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Minutes of the meeting of Newstead Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at the Newstead Centre, Tilford Road, Newstead

Present: Cllrs; Emma Astill (Chairman), Tim Moore (Vice Chairman), Ernest Hardy, Glynis Williams, Patricia Andrews, Bruce Andrews & Callum Astill. Also present: Borough Councillor Sue Pickering, County Councillor Stuart Bestwick and Jack Maloney Clerk & RFO.

26.21 To receive and approve apologies for absence  
Cllrs; Sherlock and Smith sent their apologies

#### Annual Meeting Business

26.22 Election of the Chairman for 26/27 and to complete declarations of office if required  
Cllr E.Astill asked if there were any nominations for Chairman. Cllr E.Astill was nominated by Cllr Moore and seconded by Cllr Hardy. Cllr E.Astill was elected as Chairman.

26.23 Election of the Vice Chairman for 26/27  
Cllr E.Astill asked if there were any nominations for Vice Chairman. Cllr Williams was nominated by Cllr E.Astill and seconded by Cllr Moore. Cllr Williams was elected as Vice Chairman.

26.24 To agree the meeting location and schedule for 26/27 up to and including the next annual meeting of the Council.

The Council resolved that meetings would continue to be held on the second Wednesday of each month and that the August meeting would remain scheduled.

The Council also discussed the Annual Meeting of the Parish and noted that no members of the public had attended for many years. It was resolved that the Council would no longer routinely hold the meeting in future but would consider doing so if requested by a member of the public.

26.25 Review and adoption of Standing Orders – no changes  
The Council resolved to adopt the Standing Orders with no changes.

26.26 Review and adoption of Financial Regulations – no changes  
The Council resolved to adopt the Financial Regulations with no changes

#### Ordinary Meeting Business

26.27 Declaration of Members' interests for this meeting  
Cllrs E Astill & C Astill declared an interest in item 26.41 as one of the items in consideration could be held at the Pit pub.

26.28 To receive reports from County and Borough Councillors  
The Council was informed that the lease for the play park had now been signed and the funding application submitted, with the outcome currently awaited. Councillor Bestwick reported that he had requested that Hucknall Road, Musters Road, Tilford Road and Marston Street be added to the programme of works for the road surfacing team. It was also reported that Gedling Borough Council, through Andy Burgin, is responsible for the village square, and proposals are being considered to add flowers and benches to the central circular area.

Councillors were advised that an inaugural cricket competition would be held on recreation field (The Pit Field), with Councillor Bestwick due to officially open the event on the Bank Holiday, 25th May. Cllr E. Astill raised concerns regarding road signs which had appeared in the incorrect location on Garden Terrace. It was further noted that a fridge and mattress located near the skate park had been strimmed around but had not yet been removed by Gedling Borough Council.

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

**No public were present.**

26.30 Correspondence received

a. Benches on the recreation field

The Clerk explained that correspondence had been received highlighting the poor condition of the benches on the recreation field by the Pit Pub. The Clerk had contacted Gedling Borough Council to request that the matter be looked into but had not yet received a response. Cllr Bestwick explained that this could be due to the officer being on Annual Leave.

b. Country Park

Residents had raised concerns about increasing unauthorised vehicle access at Newstead and Annesley Country Park, resulting in damage to paths and the wider site. RCAN confirmed they were aware of the issue, were exploring ways to improve security and had advised incidents to be reported to the police. Additional concerns were raised about vandalism, removal of a memorial bench, burnt out furniture, damage to vegetation and the poor condition of the park. Questions were also raised about falling water levels in a nearby lake and possible impacts on wildlife. The Council discussed the issue and that it was outside of their powers. The Council requested the Clerk forward the correspondence to the Clerk to Annesley and Felley Parish Council, so they are aware of the discussion.

26.31 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the 8<sup>th</sup> April as accurate  
**The Council resolved to accept the minutes as accurate.**

#### Finance

26.32 To note/approve the payment of invoices received in April 2026

**The Council noted payments made in April and resolved to approve the payment of the three invoices presented for payment.**

26.33 To note the transfer of funds to savings and consider further transfers

**The Clerk stated that £10,000 had been moved from the current account to savings to gain interest, as allowed within the financial regulations. The Clerk suggested moving a further £10,000 to accrue further interest which the Council approved.**

26.34 To review the bank reconciliation, financial summary and the budget status

**The Council noted the bank reconciliation and financial summary.**

26.35 Annual Governance documents for year ending 31st March 2026

a. To receive and review the report from the internal auditor

**The Council noted the report from the internal auditor**

b. Section 1: Annual Governance Statement – to consider the questions and respond accordingly

**The Council considered the questions and ticked the boxes as appropriate. Cllr E Astill signed the Annual Governance Statement.**

c. Section 2: Statement of Accounts – to consider and agree the accounting figures

The Council reviewed the statement of accounts. Cllr E Astill signed the statement of accounts.

d. Notice of Public Rights - To note the dates

The Council noted the dates as the 3rd June to the 14<sup>th</sup> July.

### General Matters Concerning the Parish

26.36 To note the hours allocated for 26/27 and discuss jobs for the Lengthsman

The Clerk informed the Council that 62 hours had been allocated to Newstead for 2026/27 and that they had asked the Lengthsman to carry out the clearing of jittys and footpaths included on the regular works list. The Council discussed a request to contribute towards the purchase of a weedkiller backpack and resolved not to contribute. Following this discussion, the Council requested that the Clerk ask for no weedkiller to be used in Newstead.

26.37 To discuss the 'clean your street' weekend and options for removing larger waste items

The Council discussed arrangements for the proposed 'Clean Your Street' weekend, which is planned to take place during the last weekend in May. It was agreed that promotional posters would be distributed during the preceding week to encourage community participation. The Clerk reported on the research he had undertaken regarding the removal of larger waste items. Councillor E. Astill offered to contact a licensed waste removal contractor and speak with residents in advance in order to coordinate arrangements and develop a plan for the removal of larger waste items.

26.38 To confirm the planter arrangements for 26/27

Cllr E Astill reported that she had spoken to a resident who has offered to maintain the planters on behalf of the Council. The Borough Councillors offered £200 towards the cost of maintaining the planters. The Council were happy for the resident to take on the responsibility and would reimburse the purchase of plants for her to do so. The Council discussed reducing the planters by two tiers and using the removed portions elsewhere.

26.39 To consider renaming "The Meadow" and review the quotation for replacing the damaged information board

The Council reviewed two options and resolved to purchase the aluminium option. The Council agreed to change the name of the meadow to Phil's Meadow. The Council also agreed to amend the blurb to a brief history of the meadow, together with wording from the newspaper article regarding Phil Burnham securing Local Nature Reserve status for the meadow. The Clerk to draft and send out to Councillors by email.

26.40 To reconsider options for installing a poem at the war memorial

The originally selected supplier had been unable to fulfil the order. The Clerk had obtained two further quotes, one for granite and one for printed diabond. The Council resolved to purchase the diabond sign and fixings from amazon.

26.41 To consider Christmas events for the village

The Council discussed the possibility of purchasing tickets for families within the village to attend the Nutcracker Storyteller event, however Councillors were concerned that the initiative may not reach enough residents. Plans for the Christmas Light Switch On event were also discussed. It was agreed that the Christmas lights would be obtained from CAST, and enquiries would be made regarding Santa's availability for Tuesday 1st December between 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm. Councillors also discussed arranging the waffle van again and requesting the pricing of waffles and hot chocolate.

It was further agreed that refreshments would once again be provided at the church following the light switch on event, with the same budget as the previous year allocated for mince pies, mulled wine and juice. The Council also discussed considering additional activities and attractions to enhance the event.

26.42 To discuss options for replacing the missing Village Welcome Sign

The Council discussed the missing sign. Cllrs Bestwick and Moore suggested a few leads to follow up on to see if the sign could be replaced in an affordable way.

26.43 To note the date and time of the next meeting: 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
**The Council noted the date of the next meeting.**