

**Minutes of the Annual Nash Parish Meeting held on  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025 at 7.00pm**

Present: Mike Williams (Chair), Kelly Harris, Clerk & RFO, 14 members of the public (MoP)

**1. Introductory Matters**

- (a) Mike Williams, as outgoing Chair of the Parish Council, welcomed everyone to the annual parish meeting.
- (b) Apologies were received from Mr & Mrs Hedges, Mr & Mrs Culver, Mr Hamilton, Robert Meardon, Mr Hurant.
- (c) Appointment of a Clerk for the meeting – Kelly Harris was appointed as Clerk for this meeting.

Proposed: Mike Williams / Seconded: Terry Nicholson / Agreed unanimously

**2. Annual Parish Meeting Minutes 2024**

The draft minutes were agreed unanimously and approved and signed as a true record by the Chair.

Proposed: Mike Williams / Seconded: Stuart Collyer / Agreed unanimously

**3. Nash Parish Council Annual Report and Review**

Cllr Williams read through his PowerPoint presentation (copy attached).

In addition to the presentation, the following was highlighted:

- Planning has gone quiet due to the made Neighbourhood Plan, which has ensured unwanted planning hasn't taken place.
- The New Parish Council will need to make a decision on the next litter pick event.
- Bridge and pump – John King explained that they are using original drawings as they want to restore the bridge and pump like the originals. Tim ordered the wood only last week in order to get started.
- The bench near Thornton Road and Stratford Road has had a temporary repair.
- The PC works with local landowners regarding pathways and keeping them clear. The PC continues to work with Bucks Council regarding missing road signs, and one has finally been replaced.
- Nash book exchange – needs more volunteers.
- Rhys Collins will continue to look after the flag poles in the village.
- The Community Orchard has been planted and the ground it is on has been leased to the PC for £1 per year for the next 100 years.
- Neighbourhood Watch is still in need of volunteers.

**4. Village Organisations and Activities**

**NASH IN BLOOM - report by Robert Meardon**

**2024**

On Sunday 19 May, we organised a village-wide, 'Open Gardens', event. 8 keen families worked hard to display their beautiful and interesting gardens. 60 visitors toured these gardens and were able to enjoy refreshments in the Village Hall during the afternoon.

On 9 July last year, two judges from the Royal Horticultural Society visited us again for see our efforts in the, 'It's Your neighbourhood', scheme. Their report was complimentary about our achievements, and it gave ideas for future development.

Last year's persistent wet weather was not helpful to most gardeners. We were unable to plan a, 'village bulb planting day', but around an additional 500 daffodil bulbs did get planted over many damp attempts during the autumn.

The planters at the village entrances continued to be maintained by their sponsor families.

The planter at the top of the bank near the village pond needed to be netted after a deer was seen munching newly planted flowers.

The borders at the village hall carpark were weeded and herbs planted along the boundary with the footpath for anyone to help themselves to leaves.

The trees planted alongside the path above the village pond needed attention and Mick Hedges organised Buckinghamshire Council Highways Dept to come and sort them out.

We have a good working relationship with the contractor doing the grass cutting. He is now cutting just beyond the village entrance planters to make them more visible.

The wet weather caused a delay in the planting of the 50 plus new young trees in the area beside the recreation ground. It was postponed until the New Year.

Adrian Rawlings and Robert Meardon continue to keep the Chapel graveyard tidy whilst the process of passing ownership from the Trustees to the Parish Council takes place. In recognition, the Trustees generously gave NiB a £200 donation.

## **2025**

In February, a large group of villagers eventually planted the new trees in the area by the recreation ground. NiB contributed 7 trees.

We again identified with white cord, an area on the bank near the village pond to protect the area of cowslips which were again lovely this Spring.

In March, the NiB bank account was moved from Lloyds to Metro Bank since the former suddenly decided to start monthly charging for a Community Account. The account balance now is just over £600.

In April, heavy road surfacing vehicles (working in Beachampton) parked on the verge opposite the allotments. The ground was waterlogged, and they have left deep tracks making cutting difficult.

The recent/current prolonged period of lack of rain has caused stress to many of the new trees beside the recreation ground (Phoenix orchard project). Thanks to everyone who has been taking water. Ali Williams has arranged for a 1,000 litres container to be placed there and Clive Weedon generously filled it up with water. This will hopefully see us through until we get rain. When the metal container arrives and is located nearby, there is a plan to collect rainwater from the roof and make it available.

We have again entered the, 'In Your Neighbourhood', scheme and are planning a get-together to consider this year's projects in anticipation of the judges' visit in July.

Chapel graveyard continues to be kept tidy by AR and RM.

The NiB team will welcome all new interested people with ideas and time to help the efforts to maintain and improve the appearance of Nash with planting.

## **Nash Village Hall Committee – Richard Evans**

- Two events last summer – Fete and Nash Fest
  1. Fete run in conjunction with the Church was a great success
  2. NashFest was a great day but not successful financially.

Consequently, fete will run this year but not NashFest.

- Second half of 2024 saw all the usual regular social events – Pump, Café, Quiz Christmas events. All of which made substantial contributions to the Hall finances.

- Bookings continued to be strong for the Hall throughout the rest of 2024 – partly due to the ease of booking on the lemon booking system but also, we have kept the prices reasonable.
- We are keen to maintain the balance between offering a community building for all but also making enough money to invest in the building which need constant attention.
- This all put us in a situation last year where we were able to make the decision to refurbish the Hall Kitchen at the beginning of 2025 which is the quietest part of the year.
- The hall was closed in January and most of February to undertake the work with an official re-opening at the March Pump.
- Two new officers joined last year. Barbara Loxton became secretary and Michelle Crack Joined again as Treasurer. Thanks again to Cathi Collins for her work as Treasurer with the Hall and Vineet Manghani as Treasurer.
- Joint ventures with the NPC in the rec have begun. Orchard and the container.
- Thanks again to the NPC for organising the VE Day celebrations at the Hall earlier this month.

#### **Parochial Church Council – John King**

The Churchyard was costing lots of money, but we now have a volunteer to cut the grass for free.

A new heating and lighting system and new path has been installed. At the 5 yearly inspection the architect found some issues with the roof which will cost around £30,000 to rectify. Currently looking into grants but we may need to approach the village for help in fundraising. Without the church the village would be a poorer place.

#### **Allotment committee – John King**

There is one plot currently available at the allotments. The committee will be looking into water and fencing on the site. The committee has been working hard to access the allotment bank account following the death of their treasurer, but this has finally been rectified.

Mike Williams suggested the allotment committee speaks to Elmer's Charity regarding financial help towards water for the allotments.

#### **5. Electors - To consider any matters raised by local government electors on the current electoral roll for Nash for future consideration by the Parish Council**

There was nothing raised by any MoPs in attendance.

#### **6. Any Other Urgent Matters for Discussion**

Terry Nicholson confirmed that work for the container base will begin shortly.

John King passed his thanks on to all those who work in the community to make a difference.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contribution, and declared the meeting closed at 19.31.

Chair: .....

Date: .....

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