

NEWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Sherwood Room of
Newstead Centre on Wednesday 1 July 2015**

1. **Present:** Cllrs: Mrs P Young (Chairman), Mr C Bicknell, Mrs B Blood, Mr C Bullivant, Mr P Burnham, Mr S Gascoigne and Ms J Smith.

Also present Debbie Widdowson, Newstead Locality Co-ordinator and Ward Cllr Mr B Andrews

2. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were noted from Cllr Mr C Bicknell and also from County Cllr Mr C Barnfather and Ward Cllr Mr C Powell.

3. **Declaration of Personal and Prejudicial Interests**
No interests were declared by Cllrs.

4. **Approval of the Minutes**
Council Meeting - 3 June - Subject to the following corrections; that under item 1 - the minutes to read 'Mrs B Blood not Mrs P Blood' and under 5.11 to read 'livery stables;' it was proposed and seconded that the minutes be approved as a true record and this was agreed.

5. **Address by Debbie Widdowson**
This item took place after 'Matters Arising'

6. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

- 6.1 Highways - Photos denoting floods had now been passed to Cllr Barnfather.

- 6.2 Abbey Street/Bryon Signs - No further signs installed as yet. Cllr Adams asked if a further street nameplate could be requested for Livingstone Street to replace an existing sign which had now faded.

- 6.3 23 Tilford Road - Cllr Burnham advised that he had spoken to the Housing Officer at Gedling Homes. They have confirmed they are currently working with the tenant and matters are in hand. They hope to carry out major work to this property. The caravan has been removed from the highway and this along with the trailer is now in the car park of the Newstead Centre. This development was welcomed by Cllrs.

- 6.4 Police Meeting/Bikes - This item would be discussed later in the meeting

- 6.5 Accounts - An external audit is now underway where the accounts for 2014/2015 together with the Annual Return were sent to the Auditor on 22 June.

- 6.6 Grant to Newstead PCC - An email had been received from Newstead PCC with a breakdown of costs as follows: *'The approximate cost is £360. This is made up of Bouncy castle £30, Pools and sand £78, Free games and activities £100, Refreshments £30, Tombola and Raffle prizes £50, Prizes for treasure hunt, guess the name of the entertainer, find the 'Treasure' map and free Ice Cream for the children £30'*. In discussing this request, Cllrs felt rather than making a general award the Council should contribute directly to the cost of providing a specific activity. Cllr Adams suggested the Council should consider paying for items specifically put on for children including the cost of the Bouncy Castle, pools and sand, treasure map and free ice cream, which together totaled £138, but only on the proviso these activities were made available free of charge for local youngsters in the village. This suggestion was agreed by all Cllrs present. It should also be passed on that in future the Parish Council will not be as generous as in the past where donations under S137 will in future be spread over a much wider base.

- 6.7 The Lengthsman Scheme - Cllr Burnham reported work had now been started to clear the overgrowth on the fence opposite the junction with Tilford Road/Hucknall Road in order to improve visibility on this corner. He also requested that shrubs be cut back which presently obscured the village sign from direction of Annesley.
- 6.8 Newsletter - Not discussed due to the absence of Cllr Bicknell.
- 6.9 Skateboard Park - Cllr Smith has confirmed that Toz Flanders would be interested in painting the skate park and is to price up the cost of the cost of paint. Nothing yet heard from GBC re drainage scheme. A discussion ensued as to whether the Council should award a nominal sum towards labour costs of £50. No decision on this was made where this was just a suggestion pending advice re cost of paint.
- 6.10 Unison - PC has supported petition opposing cuts
- 6.11 Landfill Communities levy - Response sent on consultation
- 6.12 Planning Applications (West Lodge) - Response sent but proposals yet to be determined. It was noted by the Chair that the steel gantries connecting the outbuilding to the main dwelling had now been removed and this was a welcomed development.
- 6.13 Extension to Cemetery Car Park - Discussed with contractor. He will hazard mark the edge of slabs within cost and also carry out white lining of the car parking spaces. The Clerk advised the contractor may need to charge for some special adhesive to enable paint to stick to concrete and will let the Clerk know of any additional costs incurred. Cllr Burnham confirmed the tree stump had now been removed by Jonathon Rhodes at a cost of £120.

5. Address by Debbie Widdowson

Copies of the Newstead Locality Plan 2013-2018 were handed out to all Cllrs present. Debbie explained that following a decision by Cabinet last year to reduce the hours she worked as the Locality Co-ordinator for Newstead from full time to part time, this had now impacted both on the timetable and delivery of the Locality Plan. She explained the plan itself was self explanatory with a series of goals under a number of key headings and if anyone wished further information on the plan she would be happy to provide this. A children and Young People's group has been formed and will steer matters identified under the Children and Young People section of the Plan. She has also supported Future Newstead to organise a review of Parish plan. In terms of the Garden Competition, there have been a total of 25 entries under the various categories including 8 for best front and back garden, with prizes to be presented at the Greener and Cleaner Fun Day to be held on 1st August. She also explained that under 'Health and Well Being', Pip Bateman is now leading Nordic walks. Another initiative she needs to progress is lighting for the MUGA. Planning permission has now been granted for the lights and funding needs to be found. Costs are approx £11k including VAT based on two lights. Other items mentioned included:

- Launch of new IT suite in Newstead Centre and taster computer sessions held
- Lunch club established for older residents
- Attempts made to establish new U3A group specifically for Newstead. Currently 25 persons interested but a minimum of 50 persons is required to launch a new group.
- Extends links with church to include improvements to church building. It was explained that each parish is responsible for funding part of the costs of running the church and in terms of Newstead, this works out around £8k per annum. If the money cannot be found the church will close and it is the responsibility of Newstead PCC to raise these funds. She also felt the church once improved could offer low cost rooms for rent to community groups

The meeting then closed to allow public to discuss matters

Cllr Andrews asked whether the Council had met the new vicar appointed for the parish and encouraged closer ties between the church and the council. He also reminded Cllrs that free paint may be available through a recycling scheme established in Calverton and finally he hoped the Council would support the fun day which would be opened by the Mayor of Gedling.

Meeting Reopened

7. Accounts

7 i) Receipts and Payments for July 2015

Receipts.

£465 New interment - 5 June
 £265 New interment - 11 June

Cheques for approval at this meeting

100203	Jonathon Rhodes	£760.00	Work undertaken on Newstead Meadow
100204	Newstead Centre	£45.00	Room hire charges for June Council meeting
100205	Gedling Borough Council	£283.20	Cost of new street nameplates (NB £236 ex VAT) as Agreed
100206	Notts. A .L .C	£17.00	Copies of Local Council Review (newsletter for Clerks and Councils.
100207	Clarke's Cemetery Services	£560.00	Grounds Maintenance Work carried out during June
100208	Clarke's Cemetery Services	£235.00	Burial charges for new interment - 11th June
100209	Clarke's Cemetery Services	£65.00	Charges for new interment of ashes - 24th June
100210	Mrs P Young	£15.00	Chairman's allowance (June)
100211	Mrs J Johnson	£306.43	Clerks Wages (June)
100212	Notts County Council	£65.55	Pension Contributions for Clerk (June)
100213	Mrs J Johnson	£177.95	Clerk's expenses (June) inc flowers (£48.57), gift voucher (£50) and new print head (£37.98)
			Postage/Other 152.00
			Tel/Broadband 12.00*
			Mobile Calls Nil
			Mileage <u>13.95</u>
			TOTAL <u>177.95</u>

NB Includes both May/June broadband charges

Payments were agreed as stated

7 ii) To Consider Grant Requests

Newstead Enterprise Group – Copies of a letter requesting a donation towards a new lock, chain and keys for the gate to Pocket Park were distributed for members to consider. There was some discussion as to whether this was something the Council should pay for and whether this was a cost RCAN should meet as the landowner. It was explained that Newstead Enterprise was a charity in its own right comprising a three way partnership between RCAN, members of the local community and CAST. There was also some discrepancy as to how the damage had

been caused in this instance. The Clerk advised that Mr Leivers had offered to clear away a considerable number of tree branches from the village green, which had been pulled down by vandals earlier that day. It was agreed rather than debate whether the lock was something that the Council should or should not pay for, the Parish Council would make a contribution to Newstead Enterprise of £70, which would be in lieu of removing tree branches from village green.

8. The Lengthsman Scheme

9. Matters concerning Newstead Village

9.1 Station Ave - Cllr Gascoigne advised that whoever had cut the grass verge between Station Ave and the Robin Hood Line had carried out a poor job. He was aware the grass was usually cut by Gedling Borough Council but understood this time that work had been contracted out. His main complaint was that the cut grass had been left lying around in clumps and that lots of area of long grass had been left around trees, although this had been cut subsequently.

9.2 Grass Verge adjacent to Village Green - It was noted that a section of grass between the village green and the MUGA next to the footway had not been cut. It was felt this area of land came under the jurisdiction of the Newstead Centre where this had previously not been maintained by the Parish Council. It was agreed that enquiries would be made as to who owned this section of land.

9.3 Hucknall Road - Cllr Burnham advised he had raised the question of the speed limit on Hucknall Road (NB currently de-restricted) with Mark Spencer MP. To advise outcome.

9.4 Remembrance Day Service - Cllr Burnham asked if the Clerk could order two wreaths on behalf of the Council for this ceremony. This was agreed.

10. Matters concerning Newstead Abbey Park.

10.1 Station Ave - Cllr Burnham advised he had spoken to Rachael Dewsbury at Newstead Abbey who confirmed that several of the worst areas on Station Road would be resurfaced during this financial year with the areas to be resurfaced already marked out for a quote.

10.2 Police and Parishes Meeting 9th July – Cllr Burnham advised there will be a Police and Parishes meeting in Calverton on the 9th July starting at 10am which he was hoping to attend.

11. Correspondence.

The following items were specifically discussed.

11.1 NALC – Two further training sessions for new Cllrs had been offered by NALC. It was agreed these details

would be circulated to all members as before with interested Cllrs to advise which session they would prefer to attend.

11.2 Electoral Review of Nottinghamshire – It was noted that despite the increase in new housing proposed for

Newstead ward, the recommendation from the Boundary Commission was no change to the number of County Cllrs serving this ward where at present there are 11% fewer electorates in this ward than other wards in Gedling.

11.3 Gedling Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment – Cllrs agreed there were no remaining brownfield sites for potential housing within the parish not already in the development plan. Whilst discussing this matter, the Chairman was reminded that the Clerk had spoken with Alison Gibson, Local

Plans Manager at Gedling Borough Council who had provided the following information on the land behind the Station Hotel following a meeting held with the brewery in March 2015.

- The meeting was called at the request of Gedling Borough Council who has a duty to establish whether the site was still available for housing as part of the five year housing supply.
- The brewery confirmed they are still working on proposals for the site – No plans have yet been submitted nor agents appointed.
- The brewery has confirmed they are dealing with access issues which will involve a land swap not outright purchase.
- GBC feel that the figure of 80 homes earmarked for the site is unrealistic and that 50 homes would feel about right
- GBC have registered the Parish Council's interest in this matter and will try to involve the Parish Council once more definite proposals are on the table.

Cllr Adams queried whether a letter had gone to CISWO as previously agreed to which the answer was no. It was explained that where such a letter was sent would be an outright objection to this land being developed, whereas some Cllrs felt some residents may welcome the development of the site if the right type of housing was being built plus additional infrastructure for the village. It was agreed the matter would need further discussion and would be brought back to future meetings of the Council.

12. Planning Applications.

Two applications had been received by the Council and the following agreed;

2015/0379 – West Lodge, Station Ave, Newstead (New stables, feed and tack room and hay barn) - The Chairman explained that the field itself was grazing land not paddock land which would require change of use. The land itself was not big enough to support horses and the size of the land doesn't warrant the size of building proposed which she felt may in future be converted into garaging for the main dwelling. Also current access into the site is through a simple metal field gate, whereas the above proposal includes formation of a new tarmac drive with a new entrance directly onto Station Road and will require the removal of existing trees and shrubs. Access would also be required over land currently owned by the Notts City Council.

Cllrs agreed to object to this proposal on the grounds outlined above.

2015/0288 & 2015/0289 – Abbeyfield Farm, Station Ave, Newstead (Demolition of existing outbuilding, construction of new stable block and garage and new driveway) - The Chairman queried size and scale of garage and whether this would allow for a mezzanine floor in the garage. The proposal also included construction of a new drive across existing agricultural land, where she questioned the need for this where the existing driveway was still in use. She also felt the existing outbuildings may be listed and should not be demolished.

Cllrs agreed to object to this proposal as per the above.

13. Reports from External Meetings

13.1 Police Meeting at Newstead Centre to Discuss Problems of Off Road Bikers

Cllr Burnham reported on the following matters.

- The number of bikers is not as high as reported as a single incident can be reported by a number of individuals
- Signage could be better on park and in Newstead and Annesley Forest area.

- Police cannot always pursue bikes directly.

13.2 Youth Club – The minutes of this meeting had been circulated to members. The Chairman had also spoken to youth worker Emma Astill who had advised that the Youth Club do not want to lead in production of a newsletter.

14. **Cemetery Issues**

The Chairman, Cllr Bicknell and Cllr Burnham had met to inspect the cemeteries. In terms of the Old Cemetery, it was noted that part of the boundary wall to this site has been bowing out over time. Cllr Burnham also noted that the grass in the Old Cemetery would need to be cut in Sept/Oct and suggested that a quote be obtained from John Flanders to do this work.

Also in respect of the new cemetery, the proposed extension to the same was discussed. It was explained that the Council already owns some woodland to the right of the main drive into the cemetery, which was currently not used for burials. A route into the new section was discussed; where it was suggested an area of contemplation within this area of woodland could be created. There would also have to be new fencing around the perimeter of the site and Cllr Burnham questioned whether mains water should be installed on the site. It was agreed the Council would need to seek further advice on this matter, where the Clerk advised she did not have the experience to put together a specification for work required.

15 **Items the Chairman considers urgent**

15.1 PTA Summer Fayre – The PTA are holding a fayre on the 4th July

16. **Date of Next Meeting.**

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Wednesday 1st July at 7.00pm for new members when a short training session would be held. This will be followed by the Council meeting at 7.30pm.

For the next items, 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 these items relates to financial and business affairs of persons/organisations.

17. To discuss possible extension to Newstead Wildlife Meadow

A bird's eye view of the area surrounding the Newstead Wildlife Meadow and Old Cemetery was distributed to Cllrs. Cllr Burnham explained that at present there is a small area of farmland situated between the ends of the Old Cemetery and the Newstead Wildlife Meadow. This area is often left fallow. He hoped the Parish Council could acquire either full ownership or enter into a long term lease agreement on this piece of land which would then join up the landholdings held by the Parish Council. It would also allow for a gate to be put in that section of the cemetery wall presently crumbling and bowing out. It was agreed the Parish Council would approach the landowner concerned to see whether he/she would donate/sell/lease this area of land to the Parish Council

18. Community Right to Bid

Details of the Community Right to Bid scheme had been circulated to Cllrs. The Chairman advised that this had been raised in connection with the Newstead Centre. Due to time constraints it was agreed the matter should be put back on the agenda for further discussion at the September meeting.