



PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday 3 September 2026 at 7:00pm

Held at The Methodist Chapel, Gynwell, Naseby, Northamptonshire

Present:

Chair: Cllr Reedman

Councillors: Cllr Williams, Cllr Collins, Cllr Harrison, Cllr Roberts, Cllr Rodi and Cllr Davies

Public: None

DRAFT MINUTES

OPENING PROCEDURES

26/106 OPENING PROCEDURES

The Chair opened and welcomed all to the meeting.

26/107 APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies or reason for absence reported.

26/108 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- a) There were no declarations of any Disclosable Pecuniary or other interests reported.
- b) There were no dispensations or written requests for dispensation of DPI to consider.

26/109 MINUTES

Council RESOLVED to accept the minutes from Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on the 2nd of July 2026 and agreed to the Chairman, Cllr Paul Reedman authorising these as a true and accurate record. The minutes were duly signed.

26/110 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (OPEN SESSION)

- a) There were no members of public present.
- b) WNC Ward Cllr Christine Ware was absent from the meeting due to prior WNC commitments, but a report was circulated prior to the meeting and can be accessed and downloaded from the Parish Council website here: [2026 September 3 Naseby PC Update from Cllr Ware](#)
- c) WNC New Senior Appointments - Cllr Reedman reported that WNC have appointed a new Chief Executive Officer, Martin Henry, who was previously the Section 151 Officer. The New (Section 151) Financial Officer is James Hill, and the new Director of Place is David Harris, who starts on the 1st of October. The appointment of a new Director of Resources is underway with interviews planned

- for October.
- d) WNC Finances – WNC is currently £24M overspent and with having already used their £11M contingency (including technical adjustments), has forecast year-end to be approximately £13M overspent.
 - e) WNC Council Seats – the Lib Dem seats have increased again. They started with only 6 seats but now have a total of 8, with an independent member having recently joined them. The Conservatives remain at 8 seats with the Reform taking the majority.
 - f) WNC Planning Changes & 5 Year Land Supply - every year WNC has to undertake an assessment of the 5-year land supply. Having just completed their assessment they have published their figure at 4.3 years. This means we are in a period of 'tilted balance'. All policies still apply but decisions are taken tilted towards approval unless it can be proven that 'serious harm will occur as a result. It leaves this area of the county wide open to development, whereby it can be applied for outside of boundaries and confines including all manner of other requests. It is not a good position to be in.
 - g) Brixworth Community Repair Sheds – this was created by Brixworth Parish Council this year and it has been suggested it will rove around local villages, roadshow style and have offered to attend Naseby.
Council considered this and agreed it was a great idea and would like to invite the group to attend the village. Cllr Collins agreed to liaise with WNC Cllr Ware about setting a date.

BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED

26/111 NASEBY NEWS PUBLICATION DATE

Council RESOLVED to agree the deadline date for the publication of the next issue of Naseby News as the 6th of November, as pre-agreed with the Editor.

26/112 PLAY AREA

- a) Lease Re-execution Update – Council NOTED that we await the completion of identity check documentation on behalf of two Village Hall trustees which requires involvement of a practising licensed solicitor. Council's solicitor has extended the Land Registry deadline for completion of documentation up to the 29 September, which is another extension and may be the last one given. The Council does not need to provide an ID1 identification form, the Trustees to the Village Hall need to and get this witnessed by a solicitor. However, as they are not currently employing the services of any practicing legal firm, none of the solicitors approached are willing to complete this task due to this.
- b) Toddler Area Repairs – Council NOTED that Reid's Playground Maintenance are due to commence work in early September and have installed temporary fencing around the tunnel area following damage to some of the existing wooden logs. They will commence the works to repair the railing, install rubber mulch surfacing and recycled plastic logs in due course as they are awaiting delivery of the plastic logs. The current date for all works is week commencing 14th of September.
- c) Play Area Notices – Council NOTED that the 4-play area notice boards have been updated to show the correct Clerk contact details and the what3words location of the play area.
- d) Bleed Kit – Council NOTED that Roger Carter is now inspecting the bleed kit at the same time as the adjacent defibrillator.
- e) Clean Up Day – Council RESOLVED to agree Saturday the 27th of September at 10am for the annual play area council clean-up day, which is to include bolt tightness checks and fitting of replacement part to junior climbing frame.
- f) Grass Conditions – Council NOTED that some areas of grass appear to be totally dead in the play area following the prolonged drought and may need re-turfing or

seeding.

NB: Council discussed the need to get a qualified play equipment engineer to tighten bolts due to liability issues and to ask the Reids personnel to review when at the play area week commencing 14 September.

It was also agreed that during the next independent annual inspection we ask the inspector to give their view on the life expectancy on the current play equipment.

26/113 OBELISK SIGNAGE

a) Cllr Rodi reported that he has received two quotes for the revised proposal, in light of feedback received from the KWCB Trustees.

A company in Devon has quoted for the sign to be in hard wood and engraved with the letters and then painted, with 2no.18mm posts. The total excluding installation and VAT is £800.00.

A local supplier, Wildwood, based in Naseby, has quoted an exact copy of the existing sign to be made out of MDF (that looks like wood) and has a long-life span. Total for this is excluding installation and VAT is £550.00.

Council RESOLVED to approve the quote with Wildwood and for Cllr Rodi to place the order subject to receiving confirmation the KWCB grant application has been successful.

b) Council NOTED the deadline date for the second/revised KWCB grant application, as 25th of September 2026. It was agreed that Cllr Rodi will apply for the sign supply costs, including part of the installation costs.

26/114 HIGHWAYS BOLLARDS – CHURCH STREET

The Proper Officer was absent but requested that Council give her delegated authority to order the supply and installation of the bollards once the licence has been granted. This requested was approved by Council. The decision was unanimous.

26/115 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Cllr Reedman reported that the draft Naseby Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to WNC for screening. WNC have since confirmed that there is a 2-month delay due to the work they are currently undertaking to their draft Local Plan. Given the delay, if the draft Neighbourhood Plan doesn't require a full SEA screening, the plan will be made by June 2027 earliest. Should a full SEA screening be required, the draft plan will not be made until December 2027. The draft Local Plan is creating large delays and backlogs for all parishes.

26/116 ANGLIAN WATER – VILLAGE WORKS

a) Mains Relaying Sibbertoft to Naseby- Cllr Reedman reported that works have been completed along the entirety of the Sibbertoft Road. Not sure what happens at the A14 end. The Welford Road is currently closed but unsure if this is related to water work repairs. There is also another burst mains pipe at the allotments.

b) 3rd Water mains burst at Nutcote / Church Street junction – Cllr Reedman reported that works have been completed.

26/117 MOWING CONTRACTS

Maximow – Playing Field

a) Council NOTED that the playing field gate padlock has been replaced and the Chairman has a key for issue to Maximow.

b) Council NOTED that several cuts have been omitted due to drought conditions and lack of grass growth, but a slitting operation has been performed recently.

Thompson Ground Care – Village Mowing

c) Council NOTED that access to mow the footpath from the allotments to Cottesbrooke Road is to be resolved.

- d) Council NOTED that several cuts have been omitted due to drought conditions and lack of grass growth.

26/118 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE AND EVENT

- a) Council RESOLVED to purchase the same size tree as last year including installation of Councils decorative lights. The Proper Officer is to action.
- b) Council NOTED that the budget for refreshments will be the same as last year at £120 and met by the Christmas events budget.
- c) Council RESOLVED to agree event to be organised by Kirsty MacMillan and Margaret Diack. The Proper Officer is to confirm all decision made by Council with Kirsty and Margaret.
- d) Council NOTED that replacement tree lights are to be purchased, which was approved by the Council earlier in the year.

26/119 ANNUAL VEGETATION MAINTENANCE

Council RESOLVED to approve the list of potential works to be prepared to obtain quotations as follows:

- School Lane - vegetation over hanging carriageway, some from School land and some from highway verge.
- Play Area - hedge
- Highways Land (triangle near Fitzgerald Arms) - vegetation
- Highways Land (triangle junction of Church Street and Carvells Lane) – vegetation.
- Highways Land (triangle junction of Nutcote and Thornby Lane) - vegetation
- To rear of two playing field benches - trimming bushes
- Allotment paths - overhanging branches at head height along the public footpath.
- Cllr Collins requested to add the corner of Cottesbrooke Road. Council approved this request.
- Cllr Davies reported that the tree by the speed indicator on Clipston Road is growing near to the apparatus again. It was agreed that Cllr Harrison will take photographs so that this can be reviewed and the land owner can be contacted.

26/120 PLAYING FIELD TREE MARKERS

Council RESOLVED to approve the purchase of tree markers (white stakes 60no.) to be installed to protect vulnerable Oak saplings from mowing at the playing field. Costs to be brought back to Council in due course.

26/121 PLAYING FIELD BRUSH CUTTING

Council NOTED that this it is not the Parish Council's responsibility to conduct a limited brush cutting exercise around margins of mown areas to restrict invasive brambles inside edge of the hedgerow the Clipston Road side of the field, but RESOLVED to undertake these works.

26/122 NATIONAL PAY AWARD

Council NOTED that the national pay award for the 2026/27 year has been agreed at 3.3% and the Proper Officer's salary increase is to be backdated to the 1st of April 2026 and paid in the September payroll, in accordance with all confidential information circulated to the council prior to the meeting.

26/123 ANNUAL EXTERNAL AUDIT – YEAR-ENDING 31 MARCH 2026

- a) Council NOTED that the annual external audit has been completed by PKF Littlejohn with no outstanding matters.
- b) Council NOTED that Section 3 of the AGAR has been duly approved by PKF Littlejohn and added to the Council website.

26/124 PLANNING APPLICATION: 2026/3319/HH - Cromwell Cottage, High Street, Naseby. Restoration of wooden gates at the front of the property across driveway comprising 12ft 5-bar wooden gate for vehicle access and a 3ft 5bar wooden gate for pedestrian access. The Council RESOLVED not to comment.

26/125 CLOSED 2027/28 BUDGET SETTING MEETING

Council RESOLVED to agree a date for the closed Budget Setting Meeting for the 2027-28 year. It was agreed that the Proper Officer is to circulate some dates for this with a Monday or Thursday night being the preferred options.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & INTERNAL CONTROL

26/126 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT (CURRENT ACCOUNT)

Council RESOLVED to approve all payments being made via BACS, Standing Order and Direct Debit, as set out in the table on the next page.

ONLINE PAYMENTS VIA BACS TRANSFER			
Ref.	Payee	Description	Amount
S/O	Josie Flavell	Clerk's August Salary and home working allowance (Salary £618.93 – Allowance £37.50)	£656.43
BACS	Josie Flavell	Reimbursement for payment of monthly mobile phone fee GIFF GAFF (August)	£10.00
BACS	HMRC	PAYE (Tax and NI) August	£208.28
BACS	DCK Payroll Services	August payroll Service Fee – Inv. 27614	£18.00
BACS	Naseby Methodist Church	Hall hire fees – Parish Council meeting September Inv. TBC	£18.00
BACS	Thompson Ground Care	Grass cutting of village JULY. Inv. 1203	£1558.90
BACS	Josie Flavell	Expenses: McAfee annual subscription fee	£71.98
BACS	Josie Flavell	Expenses: Vodafone fees	£38.63
BACS	Josie Flavell	Expenses: Crazy Domains - 2 year renewal fee Website domain fees	£142.64
BACS	Gavin Kirkup	Editor Fee for production of Summer edition of Naseby News. Inv. 003	£100.00
BACS	Rugby Pest Control	Quarterly fees – Inv. 16585	£82.80
S/O	Josie Flavell	Clerk's September Salary and home working allowance (Salary £618.93 – Allowance £37.50) Including 2026/27 pay award	£842.53
BACS	Josie Flavell	Reimbursement for payment of monthly mobile phone fee GIFF GAFF (September)	£10.00
BACS	HMRC	PAYE (Tax and NI) September	£210.63
BACS	DCK Payroll Services	September payroll Service Fee – Inv. TBC	£18.00
Direct Debit Payments			
D/D	Valda Energy	Street lighting unmetered supply (July) Inv. 01969700	£101.89
D/D	Valda Energy	Street lighting unmetered supply. INCORRECTLY TAKEN AND IS BEING DISPUTED	£1,390.73

26/127 INCOME (RESERVES ACCOUNT)

Council NOTED all income as detailed in the below table.

Date	Income Received	Amount
30/06/2026	Bank Interest - June	£24.76
30/07/2026	Bank Interest - July	£21.84

26/128 BALANCE OF ACCOUNTS & EARMARKED RESERVES

Council NOTED all balances and earmarked reserves as detailed in the below tables:

Date	Bank Account	Account Balance
28/08/26	Current Account	£0.00
28/08/26	Reserves Account	£24,310.33

Earmarked Reserves	Amount
General Reserves	£13,710.00
Play Area	£4,000.00
Streetlighting	£1600.00
Neighbourhood Plan	£1000.00
Benches	£1000.00
Highways Bollards	£2000.00
Elections (2029)	£1000.00
TOTAL	£24,310.00

COUNCIL MEMBERS AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

26/129 HIGHWAYS AND SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES (SIDs)

Cllr Harrison reported that he is due to download the data from the SIDs in due course and agreed to create an article for the next edition of Naseby News from this. All are in full working order.

26/130 STREETLIGHTING

Cllr Williams reported that he needs to conduct is regular streetlight audit to ensure they are all in operation, especially now that the night's are drawing in at dusk.

26/131 POLICE & FIRE LIAISON AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REP.

Cllr Roberts reported that a document has been received by Danielle Stone but has yet to read this and that there has been an increase of attempted house burglaries and car theft recently. Reports of these are being received via the village WhatsApp group.

26/132 VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

- Cllr Collins reported that the biggest concerning currently, is the signing of the play area lease.
- The Trustees have moved their Annual general Meeting to the 21st of September. Cllr Reedman agreed to attend in Cllr Collins absence.
- The Chair to the Village Hall Trustees is concerned about the amount of money being spent on maintenance, which is why they have decided to apply for a big

grant with the Kelmarsh Windfarm Community Trust to cover the cost of the renovations of the toilets. Their maintenance contractor has submitted a quote, but they need another 2 quotes to meet the grant criteria. As the toilets are such an issue, it has been suggested that the Trustees highlight within their application that this renovation is imperative to ensure the people/groups hiring the hall are kept happy.

- There are issues surround the pantomime group and the Trustees as they want the stage put up 3 months in advance of the pantomime taking place at Christmas, so they can practice, but this creates issues for the other people hiring the space as it reduces it significantly.

26/133 VILLAGE HALL CCTV

- Cllr Collins has requested the Village Hall Trustees to install the external light at the rear of the hall to allow the CCTV to be more effective at night time. They have acknowledged the request, but it has yet to be actioned. Their maintenance contractor will purchase the light and install this.
- The incident involving the child who fell from the swings and cut their hand didn't go any further, as after reviewing the CCTV footage, the child was not using the apparatus correctly and was hanging from the top bar of the swings and subsequently fell.

26/134 MOWING WARDEN

There were no further reports to add from earlier discussions.

26/135 TREES AND FOOTPATH WARDEN

- Cllr Collins requested that an article be added to the next Naseby News, requesting residents to check and to cut back any overhanging vegetation over a footpath and/or highway. Council approved the request.
- Cllr Reedman reported that the hedge on the corner of School Lane and High Street needs to be cut back. Additionally, turning out of Church Street turning to the right is also an issue. Council agreed to letters being sent to ask the residents to cut their hedges and vegetation back. The Proper Officer is to action this.

26/136 DEFIBRILLATORS & BLEED KIT

Roger Carter has very helpfully agreed to oversee the maintenance and management of the bleed kit at the Village Hall, along with the defibrillators.

26/137 VILLAGE WELCOME BOOKLET

New residents were discussed and Cllr Collins agreed to distribute Welcome Books to councillors to deliver to them.

26/138 WINDFARM COMMUNITY FUND

Cllr Davies reported that deadline for applications is 25 September and the meeting to review all applications takes place on the 5 October 2026. There are two applications received already for £4k and £9k respectively.

CLOSING PROCEDURES

26/139 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

There were no agenda items agreed for inclusion on the October Council meeting agenda.

26/140 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION (ONLY)

- a) Cllr Reedman reported that the Remembrance Sunday Wreath will be a donation of £60.
 - b) Chapel Defibrillator power invoice will be issued for the year to heat it, which is £45.00.
 - c) Naseby News Articles were agreed as follows:
 - Traffic Survey – Cllr Harrison
 - Defibs – Cllr Reedman
 - Neighbourhood Plan – NDP Steering Committee Chair, Mark Clements
 - Wind Farm Community Grants – Cllr Davies
 - Play Area Repairs
 - WNC ward Cllr Christine Ware report
 - d) Naseby School is now set within a different set of academies. A new Headteacher has joined, and the school has a new sign which has an incorrect image, i.e. the helmet and swords which are ancient Greek and not civil war related. Contact needs to be made to see if they would like to continue to add an article for Naseby News. Cllr Reedman agreed to contact the school Secretary; Becky Hill.
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In the absence of further business, the meeting closed at 20:05pm

Signed:
Paul Reedman - Chairman

Date: 1 October 2026