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**Minutes of the meeting held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 13th September 2023
at the Newstead Centre, Tilford Road**

Present: Cllrs; Paul Bruch (Chairman), Kyle Futers (V Chairman), Ernest Hardy, Melanie Sherlock, Glynis Williams and Tim Moore

Also present: Vikki Arkell (Clerk & RFO), Cllr Sue Pickering (Borough Councillor) and Cllr Chris Barnfather (County Councillor)

23.79 To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs; Emma Astill, Martin Smith and Stuart Bestwick.

23.80 Declaration of Members' interests for this meeting

None.

23.81 To receive reports from County and Borough Councillors

Cllr Barnfather informed the Council that he had chased the bin installation at the bus stop and is told it should be installed in the next few weeks. He had also investigated the ownership/responsibility of Nottingham County Council branded benches within Newstead. He reported that the benches had been historically donated and were now the responsibility of the Parish Council. Cllr Barnfather assisted the Council with some items listed within 23.95.

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

There were no public present.

23.83 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on the 12th July as accurate

The Council resolved to accept the minutes as accurate.

Finance

23.84 To note/approve the payment of invoices received in July and August 2023

The Council noted the payments paid in July and August. The Council requested that the Clerk go back to the supplier of one of the invoices presented as they felt the invoice did not reflect the quality of the service provided. The Council authorised the payment of the other invoices presented.

23.85 To review the financial summary and the budget status to August 31st 2023

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

23.86 To note the conclusion of the 2022/23 audit with no comments or actions required

The Council noted the conclusion of the 2022/23 audit. The Clerk informed the Council that the current auditor had now completed 3 years and they could consider changing to a different auditor.

General Matters Concerning the Parish

23.87 To discuss replacing the bench on the corner of Fraser and Tilford Road

The Council discussed replacing the bench. Although the Council shared concerns about the youth utilising the bench to congregate, the Council decided that the bench is for all of the village and is a vital

resource for people to rest. The Council resolved to purchase a metal bench to be installed on a concrete base with a guide cost of £1200 for the project.

23.88 To discuss jobs for the Lengthsman

As the Lengthsman is no longer allowed to work on the Hucknall road due to safety, the Council requested that the Clerk enquire about the siding up of the pavement on the Hucknall Road.

23.89 To confirm arrangements for Remembrance Sunday (12th November 2023) and to consider purchasing a new flag

Cllr Bruch informed the Council that Rev Robinson has confirmed that she is happy to conduct the service and he will organise the order of service. The Council requested for the Clerk to order a new Union flag as well as one wreath, 10 new lamppost poppies and then round the donation to £50.

23.90 To consider a community Christmas event and the costs involved

The Council resolved for a community Christmas event to be held in December. The Clerk to contact the Newstead Centre to find a suitable weekend date in December to hold the event.

23.91 To discuss the planting around the war memorial

The Council resolved to remove the problem plants and trees and discuss whether to replace with new suitable plants in the future.

23.92 To discuss the Christmas tree and lighting arrangements for Christmas 2024

The Council's application for a permanent Christmas tree on the triangle had not been accepted due to utility pipes and drainage running through the triangle. The Council discussed the options available. Having investigated many alternative options, having a tree installed for the Christmas period located on the triangle is the best option.

23.93 To discuss the anti-social behaviour in the village and the response from the Police Commissioner
Following the email sent to the Police Commissioner, the Clerk had received an email from the Gedling Neighbourhood Policing Inspector. Although he shared concerns regarding the reports of anti-social behaviour, only 3 reports had been made in the last 60 days. This means that additional resources cannot be deployed to Newstead as the data does not support the need. The Council had previously created a social media post to encourage residents to report crime and ASB, and how to do anonymously. The Council resolved to issue further social media posts and remind residents who mention the issues that it is vital that ASB is reported.

23.94 To discuss the Council's priorities for the next 12 months in response to the community event held on the 12th of August

The Council had some feedback from attendees at the community event, however most issues raised were items that the Parish Council is either not responsible for, or has no power to act upon. The Council noted that they can work to empower residents to report issues to the correct persons and influence change.

23.95 To discuss what support the Parish Council can provide for the following issues raised by residents:

- a. Speeding in the new village, specifically on Byron and Abbey

The Council discussed the issue and confirmed that any incidences should be reported directly to the Police.

b. Blocked footpaths due to inconsiderate parking

Cllr Barnfather explained that parking matters are very complicated and can only be reported if they are actively blocking someone at the time.

c. Pothole reports not being acted upon by NCC/ViaEM

Cllr Barnfather informed the Council that if potholes do not meet the criteria for immediate repair they are then added to a monitoring list. He reiterated that the Council and the public should continue to report on My Notts App or ring through the customer service centre.

d. Poor or non-existent road markings on the junction of Station Avenue and the entrance to Northfield/Country Park Car Park

The Council discussed that the adopted road finished prior to the crossing, anything beyond the crossings and the approach to Northfield/Country Park Car Park are privately adopted. Cllr Barnfather suggested that the Council could contact the land registry for ownership. The Council resolved for Cllr Moore to apply to land registry for ownership and claim back any fees incurred.

23.96 To discuss the future of the Early Learning Alliance building

The Council discussed if there was an option to take on the building after the recent closure of the nursery. Unfortunately, although the Council felt that it could be a community hub that provides a much needed facility in the village, the Parish Council were not in a position financially to take on such a project.

23.97 To approve the September newsletter for publication and the costs involved

The Council approved the newsletter for publication to be printed by the Clerk and resources claimed back through expenses.

23.98 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting: 11th October 2023 at 7.30pm

The Council confirmed that the next meeting would be on the 11th October at 7:30pm.