

# NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



## MINUTES - NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30 pm in Nassington Village Hall

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### **23.2345. Attendance and apologies for absence**

Present: Cllr Sam Attenborough, Cllr Alan Burns, , Cllr Rebecca Downey, Cllr Alain Kingsley, Cllr Charlotte Lemmon, and Cllr Derrick Mortimer (chair). Apologies received from Elliott Clark and Robert Peterson due to personal circumstances. It was **RESOLVED** to accept these apologies. Officer present: The clerk. Two members of the public

### **23.2346. Declarations of Interest**

Dispensations are in place for all members of the council who are also members of the cricket club, for members with allotments, for members with association with the 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 in nature 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 as duly appointed members of the council as priority in any decision making process.

Cllr Sam Attenborough declared an interest with matters relating to quotes from James Broughton, as they share personal business dealings.

### **23.2347. Approval of Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes, circulated in advance of the meeting, of the meeting held in November 2023. The chairman of the meeting signed the minutes.

### **23.2348. Session with Pamela McGill introducing "Heating Nassington".**

A brief presentation by Pamela McGill, a village resident, introduced the concept of locally and community owned renewable and low carbon energy assets, facilitated by grant funding available to explore options, feasibility, and next steps, via the Community Energy Fund. This would be a stand-alone organisation, not part of the parish council, but possibly structured along the lines of a CIO. The parish council was wholly supportive of the concept and offered to provide 'seed funding' for initial set-up costs. Pamela will set-up an initial meeting to get the project off the ground and some parish councillors expressed an interest in attending.

### **23.2349. Questions or address from members of the public:**

The council undertook to investigate whether the poly tunnel at the allotments was still available for use by all allotment holders.

There was a discussion regarding the collapsed walls between the churchyard and the Old Vicarage. The south facing wall had collapsed within the past week but the west facing wall had been collapsed for some time and replaced with fencing. Concern was raised that the church is a grade I listed building, (including the churchyard and its curtilage walls), the area is within the conservation area and there are a number of listed buildings in the immediate vicinity. The clerk was instructed to write to the conservation officer at North Northamptonshire Council advising of the situation.

### **23.2350. Planning, development, and licensing:**

There were no planning applications.

### **23.2351. Neighbourhood plan:**

The latest version of the draft plan has been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was agreed that this version is acceptable to go forward as the draft on which to base the next consultation, with two alterations:

The environment policy was discussed again. It was agreed to rescind minute 2324 (relating to minute 2312). Charlotte Lemmon would draft an alternative policy which is more enabling than the current draft, which it was felt could be interpreted to be preventative in nature. The draft would be circulated to all members, their comments incorporated as necessary, and the final policy forwarded to the consultants.

Alan Burns undertook to write an executive summary of the plan, to incorporate within the document and as part of the publicity and awareness campaign to highlight the consultations. There would be open events, at a specific date to be decided, in the early spring, likely to be before Easter.

#### **23.2352. Governance:**

A draft revised co-option policy had been circulated in advance of the meeting, updated from 2018 to allow resignation by email. It was *RESOLVED* to adopt the updated co-option policy.

#### **23.2353. Community / Projects:**

a) Nature recovery project update:

The council's grant application had been turned down, as the provider had received a large number of applications. It was agreed to investigate the possibility of alternative funding sources and to ascertain how Rockingham Forest Vision envisages working with the parish council, as suggested in their most recent correspondence.

b) A quote for community asset maintenance works, including the playing field car park and lane and the pocket park had been received. In order to secure a slot for the works to be executed in early January, it had been accepted under delegated powers. It was *RESOLVED* to ratify acceptance of the works at a total cost of £1.872.

c) It was *RESOLVED* to re-join NACRE.

#### **23.2354. Playing field**

a) The draft of the licensing agreement for use of the playing field has been sent to the cricket club. A response had yet to be received.

b) During a recent routine inspection, the fire service had mentioned to Nassington Preschool that overhanging vegetation on the lane leading to the playing field was less than ideal. The clerk had arranged with a local farmer that they cut back the hedge, at a cost of approximately £100. It was *RESOLVED* to ratify this action taken under delegated authority.

#### **23.2355. Financial matters:**

a) Accounts to date and up to date income and expenditure against budget figures had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was *RESOLVED* to note and approve the accounts and expenditure against budget to second quarter end at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The accounts stand at:

ledger balance current account	1,314.92
Nationwide 95 day saver	61,992.43
Lloyds commercial card	0.00
Tailored reserve	88,365.68
<b>Total cash:</b>	<b>151,673.03</b>
<b>Per cash book</b>	
Balance b/f	113,112.76
Add receipts for year	68,764.91
less payments for the year	30,204.64
Balance c/f:	151,673.03

- b) The amended draft budget had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Following a discussion during which it was acknowledged that carry forward from the current financial year might be higher than anticipated, due to delayed projects, in particular play equipment. The carry forward and expenditure of the projects taken into the following financial year would be properly accounted for in the next year as necessary.

It was also noted that an opportunity to increase reserves that are being accumulated for the parish community hub project are included in the current year's budget and the draft budget for 2024/25.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the draft budget as circulated:

INCOME (receipts)		EXPENDITURE (Payments)	
Precept	50,750.00	Staff costs	13,231.00
Interest	5,000.00	Office expenses	400.00
Allotment Rents	412.00	Bank charges	108.00
NCC highways	534.00	Professional fees	1000.00
Wkg income	56,696.00	Training budget	300.00
Reserves	120,496.00	Elections	732.00
	<b><u>177,192.00</u></b>	Insurance	1,000.00
		Website	500.00
		NALC & SLCC	750.00
		Meeting facilitation	400.00
		Audit	625.00
		Burial Board	2,200.00
		Street Lighting	1,600.00
		Playing Field	1,500.00
		Footpaths / E'ment	1,750.00
		Allotment	1,000.00
		churchyard	850.00
		Highways / amenities	2,500.00
		Tree inspection/works	3,000.00
		Cohesion / wellbeing	3,000.00
		NDP project	2,000.00
		Contingency / c'man's allowance	250.00
		Fwd Contingency (to reserves)	3,000.00
		History group	500.00
		VH Grant	1,000.00
		To capital project	8,000.00
		New play equipment	5,500.00
		Sub total	56,696.00
		<b>Capital Projects / Reserves</b>	
		Play area	12,383.00
		Recreation reserve	60,034.00
		General Reserve	45,635.00
		Cohesion reserve	444.00
		Election reserve	2,000.00
		Working cash	56,696.00
		Total reserves	120,496.00
			<b><u>177,192.00</u></b>

c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments, details of which had been circulated in advance of the meeting:

<b>Goods/service</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Nett</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Power</b>
Deposit - groundworks	James Broughton	780.00	936.00	PHA <sup>i</sup> s164 HA <sup>ii</sup> s96 HA <sup>ii</sup> s136
Gravel for allotments	ST&J Aggregates	180.00	216.00	SHAA <sup>iii</sup> s23, 25
Water at allotments	Wavve (Anglian water biz)		29.98	SHAA <sup>iii</sup> s23, 25
<b><u>Paid by card</u></b>				
History group flyers	Peterborough Printing		14.40	LGA <sup>iv</sup> 145
PDF software	Software-UC.com	31.20	37.44	LGA <sup>i</sup> S111
Skip Hire	Mick George	263.00	315.60	SHAA <sup>iii</sup> s23, 25
Office365 subs	Microsoft		79.99	LGA <sup>i</sup> S111
Land registry	Land registry		3.00	LGA <sup>i</sup> S111
<b><u>Direct debits/SOs:</u></b>				
Streetlighting September	SSE	102.71	110.26	PHA <sup>v</sup> s234
AED June/July/Aug	SSE	8.33	10.00	PHA <sup>v</sup> s234
Salary and pension			1394.83	LGA <sup>i</sup> S112 & pensions act

**23.2356. Official announcements, notices or reports / Correspondence / representations of note:**

Progress report was noted.

**23.2357. Newsletter / Social Media / community communications would include**

Happy New Year

Support of the 'Heating Nassington' project elsewhere in the newsletter.

Reiterate that people should report flooding incidences to trigger algorithms on the automated reporting system.

Casual vacancy – encourage people to come forward.

**23.2358. Future agenda items / matters to be carried forward**

flooding to be tabled for discussion at the next meeting.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024**

**Approved by Nassington Parish Council:**

<b>Signature of Chairman</b>	<b>Date:</b>
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<sup>i</sup> Public Health Act 1875  
<sup>ii</sup> HA- Highways Act 1980  
<sup>iii</sup> SHAA – Small Holding and Allotments Act 1908  
<sup>iv</sup> Local Government act 1972  
<sup>v</sup> PHA – Public Health Act 1936