

## NEWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Sherwood Room of Newstead Centre on Wednesday 11 November 2015

1. **Present:** Cllrs: Mrs P Young (Chairman), Mrs D Adams, Mr C Bicknell, Mr P Burnham, Mr S Gascoigne, Miss H Scott and Ms J Smith. Also present Ward Cllr Mr B Andrews.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were noted from Cllr Mrs B Blood, Ward Cllr Mr C Powell and County Cllr Mr C Barnfather.
3. **Declaration of Personal and Prejudicial Interests**  
None declared.
4. **Approval of the Minutes**  
Council Meeting – 7 October - Subject to the following observation - that under Agenda item 7iii, it be noted that it was not possible for Future Newstead and the Parish Council to merge given that one was a democratically elected body, it was proposed and seconded that the minutes be approved as a true record and this was agreed.
5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
  - 5.1 **Micro Pub** – Further information on the micro pub had been circulated to Cllrs from Lorraine Horrocks (nee Bean). The Chairman reminded the meeting that it was the duty of the Council to represent the views of the residents and questioned whether the number of residents who had responded i.e. 71 reflected the views of the village as a whole. She also felt the issue should be addressed in two parts namely:-
    - Does this Council support the principle of a micro pub?
    - Does the Council support the use of the pavilion for the micro pub?In terms of the first question Cllr Bicknell agreed there was a need in the village for a social gathering place but he did not think the pavilion was the best place for the micro pub. Cllr Scott was in support of the concept generally and whilst she felt further venues should be explored would not rule out the pavilion as a possible venue. Cllr Burnham advised the Newstead Centre would be his preferred choice of venue, whilst Cllr Adams felt that both the pavilion and Newstead Centre were underutilized. Cllr Gascoigne also supported the concept of a micro pub and noted that whilst the pavilion was more remote it was also underused. Ward Cllr Mr B Andrews said he had supported the initial application by Lorraine for a micro pub, but ultimately as the pavilion belonged to Gedling BC, the decision as to how it is used belongs to them. In more ideal circumstances, he felt the Newstead Centre was the best place for the micro pub. A discussion then ensued as to whether the Parish Council should write to Gedling Borough Council ahead of any planning application for change of use for the pavilion or reserve comment until an application has been received by the Council. The Chairman felt at this stage the Parish Council could defer any decision pending further developments with regard to the Newstead Centre to be discussed later in the meeting. No further comments received.
  - 5.2 **Highways** – A response had been received from Dave Walker, Highway Manager for Ashfield, that the pavement on Hucknall Road will not be sided out where he does not feel this is required. Further information to follow re flooding.
  - 5.3 **Abbey Street Sign** – It was thought this had not yet been replaced. Cllrs to confirm.
  - 5.4 **Lengthsman** – The painting of park will begin as soon as weather permits.
  - 5.5 **Grass Verge on the Village Green** – Cllr Scott pointed out further knotweed on the bank leading down to the sports field in the far corner of the playing field. It was noted that Gedling have agreed to treat the knotweed on the playing field already, but due to cost, treatment will take place over a three year period. It was agreed the Clerk would check with Gedling to ensure this area was also included.
  - 5.6 **Remembrance Services** - These had been attended by Cllrs Burnham and Young. Cllr Burnham advised the morning service had been very well attended and that he was pleased that volunteers had blocked off Tilford Road for the service, with drivers being had been diverted to other routes. The Clerk explained that despite a number of requests the Parish Council had no legal powers to close off parts of the highway and that any organization

- wishing a road to be closed must contact the Notts County Council as the Highway Authority. Any such request can be made online to the County Council, but there is often a cost for closing a road. It was agreed that the Parish Council would investigate the cost of closing Tilford Road for the service next year.
- 5.7 Newstead Wildflower Meadow – Work has been underway to complete a press release and complete ‘End of Grant’ report to secure the second half of the grant funding. Cllr Scott said she had advised the Clerk the identity of persons who may take cuttings in future and asked why the meadow was not cut earlier. It was confirmed that cutting of the meadow did not take place until Aug/September, once the wild flowers had died back. In terms of the existing bales, Cllr Burnham advised that Abbeyfield’s Farm had declined to take these and these remained in the meadow. He suggested that unless someone can be found to take these, it may be necessary to open the bales and allow the grass to compost naturally.
- 5.8 Notice Board - Rachael Dewsbury has yet to come back to the Council to confirm whether planning permission is required to site an existing notice board in the Abbey.
- 5.9 New Highway Sign for Station Ave - Following a revised proof sent to the Council for approval, this sign has now been ordered.
- 5.10 Village Newsletter – The Chairman asked that any articles submitted relating to council business be sent for the Clerk for checking.
- 5.11 Gritting Scheme – Notts City Council has approved the placement of a grit bin on Station Ave opposite West Lodge but only if the bin is in neutral colours. An estimate has been obtained in respect of a salt bin from Glasdon in dark green at a cost of £148.19 (includes delivery and installation). The Chairman explained that Newstead Abbey would not fund a bin where this was simply not part of its remit. The Council agreed that a bin could be ordered from Glasdon at the cost stated. In addition the Chairman advised that she had been informed that Ward Cllr Mr B Andrews may be able to procure two further grit bins for the village. Locations for these were discussed. It was suggested one bin be sited at the top of Chapel Terrace, whilst the second bin be situated on Station Ave close to the entrance to Newstead Abbey and adjacent the existing footpath/cycleway to Linby, where the road to/from Vicarage Corner can be icy. These locations were noted by Cllr Andrews.
- 5.12 Community Right to Bid - The Parish Council has now received electronically a Trustee Nomination Form for completion by anyone who wishes to stand as a Trustee. In terms of the Newstead Centre a ‘secret kitchen’ event had been held in the small lounge area which had proved very successful and had opened people’s eyes into the possibility that the centre could be a good venue for a micro pub. It was agreed by councillors that the Newstead Centre could support a number of different services, such as a local shop. It was also understood that Real Education were leaving the centre at Christmas and would represent a loss of income to the centre it could ill afford. The possibility of the Parish Council offering financial support to the centre was suggested but this would be subject to certain conditions being met.
- 5.13 Skate Park – Paint ordered and delivered to Toz. Now waiting for better/drier weather
- 5.14 Flagpole – A new flagpole has been installed at a cost of £500 plus VAT, following agreement by Cllrs, where the suppliers had advised the cost of repair was likely to exceed the cost to replace. The Clerk explained that following recommendations from Cllr Gascoigne she had asked Mick Kimpton to look at whether the base could be salvaged for use at another location. However before those instructions were carried out, the Newstead Centre who had been storing the existing flagpole, had given this away on the basis of a) it was no longer required and b) they were also saving money for the Council where it would not have to pay to dispose of the same. This position was noted.
- 5.15 Old Cemetery – This work has mostly been carried out although Probation Team still need to come back to remove arisings left on the path and finish cutting a small section at the end nearest the A611. The fallen branch has also been removed.
- 5.16 Meeting with Gedling Borough Council– A date had been agreed for the Council to meet with the Chief Executive of Gedling Borough Council as part of the ‘Big Conversation’ and this would be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> November. Suggested items to be discussed at that meeting would be the Newstead Centre, land behind the Station Hotel, the wind turbine (more specifically distribution of the Community Fund of £7.5k) and Local Council Tax Support. The Chairman suggested that the Council may wish to meet beforehand to discuss in greater detail, the key issues to be discussed. A tentative date of Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November at the Newstead Centre at 7pm was agreed with an invite to be sent to all Cllrs attending the Gedling meeting.

## 6. Accounts

### 6.1 Cheques for Approval

#### Receipts.

£250 – Fees for erection of new memorial headstone (Plot 270)

£250 – Fess for the erection of new memorial headstone (Plot 298)

#### Cheques to be Approved

100248	M D Kimpton	£372.00	Replacement pump for cemetery.
100249	Montana Shop Nottingham	£191.90	Paint for the skate board park.
100250	Notts A.L.C	£10.80	Four copies of 'The Good Councillor Guide'
100251	J A Rhodes	£90.00	Remove fallen branch from cemetery.
100252	Gedling Borough Council	£123.60	To supply and erect Station Road sign
100253	Flagpole Express	£600.00	New flagpole and base
100254	Clarke's Cemetary Services	£560.00	Grounds Maintenance Work carried out during October
100255	Mrs P Young	£15.00	Chairman's allowance (Oct)
100256	Mrs J Johnson	£335.98	Clerks wages for October
100257	Notts County Council	£91.03	Pension Contributions for Clerk (Oct) and deficit pension payment due this month of £17.50.
100258	Mrs J Johnson	£52.77	Clerk's expenses
			Postage/Other 38.22
			Tel/Broadband 6.00
			Mobile Calls Nil
			Mileage 8.55
			<u>TOTAL 19.41</u>
100259	JA Rhodes	£200	Chain Harrowing of Meadow
100260	Mr P A Burnham	£3.60	Mileage claim for travel to Police meeting

These accounts were agreed as stated.

### 6ii Report on the Half Year Accounts

A detailed report on the half year accounts had been submitted along with the agenda. Overall the position relating to the accounts remained healthy with the forecast assuming that reserves at the end of the year would exceed the budget set in January 2015. Savings against budget had been made in respect of grounds maintenance contract. Questions were welcomed by the Clerk but none received and the position relating to the accounts noted.

### 6iii Any Other Matter Relating to Finance

A grant application has been made by Newstead PCC in respect of Christmas Fayre in order to buy presents for the children attending. The amount requested was £200. Cllr Burnham felt that given the number of requests from the PCC and the limited finance available in the budget he proposed that £100 should be offered. This amount was agreed.

## 7. Community Speedwatch

Cllr Burnham advised this was an initiative whereby police trained civilians to use a speed gun. He had visited a meeting of Ravenshead Community Speedwatch team to ask whether they would be prepared to undertake a speed monitoring session in Newstead. The team had responded stating that it would not be appropriate to run sessions in Newstead village unless there was a strong participation of local people. Cllr Burnham asked whether Cllrs would be interested taking part community speedwatch trials. As a small village, where everyone knows everyone else, it was felt most likely that any volunteers would be subject to abuse. There was a general concensus that it would be preferable for potential volunteers to operate in villages other than their own. Cllr Burnham agreed to discuss with Ravenshead whether they would be interested in an exchange, whereby volunteers from this village would operate

in Ravenshead and vice versa.

**8. Matters concerning Newstead Village**

- 8.1 Pedestrian Refuge on Tilford Road – It was reported that the ‘lollipop’ light on the central refuge on Tilford Road has been removed. Clerk to report to Highways.
- 8.2 Camera on Robin Hood Line - The camera looking over the parking spaces for those using the Robin Hood Line is pointing to the ground and appears to be out of action. Clerk to contract Network rail.
- 8.3 CCTV for Newstead Village – The Clerk was asked to find out the current update on CCTV to be fitted in the village as advised previously and also mentioned in Police and Parishes meeting.

**9 Matters concerning Newstead Abbey Park.**

- 9.1 Newstead Abbey Partnership - The Chairman advised this committee was seeking new members and also had a number of vacancies at officer level where details would be circulated.

**10. Correspondence.**

No items were specially raised. Cllr Scott asked for some tolerance to be shown towards new Cllrs, where she did not always understand how things worked and questioned the tone of some emails received.

**11. Planning Applications.**

Copies of the planning conditions relating to the application for the wind turbine on Newstead and Annesley Country Park have been distributed to members. Conditions relating to noise were noted. In relation to distribution of the Community Fund of £7.5k, it was noted that this would become the remit of the ‘Friends of Newstead’ on which the Parish Councils of Newstead and Annesley would be offered a place. It was not clear who this organisation was or who it would comprise

**12. Reports from External Meetings**

Police and Parishes Meeting – Cllr Burnham attended a Police and Parishes meeting held at Ravenshead. A breakdown of the crime figures from the 1<sup>st</sup> July to 1<sup>st</sup> October was given, although most of these incidents related to off roaders.

**13. Any Other items the Chairman considers urgent**

None

**14. Date of Next Meeting.**

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Wednesday 2 December. The Chairman reminded Cllrs that at this meeting the Council usually held a small fuddle to thank people for contributions throughout the year. Rather than have food provided by the Newstead Centre, she suggested that Cllrs may like to bring in food to make up a small buffet, where she would also provide wine from her allowance as the Chair. This suggestion was agreed.