MINUTES - NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday 13th January 2016 in the Village Hall, Nassington at 7.30 pm,
(NB – notes like this are for aide memoire purposes only –
they will be removed from the actually minutes to be signed at the meeting!)

16/1248 ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE PRESENT: Alan Burns (Chairman), Tony Cooper, Dec Downey, Jeremy Taylor and Kate Wyer-Roberts. Apologies received from Tony Cully due to business commitments and Rob Peterson due to personal commitment - it was RESOLVED to accept these apologies. Apologies received from Paul Dixon. Also present: the clerk and a member of the public to item 4 / minutes 1251.

16/1249 There were no Declarations of Interest on items for discussion on this agenda

16/1250 The minute of the meeting held in December 2015 had been previously circulated. It was RESOLVED to approve them as a true record of that meeting, with the exception of item 1240a which was deleted as the arrangements for the allotment committee would continue as per the status-quo. The clerk apologised for her misunderstanding of the discussions.

16/1251 It was RESOLVED to co-opt Susie Tinsley to the parish council to fill casual vacancy caused by the resignation of Janet Taylor. Susie joined the meeting and would sign acceptance of office at the February meeting.

16/1252 There were no members of the public or police in attendance. The clerk passed on information that has been presented by the police at other parish council meetings during the week.

16/1253 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: There were no matters of note

16/1254 GOVERNANCE: There were no matters of note

16/1255 PARTY IN THE PARK: There was a report on progress to date and the way the working party taking this forward, led by Kate Wyer-Roberts, envisage the day’s events. It was agreed that firm figures would be put forward for approval as soon as possible. It was also agreed that this would be a Nassington event for residents of the parish and their immediate friends and family. Publicity for a ‘save the date’ advance notification would be made a priority. (The ‘save the date’ for the magazine has been submitted but will go on the March edition)

16/1256 PLAYING FIELD / PLAY AREA:

a. Monthly check – no additional areas of concern were noted, other than the under 5s play area and the zip slide.

b. The clerk and Kate Wyer-Roberts had liaised on the quotes received from potential suppliers for equipment to replace that at the Under5s area. The holidays, electronic communication failures, late receipt of some of the quotes and the application deadline of January 6th had contrived to make wider consultation among the council less than ideal but the grant funding bid had been received in time. It had been decided that the as the zip slide and under 5s area equipment both needed to be replaced, successful grant applications
would be more likely if they were treated as two projects. It was agreed that an application for the zip slide would be made to an alternative funding source.

c. Concerns had been raised regarding fallen trees in the perimeter of the playing field. The clerk was tasked with appointing Plough Environmental to carry out this work.

It was suggested that Plough Environmental, the firm which carries out much of the parish council’s groundworks, be agreed as the parish council’s ‘preferred contractor’ for small day-to-day works that the clerk can arrange within the constraints of the council’s financial regulations.

16/1257 ALLOTMENTS: The recent water installation inspection and subsequent pass was noted. It was noted and agreed that a group of volunteers from the allotment committee / allotment holders would be raising the canopy of some trees on St Marys Close, at the boundary with the allotments, from the ground with loppers – no climbing will be necessary.

16/1258 HIGHWAYS: Some quotations for grass cutting on highways verges had been received, but it was agreed to carry this forward to the next meeting to allow for more quotes.

A discussion ensued regarding the road works being carried out through the village by contractors working on behalf of Gigaclear. It has been established that a firm with licence to carry out highways works has a liability to repair the highway to its previous state following any excavation necessary to works. That firm also has liability for any reinstatement works for a further 2 years. Furthermore, the council has concerns regarding the operational procedures of the contractors carrying out the work for Gigaclear – there were reports of mess on the roads, unlit obstacles left in the highway at night, children being forced off the pavements and to walk in the road and unsecured temporary road signs falling over in the wind. The clerk undertook to pass on any photographs documenting problems with repair works to date or unacceptable working practices to the project manager. (One photo from TCooper received so far.)

The conygree wall on Woodnewton Road has suffered total collapse in one part. The clerk was tasked with reporting this to East Northamptonshire Council and asking the district ward councillor to take responsibility for keeping on top of this matter and pushing for urgent repair.

Holes are emerging in the Woodnewton Road where the badger ‘run’ was put under the road – the clerk is to pass this to highways.

There is a pothole on Fotheringhay Road which will be reported via streetdoctor.

16/1259 COMMUNITY MATTERS: NHW / anti-crime resilience proactive approach; update on meeting with East Northants regarding possible enforcement of Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

16/1260 STREET LIGHTING: The clerk had taken an emergency decision to replace a broke streetlight in the middle of December, following electronic consultation with members, the majority of whom had endorsed this action. It was RESOLVED to ratify this decision

16/1261 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a. It was RESOLVED to approve the following accounts / invoices / accounts for payment, but there are still not enough online bank authorisers to make payments. The clerk is regularly in contact with the bank which has a backlog of new applicants meaning that the changes to the mandate is taking time.

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<th>Goods/Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>Clerks salary</td>
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<td>Streetlighting</td>
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Mole control at the playing field | PestForce | 200.00 | 200.00

b. It was agreed to re-issued a cheque for Plough Environmental, but not enough signatories were present to sign.

c. Accounts to end of 3rd quarter would be circulated with the minutes

d. It was **RESOLVED** that the council will remain opted-in to the Sector Led Body arrangements for the procurement of external audit after the end of 2016/17 financial year

16/1262 **OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES OR REPORTS FROM:** There is a ‘funding fair’ at East Northamptonshire Council on March 18th

16/1263 **NEWSLETTER** - Consider items for inclusion in the newsletter:

- Party in the park, with ‘ave the date’ cover (*The VH had beaten us to it!*)
- Co-option of Susie Tinsley plus list of members
- Update on playing field
- Reiterate that the council is the lighting authority
- Update about the churchyard

16/1264 **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS / MATTERS TO BE CARRIED FORWARD:**

- Ratify plough environmental as the council’s amenity contractor
- Party in the Park Budget

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** 10th February 2016, Nassington Village Hall 7.30

Approved by Nassington Parish Council:

| Signature of Chairman of following meeting: | Date: 10th February 2016 |