

NEWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Sherwood Room of Newstead Centre on Wednesday 3rd April 2013

1. **Present:** Cllrs: Mrs. P.A. Wise (Chairman), Miss A Halliwell, Mrs J Booth, Mrs B. Blood, Mr P. Burnham, Mrs Evans and Mrs P. Young.

Mr Denis Robinson was also in attendance.

2. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were noted from Cllrs Gascoigne and Adams.

3. **Declarations of Personal & Prejudicial Interest:** There were no declarations of interest.

4. **Approval of the Minutes**

With a correction to Page 3 - Item 6.2 to note toddler group referred to in the minutes should be Newstead Minors and not Newstead Miners and the omission of a comment by Cllr Young that £500 given to the same group by Cllr C Barnfather be noted, it was proposed that the minutes be approved as a true record. This was agreed.

5. **Matters arising from the Minutes**

- 5.1 **Newstead Abbey Park** - The Chairman confirmed both she and Cllr Halliwell attended the World Monument Day at Newstead Abbey. She advised that Ron Inglis had talked about the role undertaken by 'Friends of' groups elsewhere and what they had achieved. The Chairman felt the aim of the group would be to recruit volunteers to undertake tasks in the Abbey and also raise funds to tackle outstanding works at the Abbey. Cllr Halliwell felt the meeting lacked specific guidance relating to the aims of the Abbey and what it intended to achieve through this group.
Cllr Young asked whether there had been any feedback on the bid for the Probation team. It was agreed the Clerk would contact Mick Levers to find out.
- 5.2 **Tree Carvings** - The Clerk advised that the sculptures in Wollaton Park had been undertaken by the late Stan Bullard who passed away in May 2012.
- 5.3 **Theft of Bench** - The bench had been installed and invoice submitted for payment. Cllr P Young advised she had tested the bench and was happy it was fully secured.
- 5.4 **42 Webb Street** - Cllr Halliwell did not believe the colour of the bricks would weather however she accepted nothing further was likely to be achieved.
- 5.5 **Junction adjacent Cornerstone House** - The Clerk advised that Laura Trusler was unable to make the date suggested by the Council and a revised date of 17 April was agreed.
- 5.6 **To Agree Additional Signatories** - The Clerk advised she had sent off the mandate immediately after the last meeting. As she had not heard from the bank she had called the bank who advised further forms were required from the new signatories. These were collected by the Clerk direct from the bank along with a further form for signing by the Chairman repeating much of the information already given. The Clerk felt the bank was being unnecessarily bureaucratic and felt the forms to be signed by the new signatories were very invasive. She felt the best way of progressing matters was if both she and the new signatories called at the bank directly and it was agreed the Clerk would make the necessary arrangement with the Cllrs concerned. It was also agreed that should the bank continue to be obstructive the Council look to find a new bank.
- 5.7 **Newstead Meadow** - Cllr Burnham confirmed that work on the wildlife meadow would start within the next few days. As far as the plants in the cemetery were concerned this work had not yet been completed due to the recent poor weather
- 5.8 **Lengthmans Scheme** - The clerk advised an e-mail had been sent to the County Council as requested but nothing

further had been heard.

- 5.9 Cemetery Matters - The Clerk advised that one of the families concerned who had asked for a previous exhumation would no longer pursue this course, however a relative of the family concerned had written asking for a refund for burial plots purchased in advance as she had since moved house and no longer resided in the area. The Clerk advised she had spoken to the Chairman who agreed the refund in accordance with the approved policy. Cllr Halliwell asked if a sign could be hung at the gates of the cemetery as she was aware that mowing would restart and that any items impeding the grass should be removed. **Clerk to action**
- 5.10 Update Risk Assessment - The Clerk advised she had spoken to the Insurers and confirmed that the war memorial could be insured against a range of standard perils with the additional premium being based on the sum insured. As an example she advised based on a sum insured of £5,000, the cost of insuring the War Memorial for a full year, would be an additional £61.48. The Clerk also advised that the policy was due for renewal shortly when the total premium for the ensuing year would be £951.11 (excluding cover for the memorial). The value of the memorial was discussed by Councillors and a Sum Insured of £5,000 was felt not to be unreasonable and that the memorial should be insured. It was noted that renewal of the existing policy did not fall due until the 1st June and the Clerk felt that the Council may achieve some savings by locking into longer term agreement with the existing Insurers. It was felt that some of the Sums Insured on office equipment seemed high. It was agreed that the Clerk speak to the Council's insurers and to see what could be achieved in terms of discounts available. **Clerk to action**
- 5.11 CCTV Camera - Cllr Halliwell felt the installation of a CCTV camera in the village may encourage less Police presence. Cllr Young had noted that since the meeting with the Police Commissioner she had noted more police in the village namely in patrol cars. Clarity was sought as to whether any monitor for the CCTV would be in the Police control room or at Gedling. **Clerk to clarify with D Gilder.**
The Clerk advised that as requested she had written to Nottinghamshire Police requesting a police presence at the meeting and a response had yet to be received. She did however draw attention to the Nottinghamshire Police web site which included information on Policing in Newstead and Police events to be held in the village. A patch walk is scheduled to take place in the village on the 6th April between 5pm and 8pm and also a street briefing on the 2nd May between 2pm and 3pm when a member of the Neighbourhood Policing Team will be present on Tilford Road to discuss priorities and local issues. Cllrs were not aware of this information nor did they feel that members of the public would be aware either. The Chairman emphasised the need for members of the public to report all incidents of antisocial behaviour to the Police. *Cllr Young left the meeting at this point*
- 5.12 Parking on Station Ave - The Clerk advised she had written to Darren Gilder on reinstalling no parking signs and of his general help in this matter. She also suggested that she writes to Gedling BC who sends out booking conditions for the pitch, asking users to park in car park provided. It was also agreed to put a notice on the door of the Sports Pavilion. **Clerk to Action**

As there were no members of the public present matters proceeded to the next item.

6. Finance

6.1 Receipts and Payments for March 2013

Receipts.

| | | |
|------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|
| Nat West Bonus Saver Account | 4.06 | Interest on Bonus Saver Account |
|------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|

Payments

| | | | |
|--------|-------------------------|--------|----------------------------------------------|
| 001056 | P Burnham | 12.60 | Mileage Allowance for trip to |
| 001057 | Newstead Centre | 36.00 | Room hire charges for Council Meeting 6.3.13 |
| 001058 | Newstead Centre | 12.00 | Room hire - Future Newstead Meeting 19.3.13 |
| 001059 | Malcolm Lane & Son Ltd | 90.00 | Re-location of Existing Seat |
| 001060 | Gedling Borough Council | 180.00 | Inject Japanese Knotweed |

| | | | |
|--------|----------------------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 001061 | Miss H L Pacey | 750.00 | Refund of pre purchased burial plots |
| 001062 | Mrs P.A. Wise | 25.00 | Chairman's expenses (March) |
| 001063 | Mrs J Johnson | 193.41 | Clerk's salary (March)* |
| 001064 | HMRC | 48.20 | Tax on salary (March) |
| 001065 | Mrs J Johnson | | Clerk's expenses |
| | | | Postage/Others 39.25** |
| | | | Tel/Broadband 6.00 |
| | | | Mobile calls Nil |
| | | | Mileage <u>8.10</u> |
| | | | Total <u>53.35</u> |
| 001066 | Notts County Council | 210.61 | Pension Contributions for Clerk from 1.1.2013 to 31.3.2013 |

* includes a deduction of £50.90 representing three month employee's contribution due on the pension.

**includes refund for £30 in garden vouchers purchased for raffle on Parish Plan event

The cheques were approved as stated and signed by Cllrs

6.2 To Consider Grants to Other Bodies

RCAN Subscription - The Council were asked whether it wished to subscribe to this organisation at a cost of £130 per annum. Written correspondence extolling the benefits of joining this organisation were circulated to members. The Chairman advised that advice and help on grant funding came from RCAN anyway, so she could not see what further benefit would be achieved by joining. It was agreed not to subscribe to RCAN.

7. Matters concerning Newstead Village.

7.1 30mph Sign - Cllr Burnham felt that the sign denoting the 30mph speed limit on the entrance to the village from Hucknall Road and bypass should be moved to the brow of the hill opposite the cemetery. He felt that a speed limit of 60 encouraged excessive speed by motorists. He had noted that following the recent fatality on Forest Lane, Papplewick, Papplewick Parish Council had successfully lobbied for the 30 sign to be moved further back from the village. From the top of the hill to the A611, he then proposed that a 50mph speed limit be imposed as there are a number of deceptive bends on the road and motorists have spun off the road into the woods. An example of this was the recent damage to the cemetery wall as a result of a motorist losing control of his vehicle. Cllr Evans spoke of danger to cyclists especially if travelling two abreast. It was also felt the Council should request yellow lines on Station Ave adjacent the sports field.

7.2 Bus Stop and Green, Hucknall Road - Cllr Blood commented on the new bus shelter which she felt looked much better. However to enhance this area further she felt the Council should look at some form of tree planting scheme. This was approved in principle but noted that any planting would have to be carried out so as not to impede visibility at the junction. It was suggested an approach be made to Highways to see what planting either in the form of bushes or small trees would be allowed. Also mentioned was the overgrowth from the woods spilling out into the pavement which she noted was to have been cut back by the Forestry Commission over the previous winter. The Clerk had noted that some trees/shrubs had been cut back further up Hucknall Road in the vicinity of the cemetery. **Clerk to contact Forestry Commission to ask for further strimming in this area, if not already done.**

7.3 Skate Park - Whilst on highway issues the Chairman drew attention to her concern that the entrance to the skate park was obscured from view and she was concerned that children could run/ride out onto road from the skate park into the path of oncoming motorists.

The Clerk reminded the meeting that a site visit would shortly be undertaken with an officer from Highways and it was agreed to mention all these highway concerns in the meeting proposed on the 17th April.

8. Matters concerning Newstead Abbey Park.

High Leys Road - Cllr Blood confirmed she had been discussing the location of a dog bin with Gedling Borough Council and agreed that just inside the 'gate' marking the entrance to the estate would be a good place to site the dog bin. **Clerk to inform GBC**

9. **Correspondence.**

The list of correspondence circulated in the agenda was noted. The following items were specifically discussed:

CPRE - Best Kept Village Competition - It was agreed not to participate in this competition this year.

Localism of Council Tax Support - It was agreed that the Council would support the initiative by NALC to object to this act and to sign and send a letter to Mr Eric Pickles, Secretary of State for the Environment.

Station Hotel - Notification had been received from P Bateman that the public house will be closed on the 2nd June and if not sold by this date will probably be put up for auction. Cllrs felt there had been no investment in the public house for some time and whilst sympathetic did not feel they were able to influence the decision to close the Public House in any way.

Top Wighay - Notification had been received from Brownfield First of an event to raise money for a planning consultant to oppose the development at Top Wighay at the forthcoming Public Inquiry. This would take place on Saturday 18th May at the Griffins Head PH in a marquee and involved a buffet and live music. Tickets would be £15 per head. Cllrs whilst supportive of the cause felt the cost was too expensive.

Boundary Commission - The Clerk advised that the draft recommendation to reduce the number of Borough Councillors representing Ravenshead, Papplewick, Linby and Newstead from the present level of four to three, as from elections in May 2015, had now become final.

10. **Campaign to Promote Responsible Dog Ownership** - The Clerk advised she had spoken to Niki Pekal, Neighbourhood Warden for Gedling Borough Council on the ward walk relating to dog fouling problems and if persons witnessed the deed they could report the matter in confidence to Gedling Borough Council who would send a letter to the dog owners concerned. Cllr Burnham noted that there were three dog bins in the village and some owners were simply not prepared to carry a bag to the bins. Cllr Halliwell noted that worst area was Station Road/Station Ave and the area around Park. It was suggested that editors of newsletters in the village be asked to include articles on responsible dog ownership and also to inform NAG. It was also agreed to contact the school and to suggest prize for the best poster.

11. **Planning Applications.**

The following application was discussed and no objections raised.

2013/0168 - Bunches Florapost, Unit 19, Newstead Industrial Park, Newstead - Proposed warehouse extension and maintenance path.

12. **Reports from External Meetings**

None except where covered elsewhere.

13. **Cemetery Issues**

None

14. **Items the Chairman considers urgent**

None

15. **Date of Next Meeting.**

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Wednesday 1st May at 7.30pm which would be the AGM. With no further business to be discussed the meeting closed at 9.20pm