

NEWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Sherwood Room of
Newstead Centre on Wednesday 9th January 2013

1. Present: Cllrs: Mrs. P.A. Wise (Chairman), Mrs D. Adams (Vice-Chairman), Mrs B. Blood, Mrs J Booth, Mr P. Burnham, Miss A. Halliwell and Mrs P. Young.

The Clerk and five members of the public were also in attendance. The Chairman introduced the new Clerk.

2. Apologies for absence: Apologies were noted from Cllrs Mrs W Evans and Mr S Gascoigne and County Councillor Mr C Barnfather.
3. Declarations of Personal & Prejudicial Interest: There were no declarations of interest.
4. Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 7th November 2012. Subject to the following omissions being noted - 'It had been reported that the Station Sign on Hucknall Road still needed to be turned round and that the considerable potholes on Station Avenue had caused damage to a Councillor's vehicle' - the minutes were approved.
5. Matters arising from the Minutes.
 - 5.1 Newstead Abbey Park – The proposed meeting with Penny Benniston had not yet taken place. The Clerk read out a letter previously sent to the Chief Executive of Nottingham City Council regarding concerns over the state of Station Ave and following further communication with the City Council, the matter had now been placed in the hands of Mr Richard Inglis, Service Manager for Nottingham Galleries and Museums. It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange a site meeting and inform Cllrs when this was due to take place. Mrs Young said there had previously been flooding close to the Granary. Severn Trent has carried out some drainage work in this area and the problem appears to have been resolved. Tree roots were suspected as the cause of problem.
 - 5.2 Tree Carvings - No further meeting had been arranged where John Flanders had not yet returned to full health. The Chairman suggested the Council may need to look at alternative proposals.
 - 5.3 The problem with the locked gates leading to the terraces had now been resolved.
 - 5.4 The list of maintenance issues compiled by Cllrs Burnham and Young had generally been actioned with the exception of the sign for the station which continues to point in the wrong direction. Clerk to action
 - 5.5 Theft of Bench - The Police had been informed of the theft and a crime number obtained. A claim form had been received from the Council's insurers and this would be completed by the Clerk.
 - 5.6 The Chairman was still looking for someone to re-fill the blue grit bins. She was to discuss the matter with Mick Leivers to see whether the CAST minibus could transport the bags of grit.
 - 5.7 Minutes now distributed from the Parish Liaison meeting. The Clerk advised Newstead's tax base has been reduced substantially as a result of the localisation of Council Tax Support although GBC would be covering shortfall in funding for the 2013/14 financial year. The ward walk was discussed and it was resolved that Gedling be asked to include Abbey Ward within walk and that Cllrs be invited to join in.
 - 5.8 Graffiti in the village has not yet been removed. There is graffiti on the village nameplate as you enter the village from the direction of Annesley. Further graffiti near Cornerstone House was also mentioned. Clerk to action.
 - 5.9 The Council was informed that the planning conditions for 42 Webb Street had not been adhered to. Comments from the enforcement officer had been received. Councillors would like to know what is meant by the word "similar" as in this case the house is red brick and the extension is yellow brick. Clerk to contact GBC.
 - 5.10 The Council were of the opinion the grit bins needed re- stocking rather than re-siting. Clerk to action
 - 5.11 Burial Records – The Council had not yet been able to contact Richard Spray following problems with computer. Cllr Adams volunteered to pass a message onto Richard through his father.
 - 5.12 A new Clerk had been appointed

A short adjournment was held for members of the public to discuss Parish Matters with Cllrs

Members of the public raised concern over the development of Top Wighay. The action taken by Newstead Parish Council in contributing towards a response drawn up by a planning consultant instructed by Linby and Papplewick Parish Council was discussed.

6. Finance

6.1 Councillors' out of pocket expenses – A draft proposal had been tabled at the meeting for Cllrs consideration. The Chairman explained as Parish Councillors did not receive any form of remuneration, she felt it was only fair that fuel costs incurred when travelling out of the parish on Council business should be reimbursed. A discussion ensued as to whether the mileage rate should be levied at the rate agreed by NALC, i.e. the same as that applied to Council Clerks i.e. up to 60p per mile depending on CC of vehicle, or whether a flat rate of 45p per mile should apply, which is the limit imposed by HMRC prior any tax implications.

It was proposed by Cllr Wise and seconded by Cllr Adams that a rate of 45p should apply and the draft proposal be accepted as presented. This was agreed.

6.2 Accounts for December 2012

Receipts and Payments for December 2012.

Receipts.

D & M Monumental Masons	75.00	Memorial stone for cremation plot.
HMRC	135.22	Repayment of VAT
Transfer from Bonus saver a/c to Current a/c	10000.00	
Bank interest	21.11	
Quarterly bonus	89.03	
Transfer from Bonus Saver a/c to Current a/c	7800.00	
HMRC	2340.60	Repayment of VAT
	20460.96	

Payments

001025 J.A. Chisholm	286.48	Clerk's salary (December)
001026 HMRC	71.40	Tax on salary (December)
001027 Mrs P.A. Wise	25.00	Chairman's expenses (December)
001028 Notts. Probation Service	200.00	Donation to purchase industrial strimmer
001029 Linby Parish Council	500.00	Donation to Top Wighay campaign
001030 Mrs PA Wise	90.44	Christmas reception and retirement gift
001031 Mrs PA Wise	22.24	Refreshments for Christmas tree lighting
001032 J.A. Chisholm	53.90	Clerk's expenses
		Postage 11.60
		Tele.rental 7.50
		Tele calls 10.76
		Mileage 24.04
		53.90
001033 Newstead Centre	161.64	Room Hire and Refreshments 5 th December
001034 Mrs J Johnson	136.80	Refund for purchase of a used Four Drawer
Filing		Cabinet

A £200 donation to the Probation Service towards the purchase of a new strimmer was agreed and that the Probation service be asked to forward a copy of the invoice for the strimmer to the Council once purchased. Clerk to action

The accounts were approved and passed for payment.

- 6.3 Bank Matters
A letter to the Council's bank had been drafted by the new Clerk introducing herself as the new Clerk and removing Mr Chisholm as one of the signatories. A mandate to add a new signatory to the account was also requested. This action was agreed. The letter was signed by two of the existing signatories and the Chairman agreed to take this letter to Mrs Evens for signing as the third signatory required.
7. Matters concerning Newstead Village.
- 7.1 Light 3 on the footpath between Webb Street and Newstead Centre is out. A light on the corner of Musters Road was also not working. Mr Burnham reported that a number of lights were out on Hucknall Road on the approach to Newstead village from Annesley. As these appeared to affect every other light he wondered whether this was part of energy saving measures from the Notts County Council.
Clerk to contact Highways.
- 7.2 Police Coverage – Cllrs were concerned at the general lack of police presence in the village. It was resolved to write to the newly elected Police Commissioner to request a meeting. Clerk to action
- 7.3 Miss Halliwell also wanted to know what had happened to the lights on the Christmas tree which appeared to have been vandalised.
- 7.4 Matters relating the Youth Club were discussed. Complaints have been received from parishioners on foul language used by youths hanging around the Youth Centre. Clerk to write direct to Youth workers. It was also suggested that meetings held in respect of the Youth Centre be held at the later time of 7pm to enable members of the Council to attend. Matter to be put on agenda next month.
- 7.5 Mr Burnham commented on litter at the Parish Boundary with Ashfield to Hazelford Way. Clerk to action
- 7.6 Mrs Young referred to a large pothole on the turn in to Tilford Road. Clerk to action
- 7.7 Interactive Speed Signs/Village Sign – The Clerk was asked to chase progress on this matter.
- 7.8 Newstead Wildlife Meadow – Item to be brought up at next meeting. Notts Wildlife Trust has recommended that cattle be used to keep grass down. Mr Burnham is to forward some information to the Clerk for circulation to Cllrs and discussion at the next Council meeting.
8. Matters concerning Newstead Abbey Park.
- 8.1 Station Ave – Mrs Young reported potholes getting worse, especially under the railway bridge. She also advised that now the paint had disappeared off the humps they are dangerous.
9. Correspondence.
- 9.1 The following items of correspondence were specifically discussed:
- New pricing structure from Clarkes effective from 1 January – This was noted.
 - SLCC membership – Will be £86 (up from £83 last year) It was agreed to renew membership
 - Dispensations to discuss precept – All Cllrs had now signed the forms with the exception of Cllr Booth and Cllr Evens. Cllr Booth signed her form at the meeting. The Chairman took a form for Cllr Evans to complete
 - Electoral Review of Gedling – It was noted that Newstead ward would henceforth be part of the Abbey
Ward comprising the parishes of Linby, Papplewick, Newstead and Ravenshead and would be served by three Borough Councillors, down from the present four.
 - First Contact scheme – The Clerk advised the meeting of help and advice available to the over 60's. It was agreed to approach the editor of the Village Newsletter to publicise the scheme.
 - D & M Monumental Masons - Request for Cremation Memorial Plaque – This was agreed.
10. Planning Applications.
- 10.1 F/2711 – Newstead and Annesley Country Park (Importation of circa. 40,000m³ of inert material to reduce the depth of fishing lakes, to improve safety requirements for members of the public and including the creation of two islands for nesting birds and the landscaping of areas around the lakes) – Approved by Cllrs
- 2011/1328 – Poets Corner (Erection of domestic wind turbine on 15 metre high mast with 9 metre

diameter rotor blade) - It was noted this application had gone to appeal

11. Reports from External Meetings.
None
12. Cemetery issues.
The Chairman proposed that this item be discussed as the last item on the agenda as a confidential item as this information related to the affairs of an individual and their family.

Accordingly it was resolved by the Council that for discussion of this item the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds it is likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Local Government Act 1972, schedule 12a, Part one, item 1, where this item relates to the affairs of an individual and family'.
13. Items that the Chairman considered urgent.
 - 13.1 The Chairman sought the approval of the Council to spend money on the removal and subsequent disposal of the Christmas tree. This was agreed
 - 13.2 A letter had been received from a local resident regarding parking problems at Cornerstone House. Clerk to action
14. Closure and date of next meeting.
The next meeting of the Parish Council which will be held on specifically to set the precept will be held on Wednesday 23rd January 2013 commencing at 7.00pm.

The next full meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 6th February 2013