

NEWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held in the Sherwood Room of
Newstead Centre on Wednesday 7 February 2018

1. **Present:** Cllrs: Mrs P Young (Chairman), Mr P Burnham, Mr R Butler, Mr E Hardy, and Miss H Scott. Also attending were Ward Cllrs Mr C Powell and Mr B Andrews, County Cllr C Barnfather (arrived 7.40pm), Niki Pekal (Anti-social Behaviour Co-ordinator, Gedling Borough Council) and 14 members of the public.

2. **Apologies for absence:** None

3. **Declaration of Personal and Prejudicial Interests**

Cllr Scott declared an interest in any matters relating to Newstead Enterprise, the Newstead Centre and Newstead Bonfire Event. Cllr Butler declared an interest in any matters relating to the 'Land behind Fraser Street' and Newstead Youth Club as the treasurer of this committee.

4. **Update by Niki Pekal (Anti-social Behaviour Co-ordinator for Gedling Borough Council)**

Prior to the start of the address by Niki Pekal, the Chairman read out a letter from the Keep Fit club, which had been passed to the Council at the start of the meeting outlining incidents of antisocial behaviour. With the permission of the writer, this letter was then passed to Niki Pekal, who then introduced herself and explained her role. She advised that complaints of antisocial behaviour in Newstead started coming through in early December and that she was completely aware of all of problems having been supplied details of all the various incidents recorded by the Police. As a result of these issues, a meeting had been held at the Newstead Centre with various agencies including Police, Social Services, Councillors, and the Youth Club to agree a plan of action to tackle the antisocial behaviour being experienced. The Neighbourhood Wardens and PCSO's are currently increasing the number of patrols in the village (although this was disputed by many of the residents attending). She explained she is willing to act on hearsay, whereas the Police can only prosecute if there is enough evidence to support a conviction. As a result of the information being passed to her, she has spoken with the parents of several of the children involved and a number of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts have been issued and signed by the parents. In respect of 2 persons identified as coming from Hucknall, this is being addressed by her counterpart in Ashfield.

She then explained that Social Services do an Early Help intervention scheme for troubled families. Out of the nine children identified as causing the problems, the Family Service is now working with the parents of 6 children. She felt this was the best way to resolve the situation. She stressed it was important for residents to continue to report incidents to the Police, and, if possible, to provide a description of the same with as much detail as possible. If criminal damage continues to persist, matters are then ramped up to the next level and injunctions are then considered. Residents can either telephone the Police on 999 in an emergency, or 101 if not. If residents do not want divulged their name because of concerns for their safety to ring Crimestoppers on 0800 555111. She is also willing to speak to residents and her number can be obtained on the Newstead face book page.

Emma Astill, Youth Worker, Notts County Council based at the Newstead Youth Centre explained that many of children in the village were frightened of the youths involved and were scared to leave their homes. A number of children had stopped attending the Youth Club for this reason. At present there were lots of projects and things going on at the Youth Club and it was unacceptable that kids were missing out. She advised the Youth Centre were putting in a plan to have kids come at separate times. Once at the Youth Club she emphasised that children are totally safe as there are a number of adults youth workers present. She also advised any parent who was still concerned to either bring, or collect their children from the Youth Centre.

Cllr Scott asked Emma if there were any plans by the Youth Club to address the adverse experience suffered by some of the children. The answer to this question was yes. Some information is being prepared and they have talked to the children. She also spoke of activities on offer such as the Sports Club on Mondays and Art each Wednesday. She then explained that following a brief time at the church, the Youth Club have now moved back to the original youth centre, which has been refurbished. She then thanked the Parish Council for the contribution received towards the new roof.

Niki Pekal then confirmed she had been working with the Youth Workers at the Youth Centre. Contrary to the rumours circulating most of the children causing the problems were local and none lived in properties owned by Gedling Homes. She

100509	Notts ALC	£201.04	Annual Subscription for year commencing 1.4.2018.
100510	Newstead Centre	£39.00	Room Hire costs for January Precept meeting.
100511	Mrs P Young	£15.00	Chairman's allowance (January).
100512	Mrs J Johnson	£361.27	Clerk's wages for December.
100513	Notts County Council	£124.37	Pension Contributions for Clerk inc. Deficit payment.
100514	Mrs J Johnson	£ 62.82	Clerk's expenses (January)
			Postage/Other £35.32
			Tel/Broadband £8.00
			Mobile Calls Nil
			Mileage <u>£19.50</u>
			TOTAL <u>£62.82</u>

These payments were approved as stated

ii) **Any Other Matters Relating to Finance**

Precept – Following agreement to increase the level of precept by 2%, the Chairman and two members present at the Precept meeting signed Form C, which is required by Gedling Borough Council.

8 **The Lengthsman's Scheme**

The Clerk advised that interview for the position of lengthsman would take place on Monday 12th February in Ravenshead, where two persons had applied for this role. It was hoped that a successful appointment would be made.

9. **Matters concerning Newstead Village**

9.1 Update on Improvements to Children's Play Park – A consultation had been carried out by Debbie Widdowson on the 26th January when the children voted on their preferred roundabout and the results circulated to Cllrs.

The Clerk advised she had been able to ascertain the cost of the roundabout which was £4,920 plus Vat. On top of this would also be the cost of installation. Having discussed this with the Chair, it was agreed that the Clerk would submit an application under LIS grant scheme, whereby the cut off date for any claim was the 31st January 2018.

The Clerk explained that grants were awarded up to 50% of the cost of project, which means the Council would need to fund the remaining £2,460. In noting the budget under 'Capital' for 2017/2018, the Council had so far spent £2,261, leaving the remaining balance of £2,739. The Council were asked to ratify the actions of the Clerk in submitted an LIS claim to the Notts. County Council and also that it agreed to contribute 50% towards the cost of the new roundabout based on the match funding required under the LIS grant scheme. This was agreed by the Council. The help given by the Locality Co-ordinator was also noted. Cllrs welcomed the progress on this matter.

A meeting has been arranged with Eibe Playgrounds for next Tuesday when a quote for the installation will be sought.

9.2 Improvements to Vicarage Corner – Previously, the Parish Council has supported a management plan (drawn up in 2000) to improve this area of land and make it available for use by the public. Whilst the total cost at that time was given as approx. £11k, the proposal from CAST is that they try to tackle some of the areas highlighted in that original management plan using funds the Council currently has available, which is estimated to be around £2,250 (this comprises money not yet spent in the 2017/2018 Parish and Grounds maintenance budget of approx £750, plus the £1,500 wind turbine receipts). In looking at the costs quoted by CAST, if broken down into a number of smaller jobs, these appear to be fairly competitive. For example in January 2016, the lengthsman quoted £440 to strim back an area of a metre around the boundary fence adjacent to Station Ave whereas CAST had quoted £350. Also, in 2000, EMEC estimated the cost of removing the knotweed as £360 for which CAST has quoted £300. In addition the quote includes repair of the fence opposite the school on Tilford Road, which was damaged by a car several months earlier. Also, if CAST is able to carry out this work, they will also litter pick the site for free and also install bat and bird boxes on site. Should the Parish Council agree to this work being carried out, it was explained that permission will also be required from Gedling Borough Council (as the landowner) to allow this work to proceed. There is also some necessity to agree this work as soon as possible, to enable the work to begin before bird's nesting season. In noting the specification for the work to be carried out, the Chairman felt most of this was acceptable, however she did not believe that the Council should pay for removal of the Japanese Knotweed, which was statutory obligation on the part of the landowner. She therefore proposed acceptance of the quote less the cost to treat the knotweed and this was agreed by Council. The total cost of the work proposed will therefore be £2,060.

9.3 Newstead Wildlife Meadow – Cllr Burnham had noted that dog walkers were cutting diagonally across the meadow rather than following a path around the edge. It was noted that the only part of the wildlife meadow which was strimmed related to the area around the picnic bench. It was agreed that Anthony Clarke be asked to provide a quote for mowing a path around the perimeter of the meadow.

- 9.4 Van parked on Green – Cllr Adams noted that a van was parked on the green at the junction of Tilford Road/Hucknall Road. Cllrs were asked to note the registration of the offending vehicle and pass to the Clerk, who will forward these details to the neighbourhood wardens.
- 9.5 School Warning Flashing Lights – Cllr Hardy advised that he had observed Highways carrying out repairs to the lights during January but within a short space of time following departure, it was noted that the lights on the sign had failed again.
- 9.6 Potholes on Musters Road – It was noted the potholes previously reported had got much worse as a result of the recent poor weather and would now probably fit the criteria required for repair. Clerk to report

10. Matters concerning Newstead Abbey Park.

- 10.1 Station Ave Roadworks - The Chairman advised the Council that she had been contacted by management at the Abbey to advise that major work will shortly be undertaken on a gas pipe which passes under Station Ave close to North Lodge. Work is required to re-lay the gas pipe, where the existing ground above this has eroded over time. Work is expected to start around April and last for nine months. It is not known whether Station Ave is likely to be closed during this time and further information will be provided by the Chairman as and when received.
- 10.2 Newstead and Annesley Country Park – It was noted that a concrete lid which had been placed over a borehole on the park had been removed. Clerk to report to RCAN.

11. Correspondence

- 11.1 Land to the Rear of Fraser Street – Cllr Butler advised he had finally received a response from East Midlands Homes in respect to his own inquiry re plans for this land behind his home. It was agreed the contact details for East Midlands Homes would be passed to the Council.

12. Planning Applications

None

13. Reports from External Meetings

- 13.1 Newstead Centre Trustees Meeting – Cllr Scott confirmed that the trustees had met last Monday when the main discussion included maintenance of the building, lifts, windows, etc. Also, there is potential for new users at the centre, where an enquiry has been received from local residents wanting to use a room for band practise.

14. Matters concerning the Cemetery

- 14.1 Strimming by the Probation Team – The Clerk was pleased to advise that Jonathon Rhodes will not be submitting a charge for the cost of removing a broken branch hanging above the main entrance gate in the Old Cemetery. This branch was noted as part of the risk assessment undertaken by the Probation Service before work commenced and was removed by Jonathon fairly easily, once this could be reached.
- 14.2 Newstead Cemetery Car Park – Cllr Scott confirmed she had been able to speak to the driver of the converted horse box previously observed parking overnight in the cemetery car park. The driver confirmed that he parked overnight when he comes to visit relatives in the village. Information on a more suitable location to stop overnight h

as been passed on.

15. Any Other Business that the Chairman Considers Urgent

- 15.1 Newstead Bonfire Event 2018 – Cllr Scott advised that the proposed date for this event would be Saturday 10 November.
- 15.2 Grand Re-Opening of Youth Centre – Cllr Butler advised the original date had been pushed back due to the antisocial behaviour problems currently being experienced with a new date to be advised. Members of the Council were invited to attend.
- 15.3 The Pit Micropub - It was advised that the first anniversary of the micro pub opening would be the 7 March.

16. Date of Next Meeting.

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on 7th March 2018 starting at 7.30pm.