

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday **8th February 2016** at Nash Mills Village Hall, Lower Road, Nash Mills.

---

Those Present:

Chairman of Finance: Councillor Dave Jackson (chaired the meeting)

Committee Members: Councillor Louise Gross  
Councillor Rosie Moubray  
Councillor Terence Collins  
Councillor Peter Lardi

Also present: David Drew, Parish Warden  
Ian Martin and Diane Pennington, Hertfordshire Police  
Member of the Public

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

DJ agreed to chair the meeting in the absence of both the chair and vice-chair of the parish council.

HG, LB, JM and LS sent their apologies, which were duly noted. There were no further declarations of interest from the councillors present.

**2. HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE REPORT (IF PRESENT)**

DJ invited Ian Martin and Diane Pennington to give an update on the recent crime figures for Nash Mills.

IM reported that there had been 9 crime incidents logged. This was a slight decrease from previous months. IM said that bicycle theft had risen and that in recent cases they had been secured in locked sheds. Amongst other incidents highlighted were a case of racial abuse, damage to a property and a case of harassment (breaching a restraining order).

IM asked TC whether the situation with parking had improved in Fairacres. TC replied that the verge was a quagmire and that vans were now parking at the bus stop. They were starting engines early in the morning and leaving them running. IM said he could offer no police solution. DJ recommended that the working party 'Save our Verges' may be able to look into a solution for this area. During the general discussion it was asked whether the kerb height could be increased or whether bollards could be introduced as they have done in Mill Close.

DJ thanked IM and DP for attending and they left the building.

**3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION \*GUEST SPEAKER (IF AVAILABLE)**

It was asked whether there was any update on the footpath behind the school and whether there was an update on the recent walk about conducted by JM. It was agreed that this item would be added to next month's agenda.

The clerk to add item to next month's agenda. **LS**

**4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

DJ signed the minutes of the previous meeting which had been held in January. All members present agreed it was a true record. The minutes were approved for publication.

The minutes will be published on to the parish council's website. **LS**

**5. ACTION LIST (UPDATE)**

Outstanding actions included a follow up with the defective manhole cover. DD had logged a complaint with HCC. DJ advised that the clerk will contact HCC for an update. **LS**

**6. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

DJ reported that the finance committee had approved last month's financial schedule and expenditure. Cheques had been signed by DJ and TC. DJ signed the bank transfer letter, initialled the bank statements and signed the schedule and expenditure sheets.

DJ reported that online banking with Lloyds Bank is progressing.

The next step is to compile the personal information of the signatories in preparation for the 45 minute application telephone call. **DJ/HG/LB/RM/LS**

PL advised that the planning team would be considering 6 planning applications at the planning meeting to be held after the full parish council meeting.

LG reported that there were no issues with the personnel committee.

**7. COUNCILLORS TO REPORT ON THEIR DESIGNATED AREAS (IF APPLICABLE)**

PL asked why the parish warden did not include Longdean Park in his rounds. DJ advised that Longdean Park was removed at the request of the previous councillor responsible for that area.

DD to contact LS and reinstate Longdean Park back onto his litter picking rounds. **LS**

**8. QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY/RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INITIATIVE**

The finance committee had discussed this item at their meeting held earlier. They had agreed to fund party packs for the Queen's birthday, similar value to those produced for the Queen's jubilee street parties. These again would be made available to official street parties within Nash Mills.

They had also approved similar funding for the Residents’ Association Initiative 2016 as awarded in 2015. Councillors present agreed with the proposals.

The clerk to advise local residents’ associations of the funding available for 2016. **LS**

**9. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME**

a) Issues raised by the Warden’s Report – DD advised that he had reported the blocked gullies in Belswains twice. The situation had deteriorated to such an extent that the house opposite the school was being flooded. DD reported that he was finding bicycles in the area. However, they were not the ones that had been reported stolen. He said that fly tipping was on the increase and all incidents had been reported through the correct channels. DD advised that the number of abandoned/untaxed cars was on the increase. Those on public highways were being dealt with; those on private ground were not moving due to lack of police powers.

DD to advise LS of location and number plates of cars left on private ground so that the owners can be contacted in order for the vehicles to be removed. **LS**

DJ advised that the clerk will contact Terry Douris to get the clearing of the gullies upgraded. **LS**

b) Matters raised by Councillors – PL raised concerns that although light bollards had been installed near the bridge; the surrounding area on Croxley Road was not light and still dangerous. PL had spoken to his ‘contact’ at Linden Homes who had confirmed that they had complied with the plans. However, if the area was found to be non-compliant with lighting regulations they would have to rectify the situation. PL will contact DBC planning department and Highways to collate information on the lighting regulations and to check if Croxley Road is compliant. **PL**

c) Abbots’ Hill Playing Fields – DJ reported that the entrance to the playing field was nearing completion; a safety barrier had been replaced and was now bright yellow. New fencing and a gate in bright green had been installed. The pedestrian gate had a self-closing mechanism to minimise the risk of children running out into the road. Tarmacking will be completed in the near future, subject to the weather. Residents have since commented favourably on the improvements.

d) The Denes Car Park – Discussed earlier in the meeting.

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

The next full parish council meeting will be held on Monday **14th March 2016**, Nash Mills Village Hall, Lower Road.

DJ thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8.49 pm.

.....

**Chair**

.....

**14th March 2016**