



Clerk Report January 2024

Georgewood Steps

Works have been revisited by DBC surveyor and contractor supervisor. Additional repairs were made, and all works have now been signed off as safe and completed by DBC. An earmarked reserves has not been created but the item is listed under potential CIL expenditure should council wish to investigate this matter further (agenda item request required).

Void on Highbarns

All remedial actions following the water leak are now completed

Budgets 2025/26

The finance figures from DBC were reported very late this year (received 7/1/2025).

Warden & Concurrent Services Grant remains unchanged for 2025/26. Council should note it is likely that it will be reduced significantly or removed entirely for 2026/27.

The Taxbase (the statutory figure the precept is divided by to reach the band 'D' figure) has increased slightly (nominal figure, from 1222 to 1228.60).

Playpark

I have reported the playpark closure to the relevant DBC Officers and our District Cllr. We are all working together to look at the viability of alternative sites. DBC have been asked to revisit their initial refusal of a suggested site within the parish. The S106 Officer at DBC is also involved to see if funding can be sourced for the provision of a new playpark for Nash Mills.

We received 2 emails from residents to express concerns regarding the closure.

AHS have confirmed the gates will be locked wef 31/3/2025 and a notice placed on the gates.

All safety inspections after that date have been cancelled. Our insurer has been notified, and renewal summary should be checked upon receipt (due May 2025).

Bunkers Park SANG

Dec 2024 Cllr Briggs and I met onsite with the new DBC SANG officer.

The DBC officer is keen to work collaboratively with NMPC. Items raised by NMPC that are currently under investigation by the SANG officer (early stages so not yet appropriate to publish more widely until projects are in progress).

- Condition of car park and access road
- Safety concerns re the large open gate onto Bunkers Lane

Officer happy to attend an NMPC meeting and to write articles for the magazine.

CLlr Resignation

CLlr Roberts resigned 7/1/2025. DBC have been informed and statutory notice posted on website and noticeboard. This notice expires 27/1/25 and DBC will inform us of next steps. Usually there is no election called, and the co-option process commences.

Working groups and committee membership will be reviewed at the Feb meeting.

SPEED Indicator Devices

The expiration of the warranties was reported to council in November The offer from NMPC for a contribution to the warranties (possibly 50% of the £2000 required) has been put to the locality officer at HCC and the County CLlr. It will be raised with the appropriate county councillor elected at the May elections.

War memorial and Gardens

No update to report.

Parish Magazine

2 invoices outstanding, these have been chased. Lead CLlr notified in case we need to remove advertisers if their payments remain outstanding (£72.00 & £120.00)

- Magazine Deliveries

Please can I remind all Cllrs that they have signed up to the risk assessment and process for delivery of the magazine. If volunteers are being used by Cllrs to deliver magazines, then to comply with the insurance and risk assessment **THEY MUST** be asked to sign up to prove they have seen the risk assessment and must use the hi-vis vests provided.

We are grateful to all volunteers, but we must ensure that they are kept safe and ensure that NMPC would be covered in the event of any accidents or claims.

Defib

Defib returned just before New Year. It has been serviced and repaired, intermittent fault but age of defib (7 years old) may warrant consideration of replacement in coming years.

Warden Updates

Continued issues with fly tipping. Clerk has requested assistance from district CLlr re unadopted land on Red Lion Lane. Clerk has also requested potential use of DBC mobile CCTV units. DBC are investigating options for us as this is a fly tipping 'hot spot' for us.

Christmas Lights

Christmas 2025 is the final year of the 3-yr deal with current contractor. Separate diary note for Jan 2026 to source quotes for Christmas 2026.

Govt Devolution White Paper

The paper contains a huge amount of information. HCC will lead if/ when the time comes. Cllrs are encouraged to keep up to date with any HAPTC information or training opportunities (training budget is available, please book via the clerk). There is a lot of information coming out so please let me know if you wish to have any further information.

[English Devolution White Paper - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/white-papers/devolution)

Clerk/ Cllr training/CPD/attendance

Dec 2024 Employee Portal Training with pension provider (LPPA).

Wed 15th January 2025 SLCC quarterly meeting (Clerk attending).

Friday 10th January 2025 Cllr Briggs attending monthly planning forum with DBC.

Further Action List Updates

- See separate business planning excel sheet [business planning WG.xlsx](#)
- I have chased all Cllrs to ask them to look at any outstanding items to determine direction of travel for NMPC in 2025/26 and 2026/27. Individual Cllrs or working group leads to take ownership of bringing items back to council as an agenda item for decision making
- I have emailed Cllr Maddern about the history board outstanding for Nash House
- 9/1/2025 clerk contacted Nash Mills School re democracy curriculum visit
- Asset register to be brought back to council once playpark lease terminates (note this will be effective after the financial year end as it is our asset until 31/01/25) -note on agenda list and diary note in 8/4/25
- Magazine advertising -diary note created for July 2025 to review pricing ready for 2026/27

Little Library

- See separate agenda item

Remembrance

- Successful NMPC event. School choir already booked in for 2026. (diary note as reminder)

MP

- Invitation sent asking for attendance at an NMPC meeting-no response-item to be chased by clerk

S106/Teal Way

- Response from Borough Cllr received. February agenda item to try to progress this further
- County Cllr has been advised of playpark closure so has been asked to reconsider the need for a crossing on Bunkers Lane. Can NMPC and HCC work together to look at reallocation of the £96k currently held by HCC, perhaps for a safe crossing on Red Lion Lane to line up with the tow path?

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

- Clerk checked DBC calculations and noted that DBC had missed a payment. This has now been received
- CIL projects currently in progress have all been agreed by CIL Officer (Bleed Kit/Library Box/Map board)

Clerk Action List updates (status post Nov meeting)

- Trees have now been planted on the verges on Georgewood Road
- Verges damaged by contractors have been reseeded and repaired

Correspondence received (please note that this will not include all items dealt with by the clerk)

- Complaint received about mud and debris on the road outside NM school. Warden has reported
- Verges working group spotted some issues and damage within the parish and these were reported on the appropriate portal by Cllr Briggs

Details for Agenda Items linked under Clerks Report

To determine whether Council wish to comment or respond (clerk will be responding separately in an individual capacity)

Consultation: Strengthening the standards and conduct framework for local authorities in England

This consultation seeks views on introducing measures to strengthen the standards and conduct regime in England and ensure consistency of approach amongst councils investigating serious breaches of their member codes of conduct, including the introduction of the power of suspension.

Local audit reform: a strategy for overhauling the local audit system in England

Includes a statement of intent and consultation on proposal to overhaul the current local audit system in England. The consultation will last 6 weeks from 18th December to 29th January.

Clerk Resignation

I resigned on 31/12/2025 after just over 6 years with NMPC. Notice period ends 31/3/2025. Personnel meeting to look at next steps 13/1/2025.

It's been a pleasure working for NMPC for the last 6 years and I look forward to assisting the incoming clerk with as smooth a transition as possible.

I would like to thank Cllrs for their support, and I am proud to be leaving a strong legacy with a 'quality award' council. Some great projects have been achieved with many more in the pipeline. With strong governance, excellent audits, a team of hard-working councillors and of course Dave the warden (who has been an amazing support and source of knowledge and without whom my role, especially my early days, would have been impossible) I wish NMPC the very best for the future.

Nikki Bugden 9/1/2025