

Nash Parish Council (NPC)

Minutes of the Parish Council Remote Meeting

Thursday 28 May 2020 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Williams (Chair); Cllr Carter; Cllr Collins; Cllr Howard; Cllr Hickey; Cllr Wykes¹; Cllr York; BC Cllrs Chilver; Monger Sir Stanier.

In Attendance: Alison Robinson (Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

1 Chair's Welcome and Introduction

1.1 The Chair opened the first NPC remote meeting with a welcome and briefly explained how the meeting would be conducted.

2 Apologies for Absence

2.1 There were no apologies for absence.

3 Declaration of Interest in Items on the Agenda

3.1 No interests were declared.

4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

4.1 NPC **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting on 18 March 2020 as an accurate record.

5 Public Participation Session

5.1 Members of the public were invited to raise subjects they wished to bring to the attention of NPC. None were raised.

6 Finance

6.1 The Clerk provided the following update:

- (a) The 2019/20 internal audit was in progress.
- (b) The first instalment of the 2020/21 precept and the 2020/21 devolved grass cutting contribution had been received².
- (c) The 2020/1 insurance premium was £510.76 which exceeded the amount (£434) allowed for in the budget build. The work undertaken earlier in the year for the Finance Sub-committee earlier in the year indicated NPC was under insured, some relatively modest adjustments had therefore been requested which increased the premium by £23.64 from £487.12:

Outside Equipment Increased to £3,000 (MVAS from £2555.17)

Street Furniture Increased to £30,000 (from £24,667.12).

6.2 NPC **resolved** to approve the 2020/21 insurance premium for payment.

¹ Although Cllr Wyke experienced connectivity issues, he was able to participate in the salient discussions and the decision-making.

² Post meeting note: The VAT refund for the 2019/20 financial year (£1,389.13) has also been received.

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6.3 NPC **resolved** to approve the following items of expenditure:

Date	Payee	Detail	Amount
01/05/2020	Blackwell Garden Services	Grass cutting - March	£168.86
14/04/2020	E.on	Streetlighting - March	£37.72
15/04/2020	BMKALC	Annual subscription	£90.69
15/04/2020	One Place Ltd	Payroll 2019-20 tax year	£45.00
01/05/2020	Blackwell Garden Services	Grass cutting - March	£337.73
05/05/2020	Walker Grounds Care	Devolved grass cutting - April	£430.50
06/05/2020	NBPPC	Membership fee 2020-21	£20.00
15/05/2020	e.on	Streetlight Maintenance	£49.50
22/05/2020	Play Safety Limited	Annual (RoSPA) Inspections	£185.40
Total			£1,365.40

6.4 NPC noted the following information about the current financial position and asked the Clerk to in future indicate whether the bank balance was as anticipated:

OK	Analysis										Year	
	I	A	O	S	L	M	E	C	G	N		
	GenIncome	Admin	Office	Staff	Streetlighting	Mainf'nce	Parish Grass	Devolved Grass	Grants/Dons/Subs	Not Budgeted	CashRemain	
Total Year Budget:	£16,480.00	£2,003.00	£200.00	£4,813.00	£683.00	£500.00	£2,142.00	£2,800.00	£730.00	£0.00	£2,609.00	
Totals to Date	£9,629.13	£45.00	£0.00	£0.00	£77.17	£154.50	£422.16	£1,091.96	£110.69	£0.00	£9,911.57	
Forecast Year End	£16,480.00	£365.00	£200.00	£4,813.00	£625.93	£1,253.17	£3,424.19	£2,800.00	£730.00	£0.00	£2,268.71	
Totals to date:					Total Income	Total Expenditure	Total VAT					
					£11,151.59	£1,365.40	£125.38					

Current Account	General Reserve	Asset Reserve
£9,915.84	£10,366.54	£2,766.12

Action: Clerk to take forward all finance related matters.

7 Planning

New applications

7.1 **20/01232/APP** land off Stratford Road, Nash. Proposed change of use of stable to short term livery accommodation. Supported subject to the condition that the landowner staying on site was a temporary arrangement during the current pandemic because of his wife's key worker status.

Ongoing planning matters

7.2 NPC **noted** the information about ongoing planning applications which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

7.3 Cllr Sir Stainer said he had recently referred the planning application to rebuild the dangerous wall on the Stratford Road to the Buckinghamshire Council Cabinet Member for Planning and Planning Enforcement. He understood the matter was now ready for resolution. The Chair asked the Clerk to follow up with the property owner.

Action: Clerk to follow up as requested.

Other planning matters affecting Nash

7.4 There were two recent planning applications currently under consideration.

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Nash Neighbourhood Plan

- 7.7 The Chair of the Nash Neighbourhood Plan Committee (NNPC) reported on his recent conversation with the relevant officers from Buckinghamshire Council Planning Department for the Aylesbury Vale Area. The VALP approval process was still paused. If the VALP was not approved, the Nash Neighbourhood Plan would require minor changes because it cross referenced the VALP. Although prepared before the Covid-19 pandemic, the Nash Neighbourhood Plan addressed topical issues such as improved connectivity and encouraging home working. It was now likely to be 2021 before the neighbourhood plan referendum could take place. The Chair of NNPC undertook to keep in touch with the relevant planning officer.
- 7.6 The Chair of NNPC was thanked for his report.

8 Matters Around the Village

Nash Recreation Ground and Play Area

- 8.1 The Chair said he had called the police earlier to report the closed play area had again been breached by a large group of people who were not following the social distancing guidelines. Several councillors volunteered to join the Chair the following day to help clean the play equipment and re-secure the closed play area.

Action: Play equipment to be cleaned and the closed play area to be re-secured.

The meeting was paused at 7.58 pm to allow participants to join their respective neighbours for the final national clap for key workers. It resumed at 8.05 pm.

- 8.2 Cllr York drew attention to the 2020 RoSPA annual safety inspection report which had been circulated for the meeting. He said the identified risks were all low level and undertook to work with the Clerk to address the requirement for a sign.

Action: Cllr York and the Clerk to take forward.

The Pond Project

- 8.3 The following points requiring further investigation were raised in response to the Chair's request for comments:
- (a) Whether it might be possible to reduce the overall cost by using volunteers to undertake some of the manual work.
 - (b) There did not appear to be a cost for making the pond deeper.
 - (c) The maintenance implications of any replanting were required. A guarantee that the pond would not become choked again with non-native plants was needed.
 - (d) It was unclear whether it was a fixed cost quote.

- 8.4 The Chair reported on the recent site meeting with another contractor. The Clerk reminded NPC of the requirement for three quotes to secure the S106 funding.

Action: Clerk to follow up on the matters raised, the outstanding second quote and arrange for a third contractor to quote.

Village Enhancement Working Group Report

- 8.5 Cllr York explained the history of the project, he said the tree quote was outstanding because the contractor who undertook the site visit had been furloughed. As views differed amongst the councillors, the Chair asked Cllr Collins to join the working group and for a proposal to be prepared for consideration at the next meeting. NPC was reminded that as the available S106 funding (£37,716) would not cover all the suggested village enhancements and the pond project.

- 8.6 Cllr Hickey stressed the importance of understanding the maintenance implications and costs of any new assets.

Action: Cllr York to convene another meeting of the extended working group.

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Noticeboard Maintenance

- 8.7 The Clerk reminded NPC that the refurbishment of the noticeboards had been approved as one of the maintenance priorities for the current financial year. She explained attempts by Cllr Colins and herself to obtain a third quote had been unsuccessfully and asked NPC to consider the two quotes circulated for the meeting.
- 8.8 NPC **resolved** by a majority vote of 6 in favour to accept one of the quotes. Cllr Carter abstained and expressed disquiet.

Action: Clerk to take forward.

Other Matters Around the Village

- 8.9 Cllr Carter reported he had now passed the information about the ownership of the footpath to the west of the Stratford Road to the Clerk.
- 8.10 Cllr Collins reported he had been contacted by a concerned resident about the frequent large day-time fires which had occurred near College Wood.
- 8.11 The Clerk thanked Cllr Chilver for recently following up on the state of the roads leading to Nash. Cllr Chilver explained he was keen to arrange a site visit with the relevant BC Cabinet Minister.

Action: Clerk to follow up with the owners about the overgrown footpath. She would also investigate the fires and try to establish whether it was a matter for environmental health. She undertook to contact the clerks of the other nearby parishes.

9 Buckinghamshire Council (BC)

- 9.1 The Chair talked about the recent changes which reduced involvement of local councils in the planning process.
- 9.2 Cllr Monger acknowledged there was widespread concern about the matter in the Aylesbury Vale Area. The changes reflected established practice in the south of the county. Cllr Monger had raised the matter directly with the BC Cabinet Member for Planning and Planning Enforcement. Martin Tett, Leader of the Buckinghamshire Council, recognised some adjustments to the new constitution would inevitably be needed. He praised the officers who he said had done a terrific job establishing the new council in record time.
- 9.3 Cllr Sir Stainer explained he was no longer in the cabinet with responsibility for the recycling and rubbish collection portfolio in the Aylesbury Vale Area and was now a back bencher.
- 9.4 Cllr Chilver explained BC Cllrs Scott Raven, Sue Renshaw and Warren Whyte also now had responsibilities for the local area. He confirmed he was happy for planning matters to be referred to him. He talked about the emergency planning compliance phone number put in place for the recent bank holiday weekend which he believed needed to be 24/7. Cllr Carter voiced concerns about the non-determination of the application for land off the Little Horwood Road to be established as a permanent gypsy site (20/00409/APP).

10 North Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium

- 10.1 Cllr Carter commended the NBPPC critique of the Milton Keynes Strategy for 2050.

11 Urgent Matters for Reporting and/or the Next Agenda

- 11.1 No additional matters were raised.

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12 Dates of Future Meetings

12.1 NPC **resolved** to hold remote meetings in accordance with the timetable approved before the lockdown. The next remote meeting would be on **Thursday 16 July 2020**.

Meeting closed at: 8.55pm.

Chair's signature: **Date:**

2020/21 NPC Meeting Timetable

The following meetings, which will be held remotely for the foreseeable future, will commence at 7.30 pm. Information about how to join each Zoom meeting will be included in the relevant agenda published on the NPC website <http://www.nash-bucks-pc.gov.uk/> and the noticeboard at the Village Hall:

- Thursday 18 September 2020
- Thursday 19 November 2020
- Thursday 07 January 2021
- Thursday 18 March 2021.