

NEWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held in the Sherwood Room of
Newstead Centre on Wednesday 3rd January 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, Mrs Andrews plus Sarah Anderson, Gedling Neighbourhood Warden and PCSO Kirsty Szeluk.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies received from Cllr Ms J Smith and also from County Cllr Mr C Barnfather.
3. **Declaration of Personal and Prejudicial Interests**
Cllr Scott declared an interest in any matters relating to Newstead Enterprise and Newstead Centre. 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. **Minutes of the Council meeting held on 6 December 2017**
Subject to the following corrections - Under Persons Present to read Mr E Hardy and under item 10.3 to read 'who regularly speeds through the village and Abbey grounds' , the minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.
5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
 - 5.1 **Apologies for Absence** - No poll has been sought by parishioners to fill this vacancy and the Council is now free to co-opt another member. Notices advertising the vacancy have been put in the notice board and anyone wishing to apply, to contact the Clerk no later than the 31st January 2018. Cllrs were not aware of anyone who wished to join the Council.
 - 5.2 **Gedling Homes** - Cllr Burnham confirmed that Cllr Andrews had been in touch to advise that all non urgent work by Gedling Homes had been stopped in wake of the Grenfell Tower disaster in order to conduct a review of its existing housing stock against the risk of fire. It was hoped to resume surveys in January 2018, with work scheduled to start in the new financial year.
 - 5.3 **Parking on the Green** - Response received from Highways which indicates that the Parish Council would need to sign a license with them in the event the Council put up any signs/structures on the Green and that liability arising from that structure would be transferred to the Parish Council. Plans of the proposed parking posts would also need to be sent to VIA for approval and the council would also be responsible for future maintenance. Cllr Scott felt that as persons had no right to be driving over the green, the Parish Council should accept the liability. The durability of the posts were discussed given they could be kicked over and easily dislodged. The Council agreed simply to monitor the situation for the time being.
 - 5.4 **Station Hotel** - The verge on the road has now been substantially cut back by CAST/Probation team. Nothing as yet received from Permission Homes
 - 5.5 **Matters relating to Finance** - The request to add Cllr Butler as a signatory on the council's accounts was posted to the bank shortly after the last meeting and a response from the bank is awaited.
 - 5.6 **Children's Play Area** - There may be an opportunity to obtain some funding over revised LIS scheme which will need to be submitted to the Notts County Council by the end of January. This Clerk will progress this with the Newstead Locality Coordinator, D Widdowson.
 - 5.7 **Speed Limit between Newstead and Annesley Village** - Further update received from Sonia Harvey which was copied to members of the Council. It was noted that four new 30mph signs had appeared on the lamp columns between the villages.

- 5.8 Christmas Tree Lights - A letter of thanks had been sent to school in respect of the funds raised towards the cost of repairing the lights, when a bag of cash (total value £40.43) was given to the Council during the tree lighting ceremony. The Chairman advised more vandalism of the lights had been reported over the Christmas break but as the majority of lights still worked, no further action taken as these were due to be taken down shortly. The Clerk is to discuss the cost of repairing the lights with Gedling Borough Council, or if not economical to repair, the cost of replacements. Cllr Butler felt the additional green lights installed by Gedling BC, in place of those which had been damaged, enhanced the look of the tree and asked if the Clerk could find out the cost of additional green lights.
- 5.9 Other Vandal Damage - The Station Road sign had been upended and removed by vandals which had been reported to Gedling Borough Council. It was noted by Cllrs, this sign had now been put back in situ. Cllr Scott reported another incident of antisocial behaviour with kids swinging off car mirrors along Fraser Street and Markham Street. The Chairman also reported that a motorist had skidded off the road on Station Ave and demolished part of the railings, which run adjacent the woodland area near Vicarage Corner. There had also been an accident involving a horse and rider in the Abbey grounds, where she had also noted a number of horse riders, who were wearing jackets emblazoned with the words 'Polite'. It was confirmed these had been given out by the Police.
- 5.10 Flashing School Speed Warning Sign - The Clerk confirmed this had been reported yet again.
- 5.11 Vicarage Corner Grit Bins - Quote waited from Anthony Clarke for securing grit bins both at Vicarage Corner and Chapel Terrace. Also all grit bins had been topped up following recent snow by Shaun Pearson as per the policy agreed previously.
- 5.12 Identification Badges - The Clerk has ordered some lanyards from Amazon and some cards to print re identification badges.

Following discussion of this item the Chairman then introduced Sarah Anderson, Gelding Neighbourhood Warden and PCSO Kirsty Szeluk. PC Szeluk then began by stating that in terms of incidents reported to the Police over the past 90 days, the crime figures for Newstead village were good compared to other areas in Newstead ward, where 28 burglaries had been reported in Ravenhead and 30 sheds broken into. On the issue of antisocial behaviour, she was aware two girls had been causing problems in the village such as banging on doors late at night. An Acceptable Behaviour Contract had been put in place, which covered such items such as not to hang around in groups, not to shout or disturb residents, and this would be monitored by Niki Pekal, Anti Social Behaviour Co-coordinator, Gedling Borough Council. Sarah advised she would keep Niki aware of what was happening in terms of further antisocial behaviour. Cllr Butler asked whether they felt the problems were drug related, to which the answer was 'there was no evidence to suggest this'. In terms of the incident reported, it was noted on New Year's Day; a brick had been thrown through the window of a home on Chapel Terrace and on the 27th December that someone was banging on doors late at night. Cllr Burnham did not feel that enough was being done to bring the antisocial behaviour under control and spoke of the impact on both him and his neighbour. It was stressed that the Police could only deal with issues if they were reported and urged that all residents continue to report all instances of abuse/damage/etc to the Police using the 101 number, unless an emergency. PC Szeluk also spoke of the re-launch of the Notts Horse Watch scheme whereby horse riders whilst out riding were asked to report such matters as off road bikers, out of control dogs, flytipping and other examples of suspicious behaviour and she is also the point of contact for Gedling on this scheme. In view of the level of concern raised by antisocial behaviour, Sarah advised she would also attend the February meeting of the Council, when Niki Pekal would also be attending.

Sarah Anderson and PCSO Szeluk then left the meeting.

The meeting was then closed to allow the public to participate

No items raised

Meeting re-opened

6. **Accounts**

6.1 **Cheques for Approval**

Receipts

£1.32	Interest on deposit account up to 4 Oct
£1.36	Interest on deposit account up to 4 Nov
£1.45	Interest on deposit account up to 4 Dec
£40.43	Various - Donation from school towards repairs to Christmas tree lights

Cheques for Approval

100498	Newstead Centre	£100.00	Donation towards Christmas Party on 16 th Dec.
100499	Mrs J Johnson	£99.90	Costs incurred on 13 th and 18 th December for topping up parish grit bins following snow.
100500	Elveden Farms Ltd	£534.00	To supply 25 foot Christmas Tree.
100501	VIA East Midlands Ltd	£186.00	Cost of supplying grit bin for Livingstone Street.
100502	Newstead Centre	£ 54.00	Room hire costs for December meeting.
100503	Mrs P Young	£15.00	Chairman's allowance (December).
100504	HMRC	£12.40	Tax on Clerk's wages from 1.10.2017 to 31.12.17.
100505	Mrs J Johnson	£361.27	Clerk's wages for December.
100506	Notts County Council	£124.37	Pension Contributions for Clerk inc. Deficit payment.
100507	Mrs J Johnson	29.36	Clerk's expenses (December)
			Postage/Other £18.66
			Tel/Broadband £8.00
			Mobile Calls Nil
			Mileage <u>£2.70</u>
			TOTAL <u>£29.36</u>

These payments were approved as stated

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

The Chairman reminded Cllrs who had obtained a pass for the Abbey that this must be handed back once the person concerned was no longer a member of the Council. Also that the cost could be claimed back from the Council where she understood some Cllrs had obtained passes but had not yet clam back the cost. Cllr Butler asked whether it was possible for him to obtain a pass for the Abbey and this was agreed.

7. **The Lengthsman's Scheme**

It was understood that position of lengthman was still vacant. It was felt the position may be of interest to a local resident but following discussion with Cllr Scott she advised the person concerned did not have sufficient tools or equipment to carry out this role.

8. **The Ground Maintenance Contract**

Details of the original specification for the grounds maintenance contract and also a breakdown of the costs received from various contractors at the last renewal had been circulated to Cllrs as part of the papers for the meeting. The Clerk explained that the contract agreed with Anthony Clarke was due to expire on the 31st March 2018 and before proceeding to go out to tender she wanted to know whether the Council wished to amend the contract to include the additional grass cutting currently being undertaken by Anthony Clarke, such as the area around the MUGA (cost of £350 p.a) and the verge at the end of Station Road (£140 p.a). Also, this presented an opportunity to include additional areas in the specification such as the opposite verge on Station Road which had recently been cut back by CAST.

Alternatively, there was an option within the contract already agreed to extend this for a further year, which

the Clerk had discussed with Anthony Clarke, who confirmed he was happy to extend the contract on the same terms as the previous years. The Clerk explained that as any future contract would span the period 1 April 2018 to 31st March 2021, any costs subsequently agreed would need to include an inflation element to cover the latter years of the contract. As a result, the costs of the contract were anticipated to rise. A further year would also give time to establish whether the Newstead Centre had reached a position where it could resume grass cutting of its own land. Following discussion, it was agreed the existing contract with Anthony Clarke be extended for a further year on the same terms as agreed previously. Also, that Anthony continues to maintain the area around the MUGA and the top end of Station Road for a further year and that an estimate is sought for maintaining the opposite verge on Station Road for the remainder of the year.

9. Matters concerning Newstead Village

- 9.1 Picnic Tables/Fort - The Chairman asked whether it was possible for the Council to make use of the equipment still in the grounds of the former Station Hotel i.e. play fort and picnic tables which could be used either on the Country Park or public land in the village. It was noted the play fort had now been moved, although the picnic benches were still in situ. It was agreed the Council should write in the first instance to the brewery asking whether they were prepared to donate these for the benefit of residents.
- 9.2 Litter - Callers drew attention on the large accumulation of litter on the verges either side of Hucknall Road. Cllr Burnham noted that these verges had just been litter picked by Ashfield District Council.
- 9.3 Newstead Cemetery Car Park - Cllrs reported sightings of what appears to be a converted horse box parking overnight in the cemetery car park. It was suggested that the new neighbourhood warden be asked to keep an eye on this.
- 9.4 Musters Road - Cllr Burnham has reported another pothole on this road.

10. Matters concerning Newstead Abbey Park.

None

11. Correspondence

No further items discussed except as mentioned elsewhere

12. Planning Applications

None

13. Reports from External Meetings

- 13.1 Meeting of Newstead Centre Trustees - Cllr Scott advised that the Trustees were interested in starting a food assembly and they are speaking to local producers to get expressions of interest. America Farm, Spelt & Rye, Reinhold Farm, Cookie Stop have already been approached and are interested. Other suggestions include Newstead Allotment Association, local beekeepers and Brooke Farm. In total, Cllr Scott advised some 20 producers were now on board. Cllrs welcomed this development which they felt to be an excellent initiative. The Chairman provided an update on the bees which were likely to be in situ in April.

14. Matters concerning the Cemetery

None

15. Any Other Business that the Chairman Considers Urgent

None

16. Date of Next Meeting.

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on 24th January, which would be the precept meeting to start at the earlier time of 7pm.