

Minutes of a MEETING OF NASH PARISH COUNCIL
held on Thursday 12/4/2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Stratford Road, Nash

- 1 In attendance were Councillors Williams (Chairman), York, Affleck, Jones and Councillor Sir B. Stanier, Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC), Mr Hamilton, Parish Clerk, Mrs Castle-Smith together with four members of the public.
- 2 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors York and Affleck and Councillor J. Chilver, Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC)
- 3 Declarations of interest in any matter to be discussed. The Clerk stated that he was Chair of Nash Parochial Parish Council and therefore had an interest in the NALC Briefing note on the provision of financial assistance to churches. As a result he would only comment or advise as requested by Councillors who should take his interest into account.
- 4 The Parish Council resolved to appoint Mrs Castle-Smith as a new Councillor and Mrs Castle-Smith agreed to accept the position.
- 5 Public Forum. A resident raised the possibility of the Parish Council agreeing to the planting of new plants on the banks of the village pond. The Parish Council resolved that the matter be delegated to the Chairman to discuss and agree with the resident such planting as appropriate.
- 6 The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 10/1/2017 were approved and agreed as a correct record of the meeting.
- 7 The consideration of matters arising from the Minutes not listed elsewhere on the Agenda:
 - a) Footpath acquisition. The Clerk reported that the Transfer document to the Parish Council had been lost by the Stamp Duty office (it was sent recorded delivery and while they had confirmed receipt they could no longer find it). A new Transfer document had been executed and sent again to the Stamp Duty office and its return was awaited. Thereafter the Transfer would need to be registered at the Land Registry.
 - b) Annual Village litter clearance. This was due to take place in March but abandoned owing to the inclement weather. The Clerk was asked to arrange a new date in late September or early October.
 - c) Tree planting adjacent to Winslow Road. This is an ongoing project being led by Cllr Wyke.

8 Finance

1. The following payments made since the last meeting were approved:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Jan 11	T. Grieveson	electronic	Purchase price for footpath	1.00
Jan 11	e.on	electronic	Nov & Dec electricity	52.89
Jan 11	e.on	electronic	Dec quarter and tree cutting	67.50
Jan 25	Winslow Comm Bus	1303	Grant	50.00
Jan 25	Buck & Winslow CAB	1304	Grant	50.00
Jan 25	Village Hall Comm	electronic	Grant	250.00
Feb 6	Nash PCC	electronic	Grant	150.00
Feb 13	e.on	electronic	January electricity	26.88
Feb 13	Council Prot Rural Eng	electronic	Subscription	36.00
Feb 13	HMRC	electronic	Income tax on salary	367.60
Feb 20	A S Agriservices Ltd	1305	Clearance of pond	2,220.00
March 8	HMRC		Refund of VAT to Jan 2018	
March 22	Nash VHC	1306	1/2 yr hall hire and postbox	147.00
March 29	RCOH Ltd	1307	Neighbourhood Plan fees	2,700.00

2. The current financial position was noted. The Clerk reported that there were new Audit arrangements for 2017/18 although these appeared to be broadly similar to what had gone before but without the need to pay an external audit fee unless there were irregularities in what was reported.

3. In furtherance of the new audit arrangements the Parish Council resolved and confirmed that its annual precept is under £25,000.

9 Planning

(A) New Applications. There had been no new planning applications since the last meeting which required comment from the Parish Council.

(B) To consider the position on the proposed Nash Neighbourhood Plan.

The latest version of the plan had been considered and approved by Councillors prior to submission to AVDC and the Parish Council resolved that it approved the same and agreed to it being sent to AVDC. Councillor Jones reported that the Plan was at the stage of the process where there are some statutory time periods to consider, which means that there may be limited scope for accelerating the Plan process. The Pre-Submission Consultation will need to run for 6 weeks.

It was reported by the Chairman of the Plan working party that some comments had been received from statutory bodies and which would need to be incorporated into the Plan. Consideration was given as to how further changes to the Plan would be communicated to the Parish Council and it was agreed that these could be dealt with individually rather than copying the whole Plan each time a change is made. It was anticipated that the Referendum on the Plan would be in the Autumn with the final plan in force in early 2019.

(C) To consider any other planning matters affecting Nash and in particular:

- a) Nash Park. The Clerk reported that he had been advised by AVDC that they were discussing the position with their legal advisors and hoped to have more news in due course.
- b) Church Farm rebuilding. It was noted that some work had now started.
- c) 17/04533/APP – land at Church Farm 4 Stratford Road. The erection of nine dwellings with associated parking and landscaping. The Parish Council noted that a new planning officer at AVDC was considering the application and it was unclear when a decision would be made. The Parish Council asked the Clerk to send the next version of the Neighbourhood Plan to the planning officer for consideration in his deliberations. The Clerk also to also ascertain the time-scale for a decision on the application. Sir B. Stanier reported that AVDC were short of planning officers and had six unfilled vacancies owing he believed to the uncertainty over the future of AVDC as a result of the proposed Unitary Council changes.

10 NALC Briefing Note on the provision of financial assistance to churches. The Parish Council noted the contents of the Briefing Note. The Parish Council took the view that the churchyard is a facility that benefits the village and which is also in the heart of the village. Furthermore, the Parish Council is under an obligation to provide churchyard facilities. It was therefore important to ensure that the churchyard is well maintained. For these reasons the Parish Council saw no reason to change its policy on donations for churchyard maintenance. It was also noted that the Parochial Church Council accounts for churchyard expenditure separately so that there is a clear audit trail to show that any contributions by the Parish Council are used for churchyard maintenance. Sir B. Stanier said Whaddon PC likewise donate for churchyard maintenance of Whaddon church on the basis that it is a village facility.

11 NALC Briefing note on the reporting of personal data breaches and the current position of the GDPR and its effect on the Parish Council. The various obligations under GDPR were noted by the Parish Council and the Chairman and the Clerk would be working to document the appropriate policy and procedures for the same.

The form of communication by email to Councillors was considered. It was resolved that future communications should be dealt with on a blind-copy basis so as to avoid showing Councillors email addresses in emails circulating. The detail of how this is to be done in a way so as to facilitate communication to be considered further.

12 Matters around the village.

- a) The use of current S106 moneys. The Clerk was waiting to hear from AVDC with clarification as to when the moneys needed to be used by and the current amount available. The Chairman suggested a number of ideas namely converting the bus

shelter turn into a book exchange, improving the path to the recreation ground by resurfacing, a temporary extension structure for the Village Hall. The Chairman asked Councillors for other ideas for projects which satisfied the criteria for the use of the moneys and these should be circulated by Councillors prior to the next meeting.

- b) Risks arising from Japanese knotweed. The Clerk reported that there had been a recent article in the Local Council Review periodical highlighting the potential costs arising from removal of Japanese Knotweed. The Clerk had written to the Parish Council's insurers to ascertain whether such costs were covered by the insurance policy and if not what would be the cost of insuring against them. A response was awaited.
- c) Annual playground and pond inspection. The Clerk reported that this was due to take place in May or June.
- d) Play equipment in the recreation ground. The Clerk reported that the roundabout in the recreation ground may need some servicing and it was agreed that the Clerk ask a contractor should be asked to deal with this.

13 Buckinghamshire County Council.

- a) The Clerk reported that Councillor John Chilver had said he is still awaiting to hear from Transport for Buckingham staff what is the position concerning proposed works to the triangle of land on Whaddon Road.
- b) It was reported that the grass adjacent to the Stratford/Thornton Roads had been severely damaged by a car or cars parking on it. It was also noted that parking on this land impeded the visibility for cars coming along the Thornton Road. Once further information has been obtained by the Chairman then the matter to be raised with Transport for Buckingham.
- c) BCC's proposals and ongoing discussions regarding a Unitary Council were noted. There was some concern that any new Council would be unduly influenced in favour of the south of the County.
- d) The need for kerb crossings at strategic points in the village for wheel-chair users was discussed. The Clerk to raise this with John Chilver/Transport for Buckingham.

14 Aylesbury Vale District Council. Sir B. Stanier reported that AVDC was in the process of responding to the Secretary of State concerning his proposal to approve one Unitary Council for the whole of Buckinghamshire.

15 Dates of next meetings were agreed as: Thursdays 17 May (Annual Parish meeting and Annual Parish Council meeting following), 19 July, 20 September and 15 November.

16 Any urgent matters for reporting and noting.

17 Under any urgent matters for reporting and noting it was reported that there is a blocked drain at the top of Wood End. The Clerk to raise with AVDC and also ascertain when the road sweeper will be coming to Nash.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.