

## NEWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Sherwood Room of Newstead Centre on Wednesday 8th January 2014

1. **Present:** Cllrs: Mrs D Adams (Acting Chairman), Mrs B Blood, Mr P Burnham, Ms H Crouch, Miss A Halliwell, and Mrs P Young. Also present was reporter Mr D Robinson. Cllr P Andrews arrived later following attendance at another meeting elsewhere.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were noted from Cllrs Mrs P Wise, Mrs J Booth and Mr S Gascoigne. Apologies also received from County Cllr Chris Barnfather.
3. **Declaration of Personal and Prejudicial Interests**  
No interests were declared by Cllrs.
4. **Address by Joel Marshall of Notts County Council on Newstead and Annesley Country Park Planning Application**

Mr Marshall began by informing the Council that the initial application from RCAN to carry out landscaping on the country park had been received over a year ago. Following concerns expressed by Notts. County Council, a much larger scheme which included the infilling of Lake 5 for carp fishing had been withdrawn, due to concerns that had been raised about the harmful effects on the existing ecology and wildlife particularly birds. As a result the scheme had been scaled down to the infilling of Lake 2 and the visitors centre. In order to make Lake 2 safe for fishing, some infill is required to reduce the depth of the lake and this requires some 17,000 cubic metres of infill material to be brought into the site, which compares to 40,000 cubic metres under the original scheme. He explained that when the matter was brought for consideration of the Planning Committee on the 12th November, members had asked him to further explore routing of lorries into the site, namely, they did not believe that access to the site should be solely via Annelsey Cutting. As a result four alternative options had been put to the Planning Committee all which involved the use of Hucknall Road to the signalised junction with the A611. A letter of objection had been received from the Parish Council bemoaning the lack of consultation with the village on this eleventh hour change. A decision had now been taken to defer any decision on this proposal until further consultation had been undertaken and further options for re-routing of the lorries to the site were now out for consultation.

Details of the proposed options had been circulated to Cllrs. Mr Marshall stressed that lorries would not be travelling down Tilford Road to gain access to the site whatever was agreed and that contrary to what was said in his report, the matter would now be deferred until the February meeting of the Planning Committee to allow time for further consultation. It was estimated that 1,800 deliveries would be required equating to an average of 13 to 40 deliveries a day. These would be timed between 8am and 4pm, Monday to Friday only.

Cllrs discussed objections to the routes proposed, namely the use of Hucknall Road including:

- a) Annesley Cutting remained the most efficient and shortest way to the A611.
- b) Close proximity to school, cemetery, number of homes directly affected including homes in Annesley
- c) If the junction between Annesley cutting and A611 was deemed dangerous for lorries turning right this should be sorted out as many Cllrs were travelling this way to work along many other villagers and were all equally at risk
- d) Hucknall Road is not lit, also derestricted, contains a number of sharp bends and is insufficient width for larger vehicles to pass. Also there are a number of concealed exits/entries directly onto the road serving various farmsteads.
- e) Lorries would need to pass the entrance to the industrial estate and thereby at a greater risk of accident from other vehicles exiting/entering this site.

Cllr Young asked what powers are available to prevent lorries using Hucknall Road, if Annesley Cutting was agreed as the sole route to the site. Mr Marshall advised that they (the applicants) would be in breach of planning conditions and Notts. County Council could intervene.

Mr Marshall also advised that Notts. County Council were investigating the recent passage of a number of HGV's through Newstead village in December as a result of delivering soil onto the site. He explained that a previous application had allowed for some landscaping around the visitors centre and it was debatable as to whether the materials brought in during December constituted permitted development. They were continuing to investigate this matter.

Following recommendations from the County Ecologist (Nick Crouch), it was noted that work would have to be undertaken outside of breeding season so would most likely be carried out over winter.

Mr Marshall agreed that comments made by the Council would be taken onboard and that he would speak to Highways on his return, in lieu of the report he was to prepare for the Planning Committee.

Hw also explained to the meeting was that funding for the whole project was very much contingent on funding secured by infill.

Mr Marshall was thanked by the Chairman for attending and following his address left the meeting.

#### **5. Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 4th December 2013**

The Clerk advised that the following corrections had been made to the minutes to be signed. Under agenda item 6.1 - Cheques for approval - wages, pension contributions and expenses for the Chair and Clerk are for November and not December as originally stated and under agenda item 13 - Cemetery issues - that Cllr Mrs P A Wise be added to list of councillors on this committee. With these corrections noted, it was proposed and seconded that the minutes be approved as a true record and this was agreed.

#### **6. Matters arising from the Minutes**

6.1 Address by D Widdowson - The Clerk advised that no officer from the Accident Investigation Unit could be spared to speak to the Council but an email had been forwarded to Cllrs explaining why Hucknall Road did not qualify for a speed limit of 50mph. Cllr Burnham advised he had asked for a member from Highways to speak at the March meeting instead.

6.2 Sand Kite Man - Further sighting had been made over the Christmas period where it was thought the individual involved had been sleeping overnight in his van. Details of the car registration had been passed on to Darren Gilder, Neighbourhood Warden at Gedling Borough Council. Cllr Burnham advised that Darren had since spoken to him to confirm he had asked the Police at Arnold to trace the owner of the vehicle and once these details were known he would call on him. Cllr Mrs P Young also raised the problem of children on Quad bikes using the sports field. It was felt that these should be using the loop. Cllr Halliwell was aware of the young persons concerned and felt they were too young to be using the loop

It was also noted that dog walkers were continuing to park their vehicles in a passing place on Station Ave and not in designated parking areas. Leaving a note on the windscreen was discounted as the Council did not hold an appropriate license for this. It was agreed that details of the vehicle concerned should be passed to the Clerk.

6.5 Fraser Street Signs - It was noted these signs had now been replaced.

6.6 Strimming of the Old Cemetery - The Clerk advised that nothing further had been heard from the Probation Trust in respect of the donation.

6.7 Village Nameplates - As nothing further had been heard since an email was sent to the County Council on the 7th November, the Clerk had written to the County Council chasing the position

6.8 Newstead Abbey - The Clerk advised that Penny Beniston's replacement, Jo Hunt, had started on the 6th January 2014 and an email had been sent requesting a meeting with the Council and also for permission to replace the existing notice board on Station Ave.

6.9 Notice Boards - The notice board had been delivered to the Council and was currently being stored in the Newstead Centre. Permission was now sought from Notts. City Council to take down the original and replace with new.

6.10 Christmas Lights - Whilst most members were happy with the new lights Cllr A Halliwell was not impressed. She felt the hanging of the lights themselves could be improved with many being put on as a clump near the base of the tree. The Clerk explained that initially some lights had been fitted on a temporary basis pending arrival of the new lights ordered and agreed these had been put on the tree badly. It was suggested that the Clerk speak to Gedling next year regarding improvements in dressing the tree in future

6.11 ID Badges - No further progress as the Council needs to take passport style photos for badges.

6.12 Highway Issues - The work to the highways as outlined at the previous meeting had been completed. Cllr Halliwell advised that the light on the Youth Centre side of the jitty on Webb Street had not yet been repaired. A street light directly outside the primary school was reported to be flashing on and off. To aid the Clerk Cllr Burnham passed on a map showing the position of all street lights in the village and asked for the offending lights to be pointed out, which they were. **Clerk to report to Highways.**

## 7. Accounts

### 7.1 Receipts and Payments for Approval

#### Receipts.

£75.00 A W Lymn - Memorial stone for burial plot.

#### Cheques for approval at this meeting

100038	Newstead Centre	135.12	Room hire and Buffet costs for December Council meeting
100039	Greenbarnes Ltd	801.77	New notice board on Station Ave
100040	Mrs J Johnson	50.00	Refund for cash donation made to Leen Conservation Volunteers
100041	Mrs P A Wise	10.00	Chairman's Allowance (Dec)
100042	Mrs J Johnson	289.90	Wages (Dec)
100043	Notts. County Council	74.88	Pension Contributions - (Dec)
100044	Mrs J Johnson		Clerk's expenses (Dec)
			Postage/Other 16.03
			Tel/Broadband 6.00
			Mobile Calls Nil
			Mileage <u>4.95</u>
			Total <u>26.98</u>
100045	Society of Local Council Clerks	87.00	Subscription to Society of Local Council
100046	Mrs J Johnson	76.59	Gift (garden vouchers) and Card for Mrs W Evans

The accounts were approved as stated.

### 7.2 Any Other Matters Relating to Finance

There were no other matters relating to Finance

## 8. Matters Concerning Newstead Village

8.1 Tilford Road - It was reported that a settee had been left adjacent the end terrace at the bottom of Tilford Road. **Clerk to contact Gedling Borough Council re flytipping**

8.2 Livingstone Street - A settee in the garden of a house on Livingstone Street was reported.

8.3 Tilford Road - Cllr Burnham reported that a further pothole had appeared on Tilford Road just past the primary school. The position of the pothole was marked on the maps distributed earlier. **Clerk to report**

**9. Matters Concerning Newstead Abbey Park**

There were no matters raised under this heading

**10. Correspondence.**

The following items were specially discussed:

- 10.1 Notts. County Council (Bus Consultation) - The Clerk had obtained details of bus services both in Gedling and Ashfield which were affected by cuts to services. As this do not include the 3a or any other services passing close to the village no comments would be made
- 10.2 Lengthman's Scheme - Cllr Barnfather welcomed feedback on the scheme. Cllrs did not feel that the service necessarily offered value for money, especially as the Council will either need to fund the service by 50% in the next financial year as per the original agreement, or if funding for the scheme is scrapped, may be responsible for 100% of the cost. In terms of the workload over the past few months, the lengthsman had sided out Hucknall Road and removed branches from a road sign.

**11 Planning Applications**

**11.1 Amendments to Application 4/V2012/0570 & 7/2012/1493 - Newstead and Annesley Country Park**

As discussed earlier in the meeting it was agreed that the Clerk would draft a further letter of objection to include those points made earlier in the meeting. This would be circulated to Cllrs for comment prior to sending.

**12. Reports from External Meetings**

None

**13. Cemetery Issues**

None

**14. Any Other Items the Chairman considers Urgent**

Cllr P Young asked whether it was possible to defer the date of the precept meeting where she hoped to attend a lecture by Dr David Amos. A revised date of 29th January was agreed for this meeting.

**15 Date of Next Meeting.**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 29th January which will be the precept meeting followed by the usual council meeting on Wednesday 5th February.

*For the next item, the Council resolves to exclude the public and press for discussion of these matters, which involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Local Government Act 1972, schedule 12a, Part one, para. 3 where this item relates to business affairs of an individual.*

**16. Grounds Maintenance Contract - Option to Extend**

The Clerk advised that in the original offer letter to A Clarke there was an option to extend the existing contract for a further 12 months. In order to forward plan, the existing contractor had now asked the Council for confirmation as to whether the present contract would now be extended. As part of the consideration Mr Clarke outlined a number of additional extras not specified in the original contract, which he would undertake over the next 15 months. This included:

- a) Additional paths to be strimmed in the Old Cemetery
- b) All headstones and plaques in cemetery to be individually blown and swept with a hand brush
- c) All benches to be swept with a hand brush to remove all grass.

It was agreed by five votes to one to extend the contact with Mr A Clarke for a further year but for his performance to be monitored. The grounds maintenance contract will therefore expire on the 31st March 2015.

With no further business to discuss the meeting finished at 7.40pm.