

NEWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Sherwood Room of Newstead Centre on Wednesday 7 May 2014

1. **Present:** Cllrs: Mrs. P.A. Wise (Chairman), Mrs D Adams, Mr P Burnham, Mrs J Booth, Mrs H Crouch and Miss A Halliwell.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Mrs B Blood, Mr S Gascoigne and Mrs P Young sent apologies due to ill health. Apologies were also noted from County Cllr Mr C Barnfather and Cllr Mrs P Andrews who were both attending the AGM for Gedling Borough Council.
3. **Election of the Chair**
The Clerk of the Council sought nominations from Councillors for the position of Chairman. Councillor Wise was proposed by Cllr Adams and seconded by Cllr Burnham. No other nominations were received with Mrs Wise being elected as Chair for the ensuing year. The Declaration of Office was then signed by the new Chairman in the presence of the Proper Officer of the Council.
4. **Election of the Vice Chair**
Councillor Adams was proposed by Cllr Burnham and seconded by Cllr Crouch. No other nominations were received with Mrs Adams elected as the Vice-Chairman for 2014/2015. The Declaration of Office was then signed by the new Vice-Chairman in the presence of the Proper Officer of the Council
5. **Council Representatives on other bodies.**
The following representatives for 2014/2015 were agreed as stated: -
Cemetery Committee – Cllrs Wise, Booth, Burnham, Halliwell and Young
Future Newstead Committee – Cllrs P Burnham, P Young, T Wise and H Crouch.
Newstead Meadow – Cllrs T Wise, P Burnham and one resident Mr Paul Bini
Lengthsmans Scheme – No longer applicable
Youth and Community Centre Committee – Cllr P Young
It was agreed that all members attending external meetings should report back to the Council and any minutes taken at meetings should be circulated to all Cllrs for information.
6. **To Agree Dates of Future Meetings**
These were agreed as per the list circulated with the agenda with the exception of November when the meeting would be moved forward by one week to avoid bonfire night.
7. **To Agree an Allowance for the Chairman**
A discussion ensued on whether the existing allowance of £10 per month was adequate to reflect the expenses of the office in terms of telephone calls and travel costs. Members did not feel the current allowance reflected the additional costs of this office and felt it should be increased to £15 per month. Consequently, it was proposed by Cllr Adams and seconded by Cllr Crouch that the allowance be increased to £15 per month and this was agreed by Cllrs.
8. **Declarations of Personal & Prejudicial Interest:** There were no declarations of interest.
9. **Approval of the Minutes**
Annual Parish Minutes - It was proposed and seconded that the minutes be approved as a true record and this was agreed.
Council Meeting - 2nd April - Subject to the following correction that under agenda item 11 - Cllr Burnham's name be removed from working party for the Best Kept Village Competition - it was proposed and seconded that the minutes be approved as a true record and this was agreed.
10. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
Annual Parish Meeting - 2 April

- 10.1 Review of the Year by the Chairman - The Chairman advised she had no further update on the position which remains undecided.
- 10.2 Items Raised by Members of the Public - The Clerk advised she had passed on details of Gedling's Sports Development Officer to Mr Rose. The Chairman advised she would offer help and support to Mr Rose in obtaining grants for the team.
- Council Meeting - 2nd April**
- 10.3 Highways - A meeting had been held with Laura Trusler when a number of issues were raised. The Clerk is to chase Highway Manager for Ashfield for bend warning signs.
- 10.4 Sand Kite Man - Cllr A Halliwell advised she had not seen the individual concerned recently.
- 10.5 Newstead Abbey - The continued poor state of the Abbey Drive/Station Road was discussed. The Clerk explained the position as regards the damage to the drive opposite the Granary. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the manager at Newstead Abbey for an update following the meeting with them.
- 10.6 Ward Walk - In addition to the minutes of the ward walk, notes relating to a follow up of the actions agreed on the walk was distributed to Cllrs from Cllr P Andrews. In relation to item 7 - 55 Tilford Road - it was noted that bags of rubbish in the garden had not yet been removed, item 9 - This had not yet been litter picked. In relation to item 10 - New street nameplates for Bryon Street /Abbey Road - The Clerk was asked to chase the position on this. Also in relation to this walk, it was noted that a caravan had been parked on the highway adjacent the last terrace house on Tilford Road and also the chair has again reappeared on the pavement outside. It was understood this belonged to a tenant of Gedling Homes. Cllrs queried whether it was legal to park a caravan on the highways for long periods. Matter also to be raised with Gedling Homes. **Clerk to investigate.**
- 10.7 Proposed Wind Turbine - The Chairman expressed disappointment at the small number of Councillors who attended the meeting held with Rob Crowder of RCAN at the Visitor centre on the Country Park on the 19th April, where the visit had been most informative. A separate meeting would need to be held to discuss the planning application for the turbine as and when received. In the meantime she advised all Cllrs to look up information relating to wind turbines in order to ascertain any points that need to be addressed once the application is received
- 10.8 Nomads Cricket Club - It was noted that this team had now started to play on the sports ground. Discussions held with the original cricket team suggested this fell though as a result of poor attendance. Support was expressed for the new team, although Cllr Halliwell had not recognised anyone from the village playing.
- 10.9 Brownfield First - An email thanking the Council had been received from Brownfield First.
- 10.10 Lights/Highway Faults - Cllr Burnham reported that the bollard on the central reservation on Tilford Road had not yet been repaired. In addition the light on the centre pole was not working - **Clerk to report**
- 11.11 2014/0142 - Gosford Farm, Newstead Abbey Park - The Clerk advised she had discussed this application with Cllr Young where it was evident from the information contained in the application that it was the intent of the applicant to construct a new dwelling which they would most likely sell on. As a result it was agreed there would be no objection to the proposed conversion, but to request Gedling Borough Council apply an Article 4 direction on the property with a view to restricting permitted development rights in future and a response was sent accordingly. The Parish Council were happy with the action proposed but rather than discuss the findings with one Cllr, it was felt the Clerk should have sought the views of all Cllrs. In future it was agreed that before a response is sent in respect of a planning application that the response is circulated to all Cllrs for comment.
- 10.11 Garden Competition/Best Kept Village - A date of the 15th May at 7pm in Deborah's office had been agreed for the meeting.
- 10.12 Lengthsman Scheme - The Clerk advised she had spoken to Ravenshead Parish Council who advised it was unlikely that Notts County Council would pay their share of the scheme without matched funding from the respective parishes in the agreement. As a result it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Adams that Newstead Parish Council withdraw as one of the parties to this scheme. This was agreed by members concerned with the exception of Cllr Burnham who abstained from voting.

The meeting closed to allow members of the public to bring up the next matters

Local resident Mrs P Harvey requested an update on the proposed visitor centre at Newstead and Annesley Country Park and also queried what action had been taken respect of the mole problem reported in the cemetery. The Clerk advised she had progressed no further with her inquiries due to time constraints but would look to investigate anti mole bulbs further

Meeting reopened

11. Finance
11.1 Receipts and Payments for April 2014

Receipts.

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| £955.00 | Fees for burial of cremated remains in Newstead Cemetery in burial section plus purchase of plot |
| £359.95 | Refund from HM Revenue and Customs for VAT reclaimed for 2013/14. |
| £13,615.00 | Precept |
| £2,321.00 | Grant from Gedling Borough Council re changes to local tax base |

Cheques for approval at this meeting

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| 100074 | Nomads Cricket Club | £100.00 | Grant towards replacement cricket nets |
| 100075 | Brownfield First | £150.00 | Donation towards planning consultants fees |
| 100076 | CPRE Notts | £6.00 | Entry fee for Best Kept Village Competition |
| 100077 | Newstead Centre | £36.00 | Room hire charges for April meeting |
| 100078 | Clarke's Cemetery Services | £670.00 | Maintenance of village greens and cemetery |
| 100079 | Clarke's Cemetery Services | £270.00 | Interment of Ashes and new burial |
| 100080 | Aon UK Ltd | £1152.86 | Insurance renewal NB Last year £1,135 |
| 100081 | Mrs P A Wise | £10.00 | Chairman's Allowance (April) |
| 100082 | Mrs J Johnson | £295.04 | Clerks Wages (April) |
| 100083 | Notts County Council | £63.02 | Pension Contributions - (April) |
| 100084 | Mrs J Johnson | £52.59 | Clerk's expenses (April) |
| | | | Postage/Other 41.19 |
| | | | Tel/Broadband 6.00 |
| | | | Mobile Calls Nil |
| | | | Mileage 5.40 |
| | | | <u>Total 52.59</u> |

The Clerk advised that as from the 1st May 2014, the Parish Council would be charged an hourly rate for the use of the room rather than a set rate per meeting. In summary costs would rise from the present charge of of £15 plus VAT for room hire charges plus refreshment costs to £14.50 for the first hour of the meeting plus £8 for each additional hour plus refreshments, making a total cost for each meeting of £45.

The Clerk also reminded the Council that the Council also pay the room hire fees on behalf of Future Newstead and this would also increase. At present the charge to the Council was £10 plus VAT per meeting. If charges were increased to the same rate as paid by the Council, this could result in the trembling of the cost. As a result Cllrs agreed that in future to pay for the first hour only with Future Newstead to foot the bill for any further charges over and above the first hour. **Clerk to notify Future Newstead**

Cllrs then agreed the accounts as presented and cheques signed.

12 Matters concerning Newstead Village

- 12.1 Livingstone Street - It was noted that a hard standing area had been constructed in the front garden of one of the homes on this street but no planning application had been received in respect of a dropped kerb.
- 12.2 Bikers and Mini Motos - Children riding mini motos seen by Cllr Halliwell in various locations within the parish including Pocket Park and in the woods close to the new Cemetery. These included children who appeared no older than 5 riding unsupervised. Use of scrambler bikes also reported over the Bank holiday. It

was stressed by Cllr Burnham that all sightings need to be reported to the Police so that the issue is flagged up and will enable the Police to dispatch the motor cycle patrol.

12.3 Flooding Issues - Cllr Burnham advised he had been in correspondence with Cllr C Barnfather and Mark Spencer MP who had in turn contacted Severn Trent on the matter. A reply had been received to advise there was no system to take the water and the matter will be taken up by Highways. **Cllr Burnham to follow up this matter**

13 **Matters concerning Newstead Abbey Park.**
No additional items raised

14. **Correspondence.**

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

14.1 Revised Mowing Regime - Notification had been received from Gedling to advise they would be reducing areas to be mowed in 2014 as a result of budget reductions and reductions in staff . The area affected would be the expanse of grass between Hazleford Way and Tilford Road where the area will be cut at the close of season in October when the arisings will be raked off and disposed. A number of walking strips will also be mown through the grass

14.2 Letter from Private Landlord - The Council approved the action of the Clerk who had written confirming that the Parish Council had no remit to deal with housing disputes.

14.3 Poppy Walks and Talks - Details of an artist who is creating a 'dramatised talk' to be performed at the Poppy Walks and Talks to be held in September and October in Gedling has been noted

15. **Planning Applications.**

No applications were received.

16. **Matters Concerning the Cemetery**

16.1 Request to Exhume - As agreed via email permission has been granted by the Council for this exhumation to proceed subject to certain criteria being met a) There should be no disturbance of adjacent graves and b) the exhumation takes place before 6am. **Matter delegated to the Clerk to deal**

16.2 Next Meeting of the Cemetery Committee - It was agreed to hold a meeting the following Sunday starting at 1.30pm.

17. **Reports from External Meetings**

None received

18. **Items the Chairman considers urgent**

18.1 MUGA Inspection - Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk could instruct ROSPA to undertake an annual inspection of the MUGA to comply with the terms of insurance. It was also noted that as the MUGA is situated on land leased to the Newstead Centre and that the caretaker of this centre also undertakes frequent inspections of this equipment. **Clerk to Action**

19. **Date of Next Meeting.**

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Wednesday 4 June at 7.30pm.

With no further business to be discussed the meeting closed at 9.45pm