

**MINUTES**  
**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF NASEBY PARISH**  
Held on  
**Tuesday 02 May 2023 at 07:00pm**  
All Saints Church, Naseby

Chaired by Parish Council Chairman, Cllr Reedman

**1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

Chairman Reedman welcomed everyone to the meeting explained that it is a meeting of the parish and not a Parish Council meeting.

Apologies: Cllr Howat, District Cllr Kevin Parker, District Cllr Cecile Irvin-Swift.

**2. Minutes**

Chairman Reedman authorised the minutes from the previous Annual Parish Meeting dated 18th May 2022, as a true and accurate record.

**3. Chairman's Report**

Cllr Reedman drew attention to the Councillors areas of representation for the village.

- Cllr Antonia Collins – Village Hall Representative, Trees and Footpath Warden and Play Area Inspector
- Cllr Steve Davies – Play Area Inspector, Whipping Cross maintenance, Wind Farm Trustee
- Cllr Dave Hall – Mowing Warden, Play Area Inspector, Outdoor Gym Area
- Cllr Margret Anderson – Police Liaison Officer and welcome booklets
- Cllr Howat – Highways Representative and Internal Control (Finance)
- Cllr Reedman - Chairman to Council and Streetlighting Representative

It was explained that council has 8 seats, but that council currently have only 6 councillors at present due to losing one Council member only recently and that more councillors are needed.

Chairman Reedman then gave a synopsis of his Chairman's Report which included the following:

- Continuation of the 59/60 bus service including council contributions
- New defibrillator at the Village Hall
- Proposed migrant hostel at Creaton
- Proposed new outdoor gym at the village hall
- Planning issues; self-build house application by the Royal Oak and Local Plan changes

The Chairman's Report can be viewed or downloaded from the Parish Council website.

A member of public stated their thanks to Chairman Reedman and all Council members for volunteering their time to run the council for the village.

## 4. Presentations

### (a) West Northamptonshire Council - District Cllr Jonathan Harris

Cllr Harris reported that he has completed a written report which is available on the Parish Council website but gave a brief report as follows.

**Planning Issues** – WNC will be combining all local plans to create one single local plan and the draft of the new local plan will be ready by the end of this year, with the final version being submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in 2026. There will be consultation periods for councils and members of the public, but in the meantime, the existing local plans will still be used as these do not expire until 2029.

The current Local Plans concentrate on identifying development areas which is very important. However, it is looking likely that the targets for housing allocations will be removed and the Parish Councils that do not have Neighbourhood Development Plans (NHP), will be at a disadvantage in objecting to speculative applications such as the A14 J1 Warehouses application. Cllr Harris explained the various stages of plans, Village Design Statement, NHP, Local Plan and then the Strategic Plan. The higher up the plans you go, the more weight each Plan carries.

You cannot stop speculative applications coming forward but if it isn't in the local plan, it is more challenging to fight and stop the application from being approved. The A14 J1 service area started 20 years ago but as they did some work to the service road, that kept the planning application live. The Planning Advisory Service has conducted a review of the current WNC planning process and it was less than complementary; the report is a public document and available for review. At present, 25% of the staff in planning are agency staff and there are concerns over how the 3 planning committees plus strategic planning committee were operating. This resulted in a decision to reduce the area committees from 3 to 2 from June 2023 onwards. A North Planning Committee will cover the former Daventry District Council area plus one half of Northampton and a South Planning Control Committee will cover the former South Northamptonshire Council area, plus one half of Northampton. New Committees and new members are being constituted.

The Royal Oak application has been called in and this means that it goes to the committee and will not be a delegated decision by a Planning Officer.

**59/60 Bus Service** – grateful for the Parish Council and Naseby resident's support. Rural isolation issue is huge issue and Cllr Harris is more than happy that the Cabinet have agreed funding for this year. Usage is up by 35% from last year in terms of passenger numbers. The bad news is that it needs subsidy and to get to a non-subsidiary, needs would require 3 times as many passengers to make it a permanent route. The more people who use it better chance of it continuing.

**Shopper Hopper** – since it started nearly 1 year since it started last year and very successful.

### (b) AGE UK (Naseby & Haslebech), Good Neighbours and Women's Institute

Liz Capell is the representative for all of the aforementioned groups reported that:

- An anonymous donation of funds was given to AGE UK for Naseby, to purchase a Christmas gift for the older residents over the age of 80, who each received a £50 Sainsbury voucher.
- Good Neighbours Group – the group helped residents throughout the Covid pandemic but is still running.
- W.I. – the group is thriving in Naseby with 39 members, who meet every month.

### (c) All Saints Church

#### The Church Warden Margaret Diack reported:

- There have been no applications received for the vacant Vicar role, so this has been readvertised in the hope interviews will take place in June or July.  
There are 4 other churches who are also without a Vicar in the Northants area, which makes it more difficult. As Church Warden it is Ms Diack job to find someone to conduct services.
- The Church will be filled with flowers for the Kings Coronation and members of the public were urged to come along and see the display.
- Church Wall – there have been no offers from anyone to help pay for the work to the wall and the PCC have recently confirmed, that they will not be helping either.

### (d) Village Hall

#### The Chairman of the Village Hall Chris Bignell reported:

- Thanks were given to the PC for the grant of £2k towards the new heating system and suspended ceiling. The resulting energy costs savings has been more than anticipated.
- Planning Permission for Solar Panels – still awaiting feedback from the Planning Department as to whether planning permission is needed as the committee want to complete the work this summer if possible. Cllr Harris agreed to help with this matter.
- Battlefield Project – the Village Hall are working in collaboration with the Naseby Battlefield Trust to offer a room for use to allow visitors to visit, who attend the battlefield tours. There are a few tours booked for June/July and yet more tours to be arranged.
- Kings Coronation – the Village Hall are working in conjunction with the school to hold an event to celebrate the Coronation.
- Village Hall Management Committee – they currently have vacancies which they are struggling to fill with 2 Trustees resigning at the next AGM and also struggling to get volunteers to help with events also.
- Musical Theatre Events – spent £150 on advertising but there has been a disappointing turnout.
- Events – lots of events planned for the summer organised by other groups and becoming popular with caravan and dog clubs.
- Finances – the Village Hall is in a good position. However, the roof over the changing rooms and kitchen still requires remedial work.

Thanks were given to Mr Bignell for making the Village Hall and its events a success.

### (e) Northamptonshire Dance Company

Natalie Carter and Mandy Manning reported that the Dance Company started in 2019 and have 500 children, work closely with the school, present performances in village and would be happy to promote village events amongst their parents.

### Conclusion

Chairman Reedman thanked everyone for attending and invited all to stay for refreshments.

*The meeting was closed at 7:58pm*

Signed: ..... Chairman, Naseby Parish Council

Date: