

NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES - NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 9th May 2022 at 7.35 pm in Nassington Village Hall, following the Annual Parish Meeting

22/2026. Election Of Chairperson of the parish council

It was **RESOLVED** that Robert Peterson be elected as chairperson of the parish council. The chairman signed his declaration of office.

22/2027. Attendance and apologies for absence

Present: Cllr Alan Burns, Cllr Elliott Clark, Cllr Rebecca Downey, Cllr Alain Kingsley, Cllr Charlotte Lemmon, Cllr Paul Monks, Cllr Derrick Mortimer, Cllr Robert Peterson (chairman) and Cllr Shane Rickwood. Officer present: The clerk. Two members of the public present.

22/2028. Declarations of Interest

There were none

22/2029. Election of members holding positions of responsibility or representation.

It was **RESOLVED** to make the following appointments:

- Vice Chairman: Cllr Derrick Mortimer.
- Committees/working groups:
 - Allotments: Cllr Alain Kingsley and Cllr Paul Monks.
 - Burial Board: Cllr Alan Burns, Cllr Rebecca Downey and Cllr Robert Peterson.
- Representatives on Village Organisation with own Constitution:
 - Newsletter: Cllr Derrick Mortimer and Cllr Robert Peterson
 - Village Hall: None was deemed required at the present time
- Lead member:
 - Neighbourhood Planning: Cllr Alan Burns as chairman, all other members as ex officio members of the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee.
 - Governance: Checking accounts and support in governance matters: Cllr Derrick Mortimer
 - Neighbourhood Watch / PLR: Cllr Elliot Clark will be nominated replacement if the clerk is unable to represent the council
 - Footpaths & rights of way: All members will remain vigilant to highways related rights of way matters and report as necessary.
 - Playground / playing field safety checks: The clerk will continue to carry out this role.

22/2030. Protocol and policies:

Draft formats of the standing orders and financial regulations, based on NALC model policies, plus a scheme of delegation policy had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the drafts as presented, with the amendment of 'Warmington' to 'Nassington' in the scheme of delegation

Further, It was **RESOLVED** to re-affirm the council's adopted code of conduct, based on the North Northamptonshire Council model.

22/2031. Meetings:

It was **RESOLVED** to that the meeting schedule to remain 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the village hall

22/2032. Approval of Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve minutes of the meeting of April 13th 2022, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

22/2033. Questions or address from members of the public:

There were no questions.

22/2034. Neighbourhood Plan:

Re-confirmation of advisory group meeting 30th May 2022 7.30pm. All members invited to attend, but only those previously appointed to advisory sub-committees expected to attend.

22/2035. Planning and Development:

- a) Change of use of land to the west of Jacks Green at Rockingham Forest Park to provide a range of tourist accommodation (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 :
It was noted that the annually returning curlews which nest within the vicinity of the proposed development have not been included in the biodiversity report. The birds are amber listed under the UK Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) compilation and a UK Biodiversity Action Plan priority species. Members will further familiarise themselves with the issues raised in the planning application and if necessary, request that the application be agendaed for the June meeting of the parish council. The applicant should be invited to attend a meeting [*NB this has been superseded since the meeting by the council being invited to a site meeting*]
- b) North Northamptonshire Strategic Plan Scope and Issues Consultation : Opportunity to become involved in first steps towards replacement of the current Joint Core Strategy and emerging East Northants Local Plan. The response would include the council's preference for future consultation workshops to take place in the evening. The council will emphasise the need for: a cohesive approach; safeguarding rural communities whilst allowing managed development needed in a community; on demand public transport to support green initiatives and building stronger communities; support for safe walking and cycling routes; plus biodiversity protection and enhancement

22/2036. Governance Matters:

- a) The insurance renewal is due on June 1st 2022. Advice from the council's previous longstanding broker indicate that premiums have risen sharply. The underwriter from whom the council bought cover in 2021 has withdrawn from the market for repeat or new business. The broker who dealt with the insurance last year reiterated market conditions as bullish.
The clerk has obtained one quote. Recent renovation works to the pavilion at the playing field leased to the cricket club necessitate a revaluation of that building before final quotes are received. The clerk will circulate full details to all members prior to the end of May renewal deadline. It was **RESOLVED** to authorise a spend of up to £1,600.
- b) It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Elliot Clark and Cllr Alain Kinglsey be nominated as additional members permitted to carry out authorisation of online bank payments with Unity Trust Bank. Existing members are Cllr Rebecca Downey, Cllr Charlotte Lemmon, Cllr Robert Peterson and Cllr Shane Rickwood.
- c) It was agreed to permit bank access only for person nominated per item 2029 above to allow for governance and scrutiny, but not allowing transaction authorisation or setting up. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Derrick Mortimer be nominated as having access to view only on the council's bank account
- d) It was **RESOLVED** to re-affirm payment of salary by standing order and pension payments and electricity by direct debit, in accordance with Financial Regulation 6.7 and 6.8
- e) The internal audit feedback had been received and circulated, but only shortly before the meeting. The clerk confirmed that there are no matters arising from the audit that require addressing urgently. The report will be shared with members and re-agendaed for the meeting in June.

22/2037. Playing field / Cricket club

- a) There was a discussion to provide absolute clarification of exact requirements to support granting of equipment to Nassington cricket club purchase of strimmer and brush cutter as per March discussions. It was agreed that the terms of the granting of the equipment would include: the recipients (i.e. The cricket club) must contract to insure the donated equipment, to repair it as necessary, follow the manufacturers' maintenance requirements, follow necessary familiarisation and/or training requirements, ensure all users are safe at all times, no under 18s to use the equipment, keep secure at all times, only to be used on council land, PPE to be worn and all activities to be risk assessed and all HSE guidance adhered to. The clerk was instructed to draft an agreement for signing by both parties.
- b) The details of the ride on mower and the strimmer equipment requested by and to be gifted to Nassington Cricket Club had been circulated with the agenda. It was **RESOLVED** to procure these items and grant them free of charge to the cricket club for maintenance of the grass at the playing field including cricket playing area, children's play area, gym area and to cut back any vegetation encroaching from the copse areas surrounding the playing field, especially alongside the zip slide.
- c) Summer Outreach project: It was agreed to support Freedom Leisure with its sports, games and crafts pop-up activity at the playing field in August aimed at 8-13 year olds. This is likely to be the first two Tuesdays of (state) school summer holidays.

22/2038. Community / Projects:

- a) Allotments:
 - Open gardens: It was agreed that the council will allow inclusion of the allotments in the village Open Gardens event being organised by the church. A warning sign advising people to take care and that they are entering at their own risk would be erected.
 - A number of new allotment holders have taken up plots and improved them greatly. As a result, a large amount of rubbish has accumulated and is ready for collection. One allotment containing a significant amount of detritus will require clearing. A skip or a clearance company will be necessary.
 - It was agreed that the allotments will be further inspected on 12th June.
- b) Jubilee party: There was an update on the plans for the jubilee celebrations.
- c) A message of thanks for the grant donation had been received from Nassington Preschool along with a photograph to show the works carried out.
- d) It was **RESOLVED** to make a donation of £500 to Oundle Volunteer Action, who had presented to the Annual Parish Meeting earlier in the evening.

22/2039. Community Matters / clerks report:

A discussion ensued regarding matters that had recently become known regarding the situation regarding the newly built housing association properties at Fenn Close. The clerk reported the parish council had provided the housing association with some land registry maps which detailed ownership of various pockets of land in the vicinity of the footpath that runs from the north end of The Drove to west of the properties in Sewter Gardens. Snowdon Homes, the builder of the new Fenn Close properties, entered into an arrangement with landowners to 'mole' foul water facilities to an existing drain that runs beneath the footpath. Land registry records indicate that the land including the footpath is orphaned/unregistered. It is possible to raise an indemnity insurance in case an owner claims rights to the land and disputes the sewer pipe, but not if is local authority land – indemnity insurers will not cover for that scenario. The various parties involved with the affordable housing are working with North Northamptonshire Council to establish whether there might be legacy ownership historically from when East Northamptonshire Council owned the land, now The Drove and currently owned by a separate housing association.

The parish council expressed its huge disappointment with the situation which is causing financial hardship and distress to people, who were initially under the impression they would have moved earlier in the year. The council

will escalate the matter to the Unitary ward members and invite the various parties to the next parish council meeting for an explanation of the matter.

22/2040. Financial matters:

- a) It was **RESOLVED** to approve cost of £154 (40% of total cost) for clerk to attend the SLCC annual conference in the autumn over two days.
- b) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following invoices accounts for payment or paid under delegated authority:

<u>Goods/Service</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Nett</u>	<u>Gross</u>	<u>Power</u>
Grass cutting	Plough		220.00	HA ⁱ S96 PHA ⁱⁱ S164
“ “	“		250.00	LGA ^{iv} 136
Map printing	Easiprint	7.80	9.36	Localism T&C PA 1190S61F(1),(2) ⁱⁱⁱ
SLCC membership (Part)	SLCC		79.56	LGA ^{iv} 111
Pathway	AMT	4,790.00	5,748.00	HA ^v S96 PHA ⁱⁱ S164
Jubilee sundries	Amazon	8.32	9.98	LGA ^{iv} 145
Jubilee sundries	Amazon	7.11	8.52	LGA ^{iv} 145
Jubilee sundries	Amazon	3.32	3.99	LGA ^{iv} 145
Prizes for jubilee	Amazon	13.28	15.94	LGA ^{iv} 145
Jubilee sundries	Amazon	9.99	11.99	LGA ^{iv} 145
Stationery	Amazon	11.12	13.35	LGA ^{iv} 111
Jubilee sundries	Amazon	14.99	17.99	LGA ^{iv} 145
Paid by so/dd				
Electricity	SSE	112.55	118.17	PC Act and Highways Act ^{vi}
Staff costs			715.98	LGA ^{vii} 112
Paid by card				
TENS licence for jubilee	NNC ^{viii}	21.00	21.00	LGA ^{iv} 145
Games hire balance	PlayChest	49.58	59.50	LGA ^{iv} 145
Prizes for jubilee	Sophie allport	80.75	96.90	LGA ^{iv} 145
Games hire	Rent event		30.60	LGA ^{iv} 145
Prizes for jubilee	Etsy		37.00	LGA ^{iv} 145
Beanbags hire	RU Comfy	211.88	254.26	LGA ^{iv} 145
Balloons & bunting	party place	155.38	186.45	LGA ^{iv} 145
Gazebo		283.33	339.99	LGA ^{iv} 145
Land reg enquiry	Land registry		6.00	Localism T&C PA 1190S61F(1),(2) ^{ix}

PLUS TRANSFER £35,000 to Nationwide account

22/2041. Official announcements, notices or reports / Correspondence / representations of note:

- 75th NALC Conference 1st October 2022
- SLCC 50th conference: Agree 2nd and 3rd November
- An anonymous paper with unsubstantiated references to the planning application at Jacks Green had been received at the clerk's address

22/2042. Newsletter / Social Media / community communications.

Mention would be made of:

- Volunteer action – what it does and how it can help. Add that volunteers are required and that the council has supported it financially to ensure continuation
- Pop up summer activities
- Jubilee party
- The speed indicator device
- Improvements at the allotments

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 9TH JUNE 2022

Approved by Nassington Parish Council:

Signature of Chairman		Date:
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- i HA- Highways Act 1980
 - ii PHA - Public Health Act 1875
 - iii T&CPA Town & Country Planning Act 1990
 - iv LGA – Local Government Act 1972
 - v HA- Highways Act 1980
 - vi Parish Councils Act 1957 s3 / Highways Act 1980 s301
 - vii LGA – Local Government Act 1972
 - viii NNC – North Northamptonshire Council
 - ix T&CPA Town & Country Planning Act 1990