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**Minutes of the meeting held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
at the Newstead Centre, Tilford Road**

Present: Cllrs Kyle Futers (V Chairman), Ernest Hardy, Emma Astill, Melanie Sherlock, Glynis Williams and Tim Moore

Also present: Vikki Arkell (Clerk & RFO) and Cllr Chris Barnfather (Borough Councillors)

23.59 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs; Paul Bruch, Martin Smith, Stuart Bestwick and Sue Pickering an apology for lateness was also received from Cllr Emma Astill.

23.60 Declaration of Members' interests for this meeting

None

23.61 To receive reports from County and Borough Councillors

Cllr Barnfather will chase the Christmas tree permissions and the ownership/repair of the bench on the corner of Fraser and Tilford Road. Cllr Barnfather explained that a new youth leader has been recruited and will start in September.

23.62 Public session: Members of the public can take this opportunity to discuss Parish matters with Councillors.

Lorraine, the owner of The Pit Pub asked for the Council to consider what they can do to help with the anti-social behaviour that is directed towards the small businesses. The Council explained that they had met with some of the small businesses and the police were aware of some of the instances that had occurred. The Council encouraged the small business to report every instance of anti-social behaviour or disruption caused. The Council agreed to post on social media to encourage residents to report occurrences to the police. The Council will also get in contact with the Police Commissioner to discuss the lack of patrols and urgency to attend reported instances.

23.63 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> June as accurate

The Council resolved to accept the minutes as accurate.

### Finance

23.64 To note/approve the payment of invoices received in June 2023

The Council noted the payments paid in June and authorised the payment of expenses raised by Cllr E Astill for £9.

23.65 To review the financial summary at the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023

The Council noted the financial summary and had no further questions.

23.66 To review the budget and spend to date.

The Council noted the budget status and had no further questions.

### Cllr Astill joined the meeting.

### General Matters Concerning the Parish

23.67 To discuss the ownership of the bench on the corner of Fraser and Tilford Road and the cost of the required repairs

The Council discussed the bench that needs repairing, a quote for basic repair had been received for £120 which was just for materials. The Council had concerns that the wooden slats could be stolen again as they

are easily removable, and that immediate repair could attract more “hanging around” by large groups in an area where there have already been complaints. The Council requested for the Clerk to research a metal bench option that was more resilient to damage and could be more cost efficient in the long run.

23.68 To discuss jobs for the Lengthsman

The Lengthsman had previously renovated one of the Cemetery benches at no cost to the Council as it had been completed using Lengthsman hours and materials left over from another project. The materials to refurbish future benches would be approximately £60-80. The Council was happy for the Lengthsman to use some more hours to renovate the next bench and authorised the cost of materials. The Council requested that the bench on Hucknall Road be refurbished next.

23.69 To confirm the final arrangements for the Garden Competition

Cllr Williams updated the Council on the arrangements for the garden competition. The Council had received generous donation of prizes for the adult category however a prize was still required from the Childrens category. The Council resolved to award the winner of the Childrens category a voucher of their choice to the value of £15, to be taken from the chairman allowance.

23.70 To discuss the Christmas tree and lighting arrangements for 2023

The Clerk gave a short update on investigations into installing a permanent “Christmas” tree on the “triangle”. As the permit had not yet been given and the deadline for ordering the normal Christmas tree was the 13<sup>th</sup> July, the Council resolved to order the Christmas tree as previous years to ensure there was a tree for Christmas 2023. The Council requested that the Clerk still work towards the option to purchase and install a permanent tree in January/ February to be ready for Christmas 2024.

23.71 To discuss the reports of anti-social behaviour in the village and the youth services provision for Newstead

This item was discussed as part of the public session, there was nothing further to add.

23.72 To discuss professional inspection of the MUGA and the installation of safety/information signage

The Council authorised a professional annual inspection of the MUGA. The Council requested that monthly inspections be carried out by the Clerk or a member of the Council to monitor damage. The Council authorised the purchase of safety and information signage up to the value of £150 – [The Clerk to arrange the inspection and signage.](#)

23.73 To discuss the Councils priorities for the next 12 months and how to communicate with residents to establish their priorities.

The Council outlined that they would like to hold a Christmas lunch and would like to hold more village walk arounds and litter picks. The Council resolved to hold a “meet the Council” event after the litter pick on the 19<sup>th</sup> August so residents can share their ideas. [The Clerk to contact the Pit Pub to enquire if the event can be held there with some food to a budget of £150.](#)

23.74 To discuss updates received from Gedling Borough Council regarding the improvements to the Newstead playground and the possibility of receiving future funding for refurbishment.

Cllr Martin Smith has asked further questions on behalf of the Council to ascertain Gedling Borough Council’s (GBC) condition scoring system for playgrounds and which playgrounds were being prioritised for refurbishment. GBC explained that within the Green Space Strategy (GSS), which was written in 2021, they have highlighted the GBC playgrounds and their condition. Since the GSS they have been able to refurbish the playgrounds in Killisick and Colwick and are currently working on Lambley Lane play area. These were all priority play areas for upgrade as they were deemed to be in “Poor” or “Below Average” condition. Following Lambley Lane the next play areas that have been earmarked for refurbishment (which will involve future FCC funding bids) are, Church Lane, Valley Road, Jackie Bells and then Newstead Village Play Areas. Some work has been carried out at Newstead Play Park which GBC felt would “brighten up the equipment and enable it to last a few more years”. As there are 4 funding opportunities per year, Newstead Playpark will be eligible for

GBC to apply for funding in the late 24/25 or early 25/26 financial year. The Council requested for the Clerk to chase any improvement work that is outstanding including the painting of the equipment and the additional bin. The Council will pick this back up in 12 months' time and once again start enquiring about funding for refurbishment.

23.75 To consider the initial assessment of the Newstead Parish Council Website and options to make the site easier to modify and maintain.

Cllr Moore informed the Council of his initial assessment of the website. He recommended that the Council move the current website to a new host as this would allow the Council more choice on the layout and contents and would be a cheaper option in the long run. Cllr Moore explained that he would be happy to complete this for the Council. On Cllr Moore recommendation, the Council resolved to move to a new website platform.

23.76 To discuss the publication of draft minutes within 14 days of meetings

The Council resolved to publish draft minutes within 14 days of meetings, minutes to be published on the website and linked through the Facebook page.

23.77 To discuss if code of conduct training would be useful for all Councillors to attend.

The Clerk suggested in house training that reflected training given by NSDC. The Clerk to send out the slides to enable Councillors to ask questions before the training session. A short training session to be hosted by the Clerk before the Council meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> September.

23.78 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023

The Council confirmed that the next meeting would be on the 13<sup>th</sup> September.