Environmental/nature recovery: Cllr Charlotte Lemmon

Commented [SP1]: CAN = Climate & Nature

26.2716. Protocol and policies:

It was agreed to defer the adoption of policies to the following meeting, noting the importance of doing so in order to comply with expectations and AGAR requirements.

26.2717. Meetings: It was *RESOLVED* that the meeting schedule to remain 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7.00pm in the village hall, (with summer recess in August).

26.2718. Minutes

It was *RESOLVED* to approve the minutes, circulated in advance of the meeting, of the meeting held in April 2026.

26.2719. Questions or address from members of the public:

There were none.

26.2720. Co-option of new members to the parish council.

No candidates have come forward.

26.2721. Planning and licencing applications:

- a) 26/00856/TPO T1 Holme Oak - Crown Reduce by no more than 3m, Crown Raise by approx 4.5 - 5m 30 Church Street Nassington PE8 6QG (see also planning permission here: NE/25/00126/TPO/ It was noted that the planning permission had been granted, despite the extant permission from the previous year and the comments received from the NNC tree officer at the time. It was agreed to refer to Simon Fairhall as an example of the previously mooted challenges with dealing with the planning process at North Northamptonshire Council.

26.2722. Planning and Development policies:

- a) **Neighbourhood plan:** This was deferred to the next meeting when Cllr Matt Blakeley would be in attendance.
- b) **Heat Nassington.** The MP, Lee Barron, had attended a recent meeting with the NEAT committee team and is supportive of the project. Cllr Charlotte Lemmon updated the meeting on the current thinking of the committee, and the possibility of applying for community grants to look at alternative energy sourcing options. There may be a need to appoint an external project manager to consider these options.

26.2723. Governance:

- a) **Annual Parish Meeting:** As the event had missed the newsletter and no formal invitations had been sent to village organisations to become involved in the event, it was agreed to postpone the event and revisit for an inclusive event at a later date, and a strong presence at the garden show in August. Formal feedback would be sought at opportunities and ways of engaging with means to do so would be investigated.
- b) **Oundle Ward cluster meeting:** Cllr Charlotte Lemmon and the clerk had attended and the report circulated separately.
- c) **Insurance:** Insurance renewal documents, as revised following discussions between the council and the broker, had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was noted that a weekly inspection of the play equipment area is necessary, but had been clarified as *"This can be undertaken by a cllr or volunteer and can be a brief sweep of the area"* It was *RESOLVED* to proceed with cover with Clear Insurance underwritten by Ecclesiastical Insurance Office plc, as year two of a three-year LTA.

26.2724. Community / Projects:

- a) **Nassington Nature:** The group is supporting the upcoming Nassington Open Gardens by promoting sustainable approaches to gardening to help support wildlife. It is also promoting and encouraging people (in general, not necessarily associated with the Open Gardens) to erect bird boxes, in particular swift boxes. It is identifying volunteers to fix the bird boxes when people are unable to do so themselves. It was *RESOLVED* that the necessary expenses to support this can be executed via the clerk/RFO within the allocated budget under delegated powers.
- b) **GNRP AGM/celebration :** Good Neighbours – Rural Peterborough(GNRP) invitation to its AGM and volunteer celebration had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The clerk will attend.

c) **Dog nuisance.** The matter of dog mess has once again been brought to the council. It was agreed to complete the application form for a bin, to be installed on Eastfield crescent at the junction with St Marys Way, on the small triangle to the west of the road. It was agreed to request the removal of the bin at the east facing entrance to the churchyard. The latest Keep Britain Tidy campaign was dismissed.

26.2725. Playing field

- a) A request has been received from the preschool requesting support for a project to modestly expand the outdoor area at the preschool. The council is supportive of the outlined request in principle. It has requested plans and further details to consider further, including to consider putting before the playing field association, as trustee of the land.
- b) It was noted that the RoSPA inspection of the playing field and pocket park would be carried out during June.
- c) The HAGS invoices that were received shortly before the April meeting without time to properly verify had been checked and found to be in order as outstanding payments withheld as the previous repairs had not been carried out to a satisfactory standard. It was noted that costs of repairs to the climbing frame have not been received – the clerk will follow up.
- d) Monthly inspection for insurance purposes, and weekly sweep of the area. The May report inspection highlighted the lack of signage at the park, the fact that the wetpour surfaces have a great deal of grass on them. A bench near the gym is loose at one end and the oak bench needs a replacement slat. It was noted that June won't require a monthly inspection as the RoSPA inspection will be carried out, but will require a weekly sweep to visually check all is in order.
- e) Cricket club: This will carry forward to a future date.

25.2511. Maintenance and Services:

- a) **Allotments:**
 - The meeting with allotment holders on 22nd April had covered details about the skip in situ at the time, the autumn bonfire, open gardens, arrangements for the waste compound, fruit trees, pest control, topping for the central haul road, the gate and the noticeboard.
 - It was agreed that eviction proceedings should begin for non-payers of allotment rent, in particular one allotment holder who has not paid for at least two years.

26.2726. Financial matters:

a) It was **RESOLVED** to approve section 2 of the AGAR circulated in advance of the meeting as follows:

| | 31 March 2025 £ | 31 March 2026 £ |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 Balances brought forward | 141,211 | 133,744 |
| 2 (+) Annual Precept | 50,750 | 66,628 |
| 3 (+) Total other receipts | 42,395 | 51,107 |
| 4 (-) Staff Costs | 13,686 | 13,971 |
| 5 (-) Loan interest/capital repayments | 0 | 0 |
| 6 (-) Total other payments | 86,926 | 92,747 |
| 7 (=) Balances carried forward | 133,744 | 144,761 |
| 8 Total cash and investments | 133,744 | 144,761 |
| 9 Total fixed assets and long term assets | 240,807 | 269,656 |
| 10 Total borrowings | 0 | 0 |

b) It was **RESOLVED** to approve payments to DCK Payroll, for monthly payroll services by direct debit. [HMRC, NEST, ICO payments, and electricity invoices are paid by DD, salary by SO and phone costs by automatic debit to the credit card.]

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

| Goods/service | Supplier | Nett | Gross |
|-----------------|----------------------|------|--------|
| SLCC membership | SLCC | | 200.00 |
| Grounds works | Plough environmental | | 380.00 |

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------|-----------|
| Admin / website costs | KA PA Services | | 567.80 |
| Blue Plaques | Ward Signs | 34.50 | 41.40 |
| IT Services | Toucan | 51.33 | 61.60 |
| Play equipment repairs | HAGS | 2,796.93 | 3,293.91 |
| Paid by card | | | |
| Mobile phone | Lebara | 4.08 | 4.90 |
| Landline contract | Vonage | 8.54 | 10.25 |
| Postage | Royal Mail | | 1.70 |
| Yarn | Love Crafts | 60.67 | 72.80 |
| Water at allotments | Anglain Water (Wave) | | 34.57 |
| SOs/DDs/contractual | | | |
| Streetlighting electricity | SSE | 101.54 | 106.62 |
| Payroll bureau | DCK Payroll services | 15.00 | 18.00 |
| Data processing fee | ICO | | 47.00 |
| PAYE | HMRC | | 891.66 |
| Salary etc | | | 1,181.12 |
| Income (March) | | | |
| Precept | NNC | | 66,628.00 |
| Interest | | | 254.09 |
| Allotment rents | | | 125.00 |

d) The year end accounts to 30th April 2026 had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to approve accounts at 30th April 2026 as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ledger balance current account | 57,999.17 |
| Tailored reserve | 36,735.61 |
| Nationwide 95 day saver | 96,861.34 |
| Uncleared cash receipts | 25.00 |
| Hinckley & Rugby BS | 10,000.00 |
| Total cash: | <u>201,621.12</u> |
| Per cash book | |
| Balance b/f | 144,760.85 |
| Add receipts for year | 66,957.09 |
| less payments for the year | 10,096.82 |
| Balance c/f: | <u>201,621.12</u> |

26.2727. Official announcements, notices or reports / Correspondence / representations of note:

There were none to report.

26.2728. Newsletter / Social Media / community communications

The article will focus on picking up after dog fouling.

26.2729. Matters to note – not for decision. Future agenda items / matters to be carried forward –

Highways matters were mentioned, in particular not spraying weeds on the pavement with herbicide.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 10TH JUNE 2026

Approved by Nassington Parish Council:

Signature of Chairman

Date: