

NASH MILLS PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday **11th July 2016** at Nash Mills Village Hall, Lower Road, Nash Mills.

Those Present:

Chair: Councillor Lisa Bayley
Vice Chair: Councillor Jan Maddern
Committee Members: Councillor Rosie Moubray
Councillor Louise Gross

Also present: Linda Sutton, Parish Clerk
David Drew, Parish Warden
(AM) a Member of the public

1. WELCOME/START TIME

LB welcomed everybody and declared the meeting open at 8.00pm.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

DJ, HG, TC and PL had sent their apologies, which were duly noted. TC had advised the Clerk that he would be available before the meeting briefly in order to sign cheques. There were no declarations of interest.

3. HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE REPORT (IF PRESENT)

IM had sent his apologies to the Clerk earlier in the month. He had advised her that he would be unable to attend the meeting as he would be on his rest day.

The crime report had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. LB read out the crime report and noted that the crime figures had doubled since the previous month. Included in the crime report was a common assault which had occurred near The Denes and a harassment charge had also been listed.

LB said she would contact IM as she was under the impression that local youths using drugs were congregating in the Nash Mills area again, drug paraphernalia had been found locally. **LB**

LB advised the Clerk to resend an email that she had recently received from a local resident. LB suggested that it be resent to Ian Martin as the parish council had not yet received a response from him on the matters raised. The local resident had noticed parts of mopeds lying scattered in Bunkers Park and reported it to the Clerk. DD, the parish warden had also logged the issue in his work sheets.

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The local resident also advised the Clerk that there appeared to be a spate of suspected poisoning in Bunkers Park specifically aimed at animals. The clerk will contact IM and check that he received her email. **LS**

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION *GUEST SPEAKER (IF AVAILABLE)

There was nothing to report.

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

LB signed the minutes of the previous meeting which had been held in June. All members present agreed that they were a true record. The minutes were approved for publication. The approved minutes will both be published on to the parish council's website. **LS**

6. ACTION LIST (UPDATE)

JM updated the parish councillors and advised them that she was still waiting to hear back from NMVHA regarding information on the crest. She said that once she had the information she would contact Peter Ward for his input. **JM**

JM reported that she had made some amendments to the parish council's draft planning processes document originally drafted by LG. She said she would resend to LG who would recirculate the amended copy to all. **JM/LG**

LB asked councillors whether they knew if PL had managed to find out who was responsible for the maintenance of the bridge and whether he had researched the vents. LG said from her understanding that PL was waiting for a response. LB advised the Clerk to keep both items together on the action list. **LS**

LB asked JM to arrange a meeting with Colin Chambers, DBC in September, in order to discuss planting on verges and tree cutting works within Nash Mills. **JM**

LG had been contacted by PL prior to the meeting; he had asked that in his absence that LG read out his update on the neighbourhood plan. He had contacted Laura Knott who had suggested that a parish plan would perhaps be more suitable. He had advised in his report that he would be happy to hold a meeting at his home to discuss the plan further. LB suggested that Laura Knott be invited to a parish council meeting. The Clerk will contact her in the near future with dates. **LS**

LB reminded all councillors to continue reporting banners and signage within Nash Mills to JM. **JM**

JM said she would speak to Keith Gower, NMVHA, about the resiting of the framed photograph of the ex-Mayor. All councillors present felt that it was in the wrong place and could not be seen clearly. **JM**

LB asked the Clerk whether she had contacted Mike Stanyon, local historian to write a piece on the Memorial Gardens and Nash House for the summer edition of the magazine. LS had advised her that MS would be able to do one article for now and once he had researched further he would submit an

article on the Memorial Gardens for the winter edition of the parish magazine. LS advised that the summer magazine would be completed within the next week and would be out for delivery before the end of July. **LS**

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee Report - RM reported that the finance committee had approved June's financial schedules and expenditure sheets which had been circulated prior to the meeting. (DJ had advised he would be absent from both the meetings. He had received the expenditure sheets and July's financial schedule earlier in the week and had confirmed by email that he had no queries).

RM had initialled the bank statements and signed the financial schedule and expenditure sheets for June. She reported that the request for funding to works to trees had been deferred until September. **LS**

HG had signed the cheques and the letter of authority in between meetings, as she was unable to attend any meetings. TC had met the Clerk at the hall prior to the finance meeting and signed the cheques and then left the building.

(NB: In between meetings the Clerk had gone to a branch of NatWest they apologised for the delaying in making a CHAPS payment of £5K and agreed to waive the £23.00 fee. They informed her that in order for monies to be transferred to a Lloyd's online bank account on a regular basis a standing order mandate would have to be signed by a signatory from the finance committee along with a signature from the Clerk. This information was relayed to all councillors via email who agreed that this was the way forward. She had then contacted NatWest and arranged to collect the form from them as they would not accept a signed scanned copy. The mandate was then duly posted to DJ to be signed, the Clerk collected the signed form and hand delivered it to NatWest to be processed. Confirmation of this agreement was sent to the Clerk by post from NatWest a few days later).

Planning Committee Report – There was no report as PL was unable to attend the meeting.

LG advised that a planning meeting would be held after the full parish council meeting. There was one planning application to be considered.

Personnel Committee Report - LG reported that an assessment form had recently been emailed to LS from Sue Campbell, HAPTC. She had advised that once this had been completed it would be sent to Carina Helmn, HAPTC, to be reviewed and she would contact LG or JM with a recommendation. LG advised that a personnel meeting would be held in future to discuss both the Clerk and Warden's potential salary increase which if approved would be backdated to April. **LG/LB/JM/TC/HG**

8. Code of Conduct

LB suggested that as several councillors were absent; this item would be deferred until the September meeting. **LS**

9. COUNCILLORS TO REPORT ON THEIR DESIGNATED AREAS

There was nothing to report.

10. 'SAVE THE VERGES' (WORKING PARTY UPDATE)

This item was previously discussed under item 3.

11. NEIGHBOURHOOD/PARISH PLAN (UPDATE)

This item was previously discussed under item 3. LB advised the Clerk to keep the item on the action list but to take off the agenda, unless Laura Knott was confirmed to attend for the September meeting.

LS

12. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMMES

a) Issues Raised by Warden's Reports – DD reported that moped parts were scattered around Bunkers Park (this had been discussed earlier on in the meeting). DD mentioned the issue of overflowing dog bins was still ongoing. Anti-social behaviour at Gade Towers was ongoing as a tenant was throwing beer bottles out of their window. DD had continued to clear up the broken glass and had reported the issue to DBC.

LB asked LS to add the item onto the action list for September.

LS

LB suggested to councillors that LS contact Louise Ablitt and find out how much it costs Dacorum Borough Council to empty a dog bin. She suggested that maybe the parish council could pay for an ad hoc service.

LS

b) Matters Raised by Councillors – LB reported that pigeons remained a pest in the Nash Mills area and works by DBC were ongoing to try and alleviate the problem.

JM said that the suggested meeting on the Methodist Church be postponed until further information was available. All councillors present agreed that this was a sensible decision.

LB reiterated from the last month's meeting that any ideas for funding projects should be emailed to LS.

ALL

c) The Denes Car park – JM said parking was still an issue and queues were continuing to form into Mill Close. She said that the soon to be implemented yellow lines would solve some problem areas. She had recently received an email from a local resident complaining about the implementation of the double yellow lines. JM said technically it was not her domain but had contacted Renato Mapembe, HCC and asked him to send a copy of the plans to the resident.

A discussion took place amongst the councillors and the public regarding flowers or shrubs being used as a deterrent to vehicles parking on verges and green spaces. Andrea Maloney, a member of the public said that she thought that for the last two winters verges within Nash Mills looked like ploughed fields. She suggested that they be hardened and used as extra places to park therefore alleviating the parking issue.

JM explained that she had previously contacted store owners at The Denes and asked them not to allow delivery vans to utilise the verges as somewhere to park. AM commented that grass crete was expensive and that she would settle for asphalt. JM suggested that the honeycomb covering was less expensive and allowed grass to grow through. She advised that County Councillor Anthony McKay was probably the most suitable person to speak to she said she would contact him. JM

13. TIME MEETING CLOSED/DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

LB thanked everyone for attending and advised that the next meeting would be the Full Meeting of the Council on **Monday 12th September** at 8pm at Nash Mills Village Hall, Lower Road.

LB thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.06pm.

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Chair

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12th September 2016

DRAFT