



Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at 7pm on 4th May at the Newstead Centre, Tilford Road

1. To approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting held in April 2021 and discuss any matters arising
The minutes were unable to be accepted as they were lost during a computer transfer. The Chairman of the Parish Council will look further into the archives to see if a copy can be found – if found this will be added
2. To receive the Chairman's Annual Report
The Chairman gave his report, a copy of this report can be found in Appendix A.
3. To receive the Borough and County Councillor's Annual Reports
Cllr Martin Smith gave a brief report of how Gedling is working with Newstead Parish Council. Cllr Bruch extended his thanks for the efforts of Cllr Smith.
4. Questions, comments, and statements from members of the public
There were no public present



Appendix A

CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW OF 2021-2022

Presented to the Annual Parish Meeting 4th May 2022

Your Parish Council has continued, despite the ongoing difficulties presented by Covid-19, to fulfil our responsibilities to provide and improve services and facilities for the Parish and its residents. I remain grateful to the hard-working team of volunteers who make up your Council, and I'm always pleased when people stop in the street to chat while we pick up litter or weed the planters.

We held back some of our Covid-19 Business Support Grant, determined to spend it on the community, as we always said we would. This meant we could make a sizeable donation to the bonfire event, a fabulous evening of pet- and wildlife-friendly quiet fireworks and all the usual supporting fairground rides and stalls. The turnout was incredible and everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Our thanks and congratulations go to the Newstead Events team, and we promise our help again this year.

We were pleased that our Christmas tree looked better this year, although we may have to look for something smaller in future.

A proper Remembrance Sunday ceremony was possible this year, with a bugler and standard bearer from the Royal British Legion in attendance, and we were able to lay a wreath at the St Mary's church service as well as at the morning gathering. The new seat and planters will be installed near the War Memorial very soon.

We plan to improve the appearance of the village planters this year, working together with the children of the village to grow flowers from seed. The grit bins have remained topped up, and our thanks go to those residents who helped keep slopes and corners protected from snow and ice for the benefit of all on the couple of nights when it was necessary this winter. When you help with this again next year, please remember that a little sprinkling of grit salt goes a long way; it doesn't need much to do its work.

The Council continues to comment on planning applications it receives, and whilst it must be understood that the final decisions are made by Gedling's very experienced Planning Department, I would always urge residents to make their own views known when developments are proposed.

After three years with no increase in the Precept – the share of your Council Tax that comes to the Parish Council – we did feel it necessary to raise it this year. I know seeing 8% on your Council Tax Demand looks a lot, but it is an increase on a very small part of the total, amounting to pennies a month for a Band B property. We are always looking to keep down costs, of course, but if the fly tipping and vandalism continue, it will have to be paid for by further increases next year. Help us to stamp out these problems.

The youngsters and staff of CAST have built and installed new litter bins to be placed around the Country Park, the entrance to Annesley Woods, at Vicarage Corner and next on The Circle. Your own Councillors have collected considerable amounts of waste and litter, especially joining forces regularly with our friends from Annesley & Felley Parish Council and all our regular litter pickers. A special mention must be made to the staff of Badgemaster who never miss a litter pick.



Sadly, litter and fly-tipping have become the worst issue in the village. We will be installing cameras and using other means to fight this anti-social and criminal activity. The culprits will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. If you believe you know anything about these disgusting actions, report it. These people are a blight on all our lives.

Vegetation continues to be cut back to keep footways open and signs visible. The footpath along Hucknall Road was finally 'sided up' so people do not have to step into the road to pass each other, and the real-time electronic display was installed at Musters Road bus stop after a long and persistent campaign.

We are still looking into repairing the lighting and netting on the MUGA and would ask parents to remind their children that if they damage the skate park, Youth Club, MUGA or the Newstead Centre, they are damaging assets that many much larger communities simply don't have.

Although it is not the responsibility of the Parish Council, we continue to report potholes, and we always support the Neighbourhood Wardens in their campaign against fouling by dogs. The Wardens made a walkabout with two of the Councillors and are working with Jigsaw Homes to have rubbish removed from people's yards. I would urge you all to report what you see. It does get fixed!

Our Clerk to the Council continues to develop our new-look website providing information and contacts for everyone, which supports our recently-increased use of Facebook. Look out for a newsletter coming soon. She also secured a National Lottery grant to pay for an over-60s tea at the Newstead Centre on 8th June. Every home in the village has received an invitation, so please encourage those eligible to join us, and we hope to turn it into a regular social club for our older neighbours. The children of Newstead Primary School entered the logo competition, and you can see the winning entry at the top of the page. Our thanks to the pupils and staff who took part. I hope the winner enjoys her gift token.

The small children's play area on Tilford Road still needs a fresh coat of paint and we will be asking for volunteers to help when the weather improves. You will also see the cemetery gates repainted soon, and the large trees beside the church gates will be pollarded in May, paid for by the Parish Council as falling branches represented a public safety issue. There is also a dedicated garden party who are helping tidy the church garden on the last Saturday of the month, to coincide with the coffee morning. Come along and help!

We aim to develop further our partnerships in the area, making sure your views are heard and your needs are met. As Chairman, I am reaching out to people who are willing to step up and contribute towards solutions, to work together and make things better for everyone. Anyone can point at a problem; let's work together to put things right and improve our living environment.

You can find contact details for all Councillors on any of our noticeboards.

Wishing you a happy and healthy summer,

Paul Bruch, Chairman of Newstead Parish Council