



Minutes of a Meeting of Nailstone Parish Council held at All Saints Church at 7pm on Wednesday 30th July 2025.

Present: Cllr L Harris (Chair), Cllr H Darlington (Vice Chair), Cllr D Crane, Cllr T Harrison, Clerk K Bates, County Cllr J Melen, Borough Cllr W J Crooks, 2 members of the public.

Public session

148/2025 To receive questions and comments from members of the public

A member of the public asked if the overhanging foliage on Bagworth Rd obscuring the road signs had been cut back. LCC had cut back the foliage that had been obscuring the weight restriction signs but not the 30mph speed sign on the opposite side of the road. The foliage covering the flashing speed sign adjacent to Dovebank primary school had also been cut.

It was agreed that the Clerk would make a new report to LCC Highways regarding the remaining foliage.

149/2025 To receive an update from County Councillor J Melen

Cllr Melen **was thanked** for a report on County Council business which included an update on the two Council meetings held in July where local government devolution was discussed. At the July 2nd meeting the controlling administration agreed to continue Council discussions over devolution however two days following this after a communication from Leicester City Council regarding proposed City boundary expansion it was apparent that Executive discussions had been held to support the expansion of the City boundary. At an extraordinary Council meeting held on 30th July the Council voted against City expansion and voted to require the reorganisation decisions to come before the full Council.

The Fox Connect on demand bus service had launched and this had been communicated via Leicestershire Matters. Bookings could be made by telephone or an app.

Cllr Melen had attended the Armed Services Parade on 28th June and had visited MIRA on 2nd July.

150/2025 To receive an update from Borough Councillor W R Crooks

Cllr Crooks **was thanked** for a report on Borough Council business which included updates on HBBC'S provision of accommodation for people who are homeless, planning, heritage grants and reports of Highways issues. Cllr Crooks will be a Member of the Licencing and Appeals Panel, the Ethical Governance and Personnel Committee and will be an Executive Member for Planning. Cllr Crooks reported on large housing applications being passed in Newbold Verdon, Desford, Hinckley and Osbaston.

151/2025 To receive updates from Community Groups and other organisations

Nailstone Community Group: A representative from NCG reported that the recent Garage Sale had been a success. The next NCG meeting was due on 4th September.

PCC: The Churchwarden reported that the Church Fete was scheduled for the 19th August. A faculty to grant both retrospective and future permission for the interment of ashes had been submitted. A faculty to designate All Saints as a Community Church was being discussed at an upcoming DAC meeting. It was reported that a test had shown the lightning conductor to be faulty and remedial works were planned. The Churchwarden would check if a copy of the most recent Quinquennial report could be forwarded to Cllrs.

Footpath Warden: No issues were reported.

Nailstone Gardening Group: It was reported that the NGG made £46 at the recent garage sale which had been spent on both permanent and bedding planting for the Pit Wheel triangle. The Group had planted this and thoroughly weeded and cleared the area by the Church Meadow gates, as well as weeding the Rock and Centenary beds. The group had two social events planned, a pub quiz night and a summer social where partners were also invited. Recent garden visits included Stoke Albany House, Hidcote Manor, Thenford and Biddulph Grange Garden as well as a Plant Hunter's Fair.

Council business

152/2025 To consider apologies for absence from Councillors

There were none.

153/2025 To receive declarations of interests (including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) and requests for dispensations in respect of items on the agenda

There were none.

154/2025 To approve the minutes of the meeting of 25th June 2025

It was resolved that the minutes be approved, and they were signed by the Chair.

155/2025 To receive updates from Councillors and the Clerk

Cllr Harris: No update

Cllr Darlington: Mrs K Elkin would kindly be producing the next newsletter as Cllr Darlington would be away.

Cllr Crane: Cllr Crane reported that he had met with the Police and Crime Commissioner Rupert Matthews and had had a discussion regarding dangerous and inconsiderate parking in villages.

Cllr Harrison: Cllr Harrison reported that he had in storage 20 Christmas Tree stands purchased several years ago by the PC.

It was agreed that a stand would be donated to the Church and Cllr Harrison would send dimensions of the stands with a photo to the Clerk and these would be offered free to other PC's via LRALC's round robin email.

Clerk: **AGAR 2024-25:** The external auditor, Moore, had returned the External Auditor's report and certificate, with no matters requiring additional attention and no recommendations or matters to be brought to the attention of the PC. The Conclusion of Audit notice and the External Auditor's Report had been uploaded to the website and posted on both village noticeboards.

Fly tip: A fly tip of approximately 10 1 litre canisters had been fly tipped in the unofficial lay by on Bagworth Rd. Cllr Darlington had kindly collected the items and placed them by the waste bin on Church Rd and they had been reported to and collected by H&BBC.

Transfers according to budget: £5900 had been transferred from the HSBC Current Account to the HSBC Money Manager Account to fulfil the resolutions made in the 2025-6 budget to add to the Election, Play Equipment, General Reserve and General Contingency earmarked funds.

Post-box path: Following the Gardening Group's removal of the overgrown grass on the path, the path had been marked up by LCC for repair.

156/2025 To review and approve the PC's annual renewal for email provision

The annual premium from Cuttlefish for the PC's email provision was £252.

It was resolved that the provision be renewed, and the Clerk pay the premium following the PC meeting.

157/2025 To review and approve an Anti-bribery, fraud and corruption policy

Cllr Harris had requested the provision of a new Anti-bribery, fraud and corruption policy, Cllrs considered this prudent due to the Stoneshollow Community Benefit Funding. The Clerk had sourced and amended a policy to reflect Nailstone PC's circumstances.

It was resolved that the policy be approved and published on the PC's website.

158/2025 To approve an application to LRALC for Clerk's CiLCA training

Nailstone PC holds the General Power of Competence until 2027 and thereafter would require a qualified Clerk to maintain that power. Cllrs considered that they wished to support the Clerk gain the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA). Information regarding the cost of the qualification had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. LRALC required notice of interest in the qualification prior to interviews at the end of the year.

It was noted by Cllrs that the Clerk may need support with Council business during this time due to the study involved and further details of the support to be offered would be decided when the amount of study was known.

It was resolved that the Clerk contact LRALC to be added to the list for interviews for the course.

159/2025 To approve an updated quotation for the replacement of the wooden stile on footpath R66 with a kissing gate

H&BBC required a new quotation to approve the Community Equipment Grant. T&G fencing had provided an up-to-date quotation and H&BBC had approved the provision of 50% funding. The new quotation amount was for £1006.84 of which the PC would need to pay £503.42, an additional £54.65 compared to the previous year.

It was resolved that the PC accept the quotation and the contractor be asked to proceed with the work.

160/2025 To consider a request to NCG regarding posts on the NCG Facebook page

Cllrs considered the potential posting of the monthly agenda and minutes on the NCG Facebook page.

It was noted that the Clerk and the Chair were not members of the NCG and personal circumstances prevented them from using Facebook or being tagged in posts.

It was resolved that the Clerk email a NCG moderator each month with the agenda and ask the moderator to post the agenda with comments turned off.

Cllrs further considered the publishing of posts by NCG moderators regarding Parish Council decisions and business and the nature and amount of comments that followed on these threads.

It was noted that the PC welcomes parishioner attendance at meetings and that communications to the Clerk are answered and forwarded to Cllrs so they are aware.

It was resolved that a request be made to the NCG that

- (a) posts directly relating to PC decisions and business are not published and the post is forwarded to the Clerk's email, and
- (b) the Clerk would forward this to all Cllrs to formulate a response and
- (c) a factual statement in response would be formulated by 2 Cllrs and
- (d) the response would be forwarded to the moderator with the original post/query for them to post with the comments turned off.
- (e) The outcome of this approach to be monitored by Cllrs.

161/2025 To consider planning applications submitted:

25/00657/DISCON Aldi Distribution Centre, Wood Rd, Nailstone.
Application to discharge condition 9 (landfill gas verification report)
attached to planning permission 20/01278/CONDIT

It was noted by Cllrs that this was an application to discharge conditions and as such was not an application to be commented on.

162/2025 To note comments submitted under delegated powers and applications determined

25/00695/FUL Demolition of existing building, greenhouses and raised beds and erection of 2 dwellings, 87 Barton Lane Nailstone Nuneaton Leicestershire CV13 0PY

The consultation for the above application had been received after the published agenda and under delegated powers the PC was authorised to submit a comment. H&BBC had confirmed that they would grant an extension to the 21 days consultation period to allow the PC to consider a response.

It was resolved that the PC submit a comment of objection to the proposal based on the overdevelopment of the site, that there was poor amenity land provision and that parking was not adequate to allow manoeuvrability of vehicles in the space meaning the access of vehicles onto a road with restricted sightlines (DM 17 and DM 18). Additionally, that the application fell outside the development boundary and as such was unsustainable development (DM 4).

163/2025 To consider a quotation from LCC for upgrading work to the PC's streetlights

County Cllr Melen **was thanked** for assisting to progress this item. A telephone call between the Clerk and the Officer at LCC clarified matters. A quotation for the renewal and upgrading of the street lighting was to include: the necessary upgrading works to the lights on Barton Rd and Grange Rd and the disconnection and removal of the pole outside Grange Cottages. New brackets, poles, LED light fittings and communication cells would bring the lighting up to the required modern and energy saving specifications. The communication cells would allow the lighting to be remotely controlled and timed by LCC and the cells would alert LCC when maintenance was needed. LCC would not adopt the street lighting as their own due to the distance between the poles being more than the statutory minimum but would be able to offer a Service Level Agreement at monthly cost for their maintenance so there would be no occasions when the lights were not operable and awaiting costly repair. An updated quotation for the works and a draft Service Level Agreement would be provided to the PC in time for consideration at the August meeting.

164/2025 To consider updates regarding the Grounds Maintenance contract and endorse and approve actions arising

Following item 144/2025 (June 2025 PC meeting) The contractor (Inspire) had been requested to attend a meeting to discuss concerns regarding the whole contract. Both the Clerk and the Chair had attempted to arrange a meeting; however, the contractor (Inspire) had not responded to this request. No further work or attendance had been undertaken by the contractor (Inspire). Due to the overgrown and hazardous state of the uncut hedges and the unsatisfactory condition of the mowing, a unanimous quorate decision had been taken by Cllrs to authorise an emergency request to the former contractor (Bosworth Groundcare) to carry out these works. Bosworth Groundcare had agreed to carry this out.

It was agreed that the work was of a very good standard and had made the areas safe and presentable.

This decision **was endorsed**. Cllr Harrison **was thanked** for organising this and communicating with Bosworth Groundcare.

It was resolved unanimously that the contractor (Inspire) be given notice to terminate the contract on grounds of non-performance and the Chair would assist the Clerk in drafting the required email.

Cllrs discussed the urgent need for a contractor to continue the remaining 18 months of the contract according to the specifications set out in the original tender document and Cllrs considered the impracticality of re-

tendering for the remaining 18 months. Cllrs noted Bosworth Groundcare had provided a quotation for the tender 18 months previously.

It was resolved unanimously that the usual requirement for 3 new quotations be suspended due to the above concerns and that Bosworth Groundcare be asked to fulfil the remaining months of the contract on the terms previously quoted.

It was resolved that Cllr Harrison would meet with Bosworth Groundcare at the beginning of August to walk through the grounds specifications and that the matter would be brought before the August PC meeting for further discussion and decision.

165/2025 To review the progress of items reported to H&BBC and LCC:

15/01/2025 FS679009549 - 982549

Wood Road, Nailstone. Missing Ironwork. Works Ordered by Utility company

Wood Road, Nailstone Re-reported Carriageway in poor state. Passed to Officer for response. Carriageway damage first reported in 2022 via FS 403010734 and again in February 2024 via FS 591 66212. This matter was followed up in April 2024 by Borough Cllr Crooks FS590803459. **UPDATE- Repair work scheduled, to be carried out 12th September 2025.**

6/3/2025 FS666305927

Vero's Lane, Nailstone Re-reported Carriageway in poor state. Passed to Officer for assessment. Issue first reported in December 2024 via case FS666305927 which was closed following the placement of 'mud on road' signs. **UPDATE: Pot holes repaired**

07/03/2025 HC/5000-988652

Grange Lane, Nailstone Pot hole in carriageway, bend warning sign needing replacement, reported by Borough Cllr Crooks. Works ordered, no timescale given. **UPDATE: Potholes repaired. Sign replaced.**

28/4/25 FS709830357

Main St/Bagworth Rd, Nailstone Non illuminated bollard hit and missing. **UPDATE: Works ordered.**

166/2025 To consider a monitoring report on the play equipment

The repair to the monkey bar play equipment had been carried out and an invoice submitted.

Cllr Harrison reported no new concerns.

Cllr Harrison **was thanked** for continuing to carry out the playground inspections.

167/2025 To consider any monitoring reports on Stoneshollow Solar Farm

There were none.

168/2025 To approve invoices for payment

The Clerk and RFO presented the payment schedule, bank reconciliation, bank statements and breakdown of reserves and earmarked funds which was signed by the Chair.

It was resolved that the following invoices be paid:

Supplier	Details	£.p
K Bates	Clerk's salary July 2025	289.15
HMRC	PAYE July 2025	32.60
K Bates	Brother Ink Subscription refund	4.49
K Bates	Amazon A4 display wallets refund	13.59
Hames Partnership	Payroll for June 2025	34.20
The Graphic	Newsletter printing July 2025	125.00
The Graphic	Newsletter printing August 2025	125.00
John Sperry Joinery	Play Equipment Repair	510.00
Bosworth Groundcare	One off hedge/grass cut,	1,200.00
Cuttlefish	Renewal of x5 PC email provision	252.00
Moore's SA	External Audit for 2024-25 Fixed Fee	756.00
TOTAL		3342.03

169/2025 To confirm the time, date and place of the next meeting; scheduled for 27th August 2025, 7pm, All Saints Church.

The meeting closed at 21:00.