

NEWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Sherwood Room of Newstead Centre on Wednesday 1 February 2017

1. **Present:** Cllrs: Mrs P Young (Chairman), Mrs D Adams, Mr C Bicknell, Mr P Burnham, Mr R Butler, Miss H Scott and Ms J Smith. Also Ward Cllr Mr B Andrews and Mrs Andrews and 2 parishioners.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from County Cllr Mr C Barnfather and Ward Cllr Mr C Powell.
3. **Declaration of Personal and Prejudicial Interests**
Cllrs Bicknell and Scott declared an interest in any matters relating to the Newstead Centre as potential Trustees of the Centre. Cllrs Bicknell, Scott and Smith declared an interest in matters relating to Newstead Enterprise.
4. **Approval of the Minutes – 4 January 2017**
Subject to the inclusion of Cllr Barnfather’s name in the final paragraph of 11.1 to read’Cllr Barnfather decided that the best approach would be a low key discussion with the planning authority’, it was proposed and seconded the minutes be approved as a true record and this was agreed.
5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
 - 5.1 **Topple Testing** – Letters have now been sent to all affected plot holders. Thanks were passed to all Cllrs who delivered letters locally. So far the Clerk had received one response from a Hucknall resident, who confirmed she was not the plot holder and that the resident concerned must have moved several years back. Plot holders will be given to the end of February to respond. If no action is taken by them, the Council will then have a legal obligation to either repair, fasten, bury or lay down the affected headstones. Report to follow.
 - 5.2 **Junction of Fraser Street/Tilford Road** - An invoice had been received for the supply of the two bins which is included part of the cheques to be approved.
 - 5.3 **Matters relating to the Newstead Centre** – To be discussed as a confidential item at the end of the meeting
 - 5.4 **Planning/Annual Community Fund** - To be discussed under ‘Planning’.
 - 5.5 **Vacancies on the Abbey Ward** – The Clerk advised that as no one to date had expressed an interest in these positions, these vacancies have now been posted on the Newstead.org website. Cllr Butler confirmed he had also added this information on the ‘Newstead Born and Bred’ website and there had been some expressions of interest from Newstead residents to these positions. The Chairman advised cllrs to invite anyone interested to the next meetings of the Council.
 - 5.6 **West Lodge** – Formal confirmation received that this has now gone to appeal.
 - 5.7 **Newstead Centre** - Cllr Bicknell confirmed that invites had been sent via the primary school, although it appeared that some children had received an invite and some had not. Cllrs asked whether it would be possible for the Clerk to obtain some feedback on this event from the Newstead Centre Co-ordinator in terms of numbers attending, etc.
 - 5.8 **Old Cemetery** – The probation service have finished the work in the Old Cemetery. They would like the Council to purchase on their behalf 5 wheel barrows. These cost £32 each, plus a delivery charge of £20 making a total cost of £180. Whilst the cost of supplying the wheelbarrows was approved by the Council, it was suggested that the Probation team be asked to collect the wheelbarrows rather than incur a delivery charge. The Chairman also advised that it may be possible to secure a further discount as she had a B & Q discount card.
 - 5.9 **Vicarage Corner** – A number of requests were made for litter picking including the area behind the bus stop and several other incidents of flytipping in the village. Cllr Scott advised the area around the entrance to the former coal stocking yard on Station Ave was still a mess with an amount of litter left behind. Another ‘grot spot’ in the village was Station Road, particularly the verges stretching from Livingstone Street to the former Station Hotel. Clerk to report.

- 5.10 Newstead Youth Club – No progress yet on the ‘Memorandum of Understanding’. The Council is currently waiting for Cllr Barnfather to secure a ‘template’ agreement’ from Notts County Council. Funds towards refurbishment of the Youth Centre building were agreed as part of the precept.
- 5.12 Barriers for the Christmas Tree - No action as yet due to work for precept meeting
- 5.13 Homes on Tilford Road - No 44 is now occupied and boards removed. Gedling Homes has confirmed that new tenants will shortly be moving into No 45.
- 5.14 Pension Scheme – Clerk has written to Notts County Council querying the pension contributions required. The matter has been referred to the actuaries for comment.
- 5.15 Highways – The fault affecting the school lights has been reported yet again along with the white lining that has also not been carried out.
- 5.16 Other Matters Arising
Precept Meeting - Gedling Borough Council has now been sent all the paperwork in connection with the precept required from April 2017.

The meeting was then closed to allow the public to participate.

Cllr Andrews confirmed that the situation regarding the distribution of the Annual Community Fund had been discussed by planners with RCAN, who had subsequently offered to make a payment of £1,000 to each of the Parish Councils. Mrs Andrews commented that she could not understand why RCAN should receive any of this money, when in the case of Papplewick this fund is paid directly to the Parish Council. Parishioners also felt it was most unfair for most of this funding to be retained by RCAN, as it was generally understood by residents this was income to be spent by the community for putting up with the wind turbine. The situation was discussed generally. Whilst the principle of handing some of the funds directly to Parish Councils was approved by the parish council, the amount offered was not, whereby most felt this should be much higher. Tactics were discussed in relation to the offer by RCAN and the following agreed:

- Cllr Andrews to determine whether RCAN still received a grant from the Borough Council
- Response be made to Planners that whilst the principle of money being paid to the parish councils was supported, the amount was not and to explore the possibility of an increase in the amount of funds offered.
- To ask for a meeting with RCAN to express the disappointment of the local community in a bid to increase the amount of funding paid to the council.

The parishioners then present left the meeting following discussion of this item.

Meeting reopened

6. Accounts

6.1 Receipts and Payments for February 2017

Receipts

None

Cheques for Approval

100386	Newstead Centre	£45.00	Room hire costs for January Council meeting.
100387	Newstead Centre	£29.40	Room hire costs for Precept meeting.
100388	VIA East Midlands Ltd	£360.00	Cost of 2 new filled grit bins.
100389	NALC	£191.00	Annual Subscription for Year beginning 1. 4. 2017
100390	Mrs P Young	£15.00	Chairman's allowance (January)
100391	Mrs J Johnson	£357.90	Clerks wages for January.
100392	Notts County Council	£97.33	Pension Contributions for Clerk (January) plus deficit payment.

100393 Mrs J Johnson £42.77 Clerk's expenses

Postage/Other	£23.07
Tel/Broadband	£8.00
Mobile Calls	Nil
Mileage	£ 11.70
TOTAL	<u>£42.77</u>

100394 Gedling Borough Council £408.00 To supply transformer and electrical work in pillar, decorate and dispose of the Christmas Tree.

The Clerk explained that in respect of the latter cost, it may be that there is some element of duplication in respect of the work which should have been undertaken by VIA and this has been queried. However, as Gedling BC did the work in question she recommended that the invoice be paid with any refund to be reclaimed from VIA.

With this noted, the accounts were agreed as stated.

7. The Lengthsmans Scheme

Webb Street – Cllr Bicknell asked whether any progress had been made in relation to Webb Street to which the Clerk responded none at this stage. Clerk to discuss the situation with the lengthsmen. The latest update received from Ravenshead PC on work carried out in Newstead confirmed that the lengthsmen was in the process of repairing the fence at Vicarage Corner.

8. Matters concerning Newstead Village

- 8.1 Fence at rear of Newstead Sports Ground – The Chairman spoke of a fence which lies directly adjacent to the footpath from Station Avenue to the Newstead and Annesley Country Park and is in a state of considerable disrepair. It was agreed a request should be made to the owners to repair. Cllr Smith also reminded the Council that the gate to the entrance of the sports field had still not been repaired by Gedling BC despite several requests from the Parish Council to repair this.
- 8.2 Abbey Road – Cllr Bicknell reported on a broken Severn Trent grate outside No 14 Abbey Road which had cracked in two and represented a hazard. Clerk to report.
- 8.3 Dog Fouling – Concern was expressed on the amount of dog fouling in the village. The Clerk was asked to write to the School to ask if they were prepared to make posters on the same.
- 8.4 36 Byron Street – Cllr Adams asked whether the proposed extension on this property would be half or fully rendered as she felt certain the planning officer had supported a half rendered finish. Clerk to check back on this application and advise.
- 8.5 23 Tilford Road – Cllr Burnham asked the Clerk to ascertain from Gedling Homes when the tidy up of this property would begin now the tenant had moved out as the neighbours were still complaining re the state of the rear yard.
- 8.6 The Great British Spring Clean – This would take place on the first weekend in March. It was agreed that the Council should look to setting up a litter pick with the Clerk to discuss with Debbie Widdowson the possibility of securing tools to enable a village litter pick to go ahead i.e. litter sticks, bags and tabards.

9. Matters concerning Newstead Abbey Park

Station Ave – It was noted by the Chairman that one particular person regularly parked in the 'passing place' on Station Ave with a view to walking her dog on the adjacent sports pitch. She asked for a sign to be put up by Gedling BC re passing place. The Clerk recalled that such a request had previously been made to Gedling Borough Council who advised that as this was not an official passing place, they had declined to erect such a sign. It was agreed that matter would be investigated and included as an agenda item for discussion at future meetings of the Council, where it was suggested the Council could purchase its own sign (as with the cemetery car park which CAST could erect). It was felt that a sign on the existing car park would also help matters.

10. Correspondence.

The following correspondence was specifically discussed

- 10.1 Safer Nottinghamshire Board (Crime in Rural Areas Consultation) - The Council agreed to make representations on this plan in terms of highlighting the problems caused by off roaders in rural areas.
- 10.2 Veolia – Invite to tour of Materials Recovery Facility in Mansfield - Cllrs Bicknell, Young, Scott, Adams and Burnham all expressed an interest in this tour with some Cllrs preferring evening tours and some during the day. Clerk to obtain details of future tours.

11. Planning

There had been no objections to the following application which had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting:

2017/0015 – 1 Stable Cottages, Newstead Abbey Park (Replacement Windows)

12. Reports from External Meetings

Newstead Locality Meeting – This meeting held on the 27th January 2017 was attended by the Clerk and Cllr Scott in her professional capacity as a public health manager for Notts County Council. Various agencies had attended this meeting chaired by Cllr Chris Barnfather, where a number of issues were raised including the Newstead Centre and Youth Club and also problems caused by drug use in the village. The aims of the group were discussed along with persons/organisations entitled to join the group. Several additions/alterations to the Newstead Locality Plan were discussed and representatives attending the meeting were asked to forward comments to Debbie Widdowson on the Locality Plan, where it was recognised this would need tweaking to include future aspirations for the village.

13 Cemetery Issues

The Chairman reminded the Council that a meeting of the cemetery committee was still required to look at the trees in the cemetery and that this would be organised once the weather improved and temperatures start to rise.

14. Items that the Chairman Considers Urgent

None

15. Date of Next Meeting.

This will be held on Wednesday 1st March 2017.

For the next item, the Council resolved to exclude the public and press for discussion of this matter, 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 financial and business affairs of persons/organisations

16. The Newstead Centre

An email from Donald Brookes confirming the appointment of five new trustees on the Newstead centre had been circulated to members of the Council. Cllr Scott advised that the trustees had not yet received official confirmation of their appointment from CISWO. Discussions were held as to what the next steps would be and that if a meeting was not called by the existing trustees, it was felt the new trustees should arrange one themselves. Cllr Bicknell felt that a softly, softly approach was now needed and if possible that both sets of trustees should continue to work together.