

# NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



## Minutes - Nassington Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2020 via electronic communication in a virtual setting at 7.30 pm BST

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In accordance with provision laid down by The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, during a period of encouraged 'social distancing', this meeting was held by means of internet video and telephone communication in a virtual setting. All members were always able to hear proceedings and members of the public had been given opportunity to attend.

### **20/1918 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Cllr Alan Burns (Chairman), Cllr Tony Cooper, Cllr Dec Downey, Cllr Rebecca Downey, and Cllr Paul Monks. Apologies were received from Robert Peterson, Ruth Rigby, and Susie Tinsley due to personal and work commitments. Two members of the public, one being chairman of Village Hall hub group working party. Officer present: The clerk.

### **20/1919 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

There were none

### **20/1920 MINUTES:**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the June 2020 meeting as a proper record of that meeting. The chairman will sign the minutes at an appropriate time.

### **20/1921 ADDRESS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:**

There was none.

### **20/1922 COMMUNITY HUB UPDATE:**

In the intervening weeks since the last parish council meeting, an exchange of email between the hub project chairman and the parish council chairman had taken place, for background information purposes, with input from councillors informing the council chairman's input. There was a brief background summary to the means by which the council reached the current working proposal as to the site of a new village hall building, thus creating a village hub where sports, preschool and a community building could co-exist in a symbiotic and connected interactive setting. A level of frustration was expressed over the lack of progression from the previous meetings in January and March which had focussed on keeping the wider community in touch with the project and maintaining a degree of open consultative appraisal conversations. This was so that when it came to the point of re-engagement with the planning authority as the emerging local plan went back on track, the level of community support and engagement was tangible and evidenced. During discussions it became apparent that there is somewhat of a Catch-22 predicament; the aspiration for an architect's involvement to produce some conceptual drawings to help inform the wider community is mired by the lack of clear direction from a planning policy perspective. There is limited background knowledge of the evolution of the community project and the involvement with the planning officers at East Northamptonshire Council. The council felt that the architects should not be advising as to the planning process as the reason for their involvement is to produce concept illustrations to help people conceptualise what the new building might look like and to inform the planning process on the overarching concept, not to design a building in detail.

Following much consideration, it was resolved that the council would seek to appoint a planning consultant/agent to advise on how to progress the hub project in terms of a planning application. It was further resolved to appoint a Neighbourhood Plan planning consultant to lead in the preparation of a neighbourhood plan which will focus on the Community Hub project and the wider issue of housing to support the new facilities in planning out crime. It was also agreed to engage with the relatively newly qualified architect from the village who attended the open workshop in January 2019 for advice as to design concepts.

Decisions regarding appointment of consultants would be carried forward via ad-hoc meetings of the parish council or working parties, with perhaps a meeting in August.

**20/1923 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT MATTERS:**

- a) 20/00793/TCA/ | Suggested 20% reduction to a walnut tree located at the rear of the property. | 37 Church Street Nassington. It was **RESOLVED** that the council has no objections or further comment to make.
- b) Notice of appeal: Construction of new maintenance and storage building to serve an existing caravan park at Yarwell Mill Mill Road Yarwell (See 19/001905/FUL). It was **RESOLVED** that the council has nothing to add.

**20/1924 GOVERNANCE MATTERS:**

- a) It was **RESOLVED** to receive the annual RoSPA report of the inspection of the play equipment at the playing field and note that there were no urgent items for attention.
- b) It was **RESOLVED** to receive and approve the recommended RoSPA weekly/monthly check sheet and agree implementation of a monitoring programme. The clerk will oversee the monthly checking.
- c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the risk assessment for opening of play area post COVID lockdown and agree the proposed signage. A maximum budget of £50 was agreed for the signage.
- d) It was **RESOLVED** to approve £500 budget to engage Vincent Sykes solicitors to scope options for registration of village green and grass path leading to playing field.
- e) It was **RESOLVED** to approve joining with Y&N Burial Board for topple test of the memorials in the churchyard and sharing the cost proportionately, with proviso for £39 per memorial if found to be unsafe.
- f) It was **RESOLVED** to waive rent from Nassington Preschool due to COVID loss of income for the lockdown period.

**20/1925 FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

- a) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following invoices / accounts:

Goods/Service	Payee	Nett	Gross
Clerks salary	S Rodger		564.49
Pension	Nest		95.09
Grass cutting	Plough		360.00
RoSPA inspections	RoSPA/Playsafety	123.00	147.60
PAYE	HMRC		474.43
Web & email hosting	Paragon Internet (paid by card already)	106.95	128.34
Online mapping	Parish Online	30.00	36.00
ICO Fee	ICO		40.00

**20/1926 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

- a) Further to the June minute, matters surrounding the cricket club lease had been discussed with the chairman of the cricket club. It was resolved that the lease would proceed as agreed in 2018, but with an exchange of letters between the parish council and the cricket club agreeing a break clause, to allow the lease to be rescinded on the basis that any new facility would incorporate the requirements of the cricket club.
- b) The invitations to tender for the gym, lighting and path to playing field are all in hand.

**20/1927 OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES OR REPORTS / CORRESPONDENCE / REPRESENTATIONS OF NOTE:**

- An email regarding Black Lives Matter had been received requesting the parish council to consider taking the lead in encouraging the community to show support for the current Black Lives Matter public awareness campaign. The matter was given careful consideration. It was felt that this was

not a parish council matter but the choice of individual members of the community. However, it was agreed appropriate to make the statement that the parish council objects, rejects, and dissociates from any form of racism, discrimination, or prejudice of any kind whatsoever

- Information about issues regarding recycling collections were briefly reported, for reference, although the matter is not a parish council one and the waste authority is aware.

**20/1928 NEWSLETTER / SOCIAL MEDIA / COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS:**

There was agreement that the two village shops had gone beyond the call of duty in supporting the community during the COVID19 crisis, with such things as sourcing items to support people who had to isolate and carrying out home deliveries. The council will write to both businesses to express thanks on behalf of the people of the village and the wider communities. The council will write too to the businesses that have been closed, welcoming them back and congratulating them on making the necessary arrangements to re-open.

**20/1929 MATTERS TO NOTE – NOT FOR DECISION:**

In readiness for the next meeting, the clerk will make enquiries to try to ascertain the situation with The Black Horse pub which had been on the verge of opening as COVID19 lockdown happened.

Approved by Nassington Parish Council:		
Signature of Chairman of meeting:		Date: