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Minutes of the meeting of Newstead Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14th October 2026 at the Newstead Centre, Tilford Road, Newstead

Present: Cllrs Emma Astill (Chairman), Glynis Williams (Vice Chair), Tim Moore, Callum Astill, Ernest Hardy, Patricia Andrews, Bruce Andrews and Melanie Sherlock.
Also present: County Cllr Bestwick, Borough Cllr Sue Pickering and Vikki Arkell Clerk & RFO

26.103 To receive and approve apologies for absence
Cllr Case sent his apologies. Cllr Smith said he would be attending but may be late as he was attending another meeting.

26.104 Declaration of Members' interests for this meeting
None

26.105 To receive reports from County and Borough Councillors
Cllr Bestwick gave a brief report and asked whether the debris between Foundry Terrace and Hazelford Way had been cleared. Cllr E Astill explained that Gedling operatives had attended during the week but had not carried out any work on the banking.

26.106 Public session: Members of the public can take this opportunity to discuss parish matters with Councillors
None

26.107 Correspondence and ongoing matters
a) Unsafe trees on the circle
The Clerk reported that the trees had been trimmed and would be inspected approximately every 12 months.
b) Trees with outstanding works
These are still outstanding. The Clerk to request an update.
c) Clearing of debris on the banking between Foundry Terrace and Hazelford Way
See above.

26.108 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the 9th September as accurate
The Council resolved to accept the drafted minutes as accurate.

Finance
26.109 To note/approve the payment of invoices received in September 2026
The Council noted the payments. Cllr P Andrews raised the level of funds held within the Council's bank accounts. The Clerk provided a breakdown of the earmarked reserves and explained their intended purposes. Cllr Andrews was satisfied that the reserves were appropriate.

26.110 To review the bank reconciliation, financial summary and the budget status
Cllr E Astill reviewed the bank reconciliation and signed as accurate. The Council noted the financial summary and the budget status.

26.111 To review the first draft of the 27/28 Budget
The Council noted the budget with no changes

Planning
26.112 2026/0530: Remodelling of the existing visitor toilet facilities and expansion into the mess room building to meet need. Newstead Abbey Park, Newstead Abbey, Station Avenue - (Response required 21st October 2026)

2026/0529: Remodelling and expansion of visitor toilet facilities into adjacent buildings to provide for increased need and public benefit. Newstead Abbey Park, Newstead Abbey, Station Avenue-- (Response required 21st October 2026)

The Council reviewed both planning applications and supported the expansion of the toilet facilities.

General Matters Concerning the Parish

26.113 To request works for completion by the Lengthsman

The Clerk explained that the proposal for the Lengthsman to quote for work based on the time required and an agreed completion date had been accepted. However, photographs would need to be provided to enable a quote to be prepared. The Council agreed to take photographs of any issues, along with a brief description of the work required, and forward these to the Clerk for submission.

26.114 To note the unsuccessful FCC funding bid for the playgrounds and to discuss next steps

The Council noted that the £100,000 funding application submitted by Gedling Borough Council to FCC Communities Foundation had been unsuccessful. FCC confirmed that the project itself was suitable, but the funding round had been heavily oversubscribed, with previous awards to Gedling-led projects also influencing the decision.

Cllr Astill explained that a meeting had been held with Gedling Borough Council the previous week and that the best way forward was being explored. It had been suggested that the Parish Council explore smaller funding opportunities, alongside support from local businesses, including financial contributions, materials and skilled labour.

26.115 To discuss the quotes received to install the new Village Welcome Sign.

The Council received two quotes for the work and resolved to accept the quote for £240

26.116 a. To review the response received regarding the management of Newstead and Felley Country Park

The Council reviewed the detailed response from RCAN and CAST, who confirmed that residents' concerns are being taken seriously, particularly regarding safety, security and maintenance. A central email address (Countrypark@rcan.org.uk) has been established to simplify reporting for residents and the Parish Council, with concerns being passed to the appropriate person or organisation.

b. To review the responses received regarding the Pocket Park and consider any further action.

The Council reviewed CAST's response confirming that security improvements, including the gate, barriers and CCTV, are being explored alongside ongoing maintenance. Mick Leivers will attend the November Parish Council meeting to discuss the management, maintenance and future improvements to Pocket Park.

26.117 To confirm Remembrance Day arrangements

Cllr E Astill stated she was happy to lead the service with the reverend and that the service would start at 10am. The Clerk to confirm details with Reverend Robinson.

26.118 To confirm plans for the Christmas Light Switch On:

a) Dates and time

The Council confirmed that it would be on Tuesday 1st December at 6pm. The Council would like to organise a small gift for each child from Santa. The Council resolved to approach a local person in the village who makes sweet bags with a budget of £100.

b) Catering

The waffle van is confirmed and the Clerk to organise the food and drink for the church.

c) Lights installation and testing

The Clerk reported that CAST are tracking down the lights to be tested. The Clerk suggested doing a full test on Saturday 28th November.

26.119 To discuss ongoing parking issues on the "Village Green"

The Council requested that the Clerk write to the Newstead Centre to remind them of their responsibility to ensure that hirers and users are encouraged to park in the designated car park, rather than along the street or directly in front of the building.

The Clerk was also asked to investigate the cost of installing large decorative boulders along the village green to deter unauthorised parking and protect the grassed area.

26.120 To note the date and time of the next meeting: 11th November

Noted