MINUTES - NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING
Wednesday 11th May 2016 in the Village Hall, Nassington at 7.30 pm,

16/1312 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to elect Alan Burns as chairman for the forthcoming year.

16/1313 **ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Present: Alan Burns (Chairman), Tony Cooper, Tony Cully, Paul Dixon, Dec Downey, Rob Peterson, Jeremy Taylor, Susie Tinsley and Kate Wyer-Roberts. Also present: the clerk

16/1314 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Tony Cully declared a personal but none pecuniary interest in proceedings.

16/1315 **ELECTION OF MEMBERS HOLDING POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY OR REPRESENTATION**

a. Vice Chairman: It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to elect Tony Cully as vice chairman for the forthcoming year.

b. Committees:
   - Allotments: Tony Cully (Chairman), Paul Dixon and Kate Wyer-Roberts
   - Burial Board: Alan Burns, Dec Downey and Terry Boulton as non-elected member

c. Representatives on Village Organisation with own Constitution
   - Newsletter – Rob Peterson

d. Representatives:
   - Village Hall – Tony Cooper
   - Neighbourhood Watch – Dec Downey
   - School liaison – The Clerk
   - Footpaths – All member to report matters as necessary
   - Playground / playing field safety checks – Jeremy Taylor

16/1316 **REVIEW OF POLICIES AND RECOMMENDATION TO BE CARRIED FORWARD FOR ADOPTION**

- It was **RESOLVED** to adopt new financial regulations, based on the model recently published by NALC and adapted to the specific requirements of this council.

16/1317 **MINUTES:**

a) It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held in April 2016 as a true record of that meeting, but the deletion of a phrase in minute 1298a.

b) It was **RESOLVED** to instruct the clerk to contact the person who had been in contact regarding the minutes expressing the council’s regret over any distress caused by the posting of the draft minutes of the April minutes which have now been altered and adopted.

16/1318 **QUESTIONS OR ADDRESS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** There were no public present.

16/1319 **PLANNING:**

a) 16/00678/FUL | Change of use from agricultural to paddock land | TL06477 95902 Church Street: There was an in-depth discussion concerning this application so that all aspects and implications were fully understood. There was no objection to the application per se, but concerns were raised at the proposed
loss of agricultural land and regarding the importance of the footpath NM6 running east-west along the northern border of the proposed site.

It was RESOLVED that the submission to the planning authority would convey the council’s concerns:

- Footpath NM6 is an important community amenity and is used extensively on a daily basis throughout the year as an access route both by casual walkers and as a route to and from preschool. Dogs are walked there numerous times each day. If the planning authority is minded to grant this application, it is imperative that a good and sufficient post and rail stock proof fence, or another fence with appropriate security, is erected and maintained.
- It is also of paramount importance that the surface of the footpath between the proposed paddock and the southern boundary of Fullbrook Farm is not damaged in any way by horses and is maintained in such a condition as to make NM6 easily passable on foot at all times.
- There should be no gates installed on NM6.
- The parish council is regretful at the proposed loss of agricultural farming land.

b) 16/00738/FUL | Single storey rear sun room extension with chimney for log burner to the west elevation | 11 Church Street – It was RESOLVED that the council has no objections to the proposals in the planning application nor further comment to make.

c) 16/00656/FUL | Erection of new industrial unit and associated offices, staff and visitor parking with services yard | Land South Of Unit 5 Kings Cliffe Industrial Estate Wansford Road Kings Cliff – It was RESOLVED that the council will convey its concerns regarding the situation with regard to flooding of the neighbouring residential property. There are issues which have, in the recent past as well as previous to that, caused significant flooding and ensuing extensive damage to personal & residential property and much personal distress. The parish council implores the planning authority to ensure that advice is sought from the appropriate environmental / flood specialist consultees as part of this application so that any development will not exacerbate the situation and that anything that can be done to alleviate the current situation is addressed as part of the planning conditions.

16/1320 QEI90 PARTY IN THE PARK: The organisation is continuing with the working party headed by Kate Wyer-Roberts. All members who are able will become involved with helping on the day.

16/1321 OPTIONS TO MARK WWI ARMISTICE CENTENARY: There was an exchange of ideas regarding the ways the parish can mark the end of the First World War with one being the possibility of an addition to the area around the memorial in the church and another being a bench, possibly in the churchyard. It was agreed that members would give the matter some thought before the next meeting and the clerk will forward appropriate sources of material for consideration.

16/1322 ALLOTMENTS:

- The garden show committee is pleased with the initiative for the allotment holders to become increasingly involved with the show in August and there is enthusiasm among the allotment holders too.
- There are cars parked continuously under the tree abutting the allotments, so the work to raise the canopy has had to come to a halt.
- The work to the central track is underway. The clerk will keep the council apprised as to the issue surrounding insurance.

16/1323 PLAYING FIELD / PLAY AREA:

a) Monthly check – It was agreed that the areas around the footings of the play equipment should be strimmed and treated for weed control.

b) There was an update regarding grant funding and the replacement of the play equipment at the Under 5s area. It was agreed that the whole project should be commissioned immediately at the council’s risk of the second grant fund not being awarded. A local contractor would be appointed to clear the
existing area at the soonest opportunity in readiness for the installation, with turf laid in the interim. Visuals would be available at the party next month to show what is planned for the area.

The clerk reported on correspondence with the chairman of the cricket club explaining that the club had decided to change intention regarding the replacement of the existing building with a new pavilion. Instead of replacing it, the proposal is now that the current building is refurbished. The council expressed disappointment that the previously cited intention to widen the use of the facility to a more inclusive community one is now unlikely to come to fruition. There was also frustration that there has been no consultation about this matter – it has come as a stated fact rather than an suggestion for further discussion with the parish council, as owners of the land and the building. Whilst the council appreciates that youth cricket is an asset to the village, the playing field is a village facility owned by the council and measures to have this recognised and formalised would be considered going forward.

The cricket club has been invited to the July parish council meeting to present its request for consideration. The clerk will forward details of a cost effective project considered in the past.

c) It was noted that the annual RoSPA inspection of the playing area would be taking place in June.

16/1324 Highways: It was noted that the first cut of the season, at the very end of April, had resulted in a great deal of brown cut grass left as mulch which was unsightly. This would be monitored over the months as it is expected that this will improve now that the grass is much shorter. The verges will be cut during the first week of each month. The budget allows for 10 cuts per annum.

16/1325 Governance: The internal audit report and recommendations therein were noted. It was agreed that during the budgeting process in the autumn, the legal powers for each cost heading would be identified, as recommended. The report noted the council’s current process of checking assets with increased public liability obligations, but suggested this should be more formalised into an inspection record and minuted.

The clerk advised that the annual return had been submitted for external audit. The period for the exercise of public rights to inspect the accounts commences on June 3rd. The accounts and copies of the audit papers are available on the village website. The clerk was congratulated on the accounts and the comments made by the auditor regarding the council’s “business affairs managed properly by a very competent Clerk and committed Councillors”

16/1326 Financial Matters:

a) A grant request from Friends of Nassington School for a grant towards bike & scooter shelters for the school had been received. The total cost of the project was expected to be £2,600. The council agreed that initiative would encourage children to use sustainable transport to travel to school, thus benefiting from the ensuing healthy exercise and hopefully helping to alleviate the problems with parking on Station Road. It was RESOLVED that the council will grant half the cost of the new shelters.

b) It was RESOLVED to approve the following accounts for payment:

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**16/1327** There were no official announcements or correspondence of note:

**16/1328** NEWSPAPER - The following items are to be included:
- An update on the play area, with thanks to Augean and the empowering communities grants from district and county council
- The donation to FONS
- The results of the annual meeting in terms of councillors and ‘responsibilities’

**16/1329** FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:
- June – Playing field facilities including pavilion
  - Nassington Stores
  - Allotments
  - The party in the park
- July – The cricket club’s proposals
  - Neighbourhood Planning
- Sept – Playing field facilities including pavilion
  - Runnel Lane

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 8th June 2016, NASSINGTON VILLAGE HALL 7.30**

Approved by Nassington Parish Council:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature of Chairman of following meeting:</th>
<th>Date: 8th June 2016</th>
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