



Newmarket

TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Newmarket Town Council
held on Monday, 26th January 2009 at 7.00 pm
at the Memorial Hall, High Street, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 8JP

Attendance :

Councillor C Turner, Town Mayor
Councillor W Burch
Councillor Mrs J Bailey
Councillor K Bovill
Councillor G Cole
Councillor R Fletcher

Councillor D Hudson
Councillor P Hulbert
Councillor W Hirst
Councillor M Jefferys
Councillor J Richer
Councillor Mrs J Uney

Also Present: Isabelle Barrett –Town Clerk, Rosemary Foreman – Minute Assistant,
PC K Green, 2 Members of the Press, 5 Members of the Public

Minute	Action by
09/01/1 <u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)</u> Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs C Brighty, A Drummond, G Jaggard and W Sadler.	
09/01/2 <u>ABSENT – LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)</u> Councillor R Millar was absent.	
09/01/3 <u>DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS & CONSIDER</u> <u>UPDATE OF REGISTER OF INTEREST – LGA 2000 Part III</u> <u>(Order 2001)</u> None noted.	
09/01/4 <u>TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL</u> <u>MEETING HELD ON 8th DECEMBER 08 – LGA 1972, Schedule</u> <u>12, para 41(2)</u> The Town Mayor signed the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 8 th December 08 as a correct record.	
09/01/5 <u>MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF 8th DECEMBER 08</u> None noted.	

09/01/6

AN INVITATION TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO PUT QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS OF NOT MORE THAN 3 MINUTES DURATION RELATING TO ITEMS LISTED IN THE PUBLIC PART OF THE AGENDA ONLY – LGA 1972, Section 100(1)

Alison Hayes of the Newmarket Journal spoke regarding her letter submitted under correspondence describing the restructuring by the Johnston Press of the five titles which made up the Anglia Newspapers Group. As a result of this, some jobs would be under threat as a greater part of the production of these titles would be moved to Peterborough. The knock-on effect of this would be that the local offices might be left staffed with mainly trainee reporters whose workload would increase dramatically as they would be expected to do their usual news reporting as well as covering for sport and organising web page content. It was likely that coverage of local events would suffer and the future of the Journal as a genuine community newspaper would be at risk. Some local MPs had already expressed their concerns over the impact such rationalisations would have on the future of the local press and she asked that NTC contact Johnston Press and do likewise.

Mr John Goode of the Newmarket Weekly News added that some staff had already been issued with notice of redundancy notices. The situation was general to regional newspapers and he was concerned it could affect local democracy as the local press kept the public informed of local situations and events.

Councillors agreed to discuss this matter under Item 24 on the Agenda - Correspondence.

09/01/7

TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillors noted that the Town Mayor had attended/would be attending the following:

Newmarket Leisure Centre – Official opening and Rotary Swimathon
Visit to Bury St Edmunds CCTV Centre
RAF Lakenheath – Reception
National Stud – Reception and Tour

Councillor Turner thanked Councillors Brighty, Millar and Uney, together with the Town Clerk and Laura Hirst for supporting him in the Rotary International Swimathon, which had raised almost £7,500 towards Rotary, Newmarket Swimming Club and other nominated charities. He then presented those participants present with their Certificates and advised that Rotary were organising another Swimathon in July.

09/01/8 **REPORT FROM NEWMARKET POLICE REPRESENTATIVE**
PC Green presented the crime statistics from April- December 08 and invited questions from Councillors.

In reply to a question from Councillor Richer, PC Green advised that the Police had not lost control of any part of Newmarket.

Councillor Hirst was pleased to note that the total number of crimes had decreased.

Councillor Turner thanked PC Green for attending and he left the meeting.

09/01/9 **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

None noted.

09/01/10 **REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

None noted.

09/01/11 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON 5th JANUARY 09**

Councillor Hirst presented the minutes of the Community Services Committee held on 5th January 09.

09/01/11.01 Resolved

That NTC support in principle the launch of an SOS bus in Newmarket.

09/01/11.02 Resolved

That a decision regarding allocating funds towards the launch and maintenance of an SOS bus in Newmarket be deferred until all other possible funding sources had been explored.

09/01/11.03 Resolved

That the 3rd draft budget for 2009/10 for the Community Services Committee be approved subject to the following amendments:

4995 Transfer £4950 to Earmarked Reserves – to be reconsidered

4005 Community Warden – remove £20,000

4214 CleanUp Newmarket Campaign – reduce to £1,000

09/01/11.04 Resolved

That NTC reject SCC's suggestions to install a new signal controlled pedestrian crossing at the junction of the Watercourse and Fred Archer Way and to relocate the current crossing outside the Day Centre to opposite the Bus Station.

09/01/11.05 Resolved

That SCC be asked to install a new signal controlled pedestrian crossing on St Mary's Square at its junction with Mill Hill (opposite the Newsagents), thus obviating the necessity of moving the crossing outside the Day Centre.

09/01/11.06 Resolved

That a decision regarding 45 Field Terrace Road be deferred for six months.

09/01/12

TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE EMPLOYMENT & STAFFING COMMITTEE HELD ON 12th JANUARY 09

Councillor Turner presented the minutes of the Employment & Staffing Committee held on 12th January 09.

09/01/12.01 Resolved

That the minutes of the Employment & Staffing Committee held on 12th January 09 be accepted.

09/01/13

TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON 12th JANUARY 09

Councillor Jefferys presented the minutes of the Leisure Services Committee held on 12th January 09.

L/01/09/8 – Councillor Richer advised that an application for a Playfinder Fund grant for Studlands Park was not a priority with FHDC and suggested that NTC should apply for a Playfinder Fund grant for the Memorial Gardens instead. Cllr Richer therefore proposed an amendment to recommendation L/09/01/8.01 in that the word 'Studlands Park' be replaced with the word 'Memorial Gardens'. The amendment was put to the vote and carried.

09/01/13.01 Resolved

That in accordance with LGA 1976 s19 (1), NTC work with FHDC to prepare a Playfinder Fund grant application for the refurbishment of the play equipment in the Memorial Gardens.

09/01/13.02 Resolved

That a Sub-Committee be formed to plan and seek funding for the repair/replacement/upgrading of equipment in the Memorial Gardens and that the Sub-Committee would comprise of Councillors Richer (Chairman), Brighty and Uney together with Erika Jensen.

09/01/13.03 Resolved

That no grant be made to the Ellesmere Opportunity Group as grants could not be made to groups outside the Newmarket community.

09/01/13.04 Resolved

That in accordance with LGA 1972 s145 (a), a grant of £150 be made to the Twilight Club towards the cost of their Christmas Dinner.

09/01/13.05 Resolved

That in accordance with LGA 1972 s145 (a), a grant of £250 be made to the Wacky Snacky Club towards the purchase of a new shed to store outside toys and equipment. (Councillor Brighty abstained from voting on this item).

09/01/13.06 Resolved

That no grant be made to the Newmarket Cameo Club.

09/01/13.07 Resolved

That in accordance with LGA 1972 s145 (c) a grant of £250 be made to the Newmarket Town Band towards the cost of new jackets as part of their uniform.

09/01/13.08 Resolved

That in accordance with LGA 1972 s145 (a) grant of £150 be made to West Suffolk Blind (Newmarket Branch) towards transport and outings for members who were blind.

09/01/13.09 Resolved

That no grant be made to the Songs of Praise Group as grants could not be made to groups outside the Newmarket Community.

09/01/13.10 Resolved

That Town Clerk should inform future applicants from outside the Newmarket Community that their applications could not be considered.

09/01/13.11 Resolved

That the following item be removed from the budget:

4123 Community Voluntary Org grant - £2,000

09/01/13.12 Resolved

That the 3rd draft budget for the Leisure Services Committee for 2009/10 be noted.

09/01/13.13 Resolved

That the theme for the Art and Writing competitions for 2009 should be 'My World'.

09/01/13.14 Resolved

That the organisers of the July Festival Week be advised that NTC staff were unable to provide them with administrative support.

09/01/13.15 Resolved

That no meeting of the Leisure Services Committee be held during the month of February 09 and all Committee Members attend the Briefing at Stowmarket on 9th February from 5pm – 6.30 pm regarding maximising the opportunities for Suffolk as a result of the London 2012 Olympic & Paralympic Games. Town Clerk to ascertain how many places were available and whether office staff could also attend.

09/01/14

TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL REGENERATION COMMITTEE HELD ON 13th JANUARY 09

Councillor Burch presented the minutes of the Memorial Hall Regeneration Committee held on 13th January 09.

09/01/14.01 Resolved

That an Emergency Procedure for Staff be included in the Staff Handbook.

09/01/14.02 Resolved

That all hirers are made aware of Emergency Procedures for the Memorial Hall.

09/01/14.03 Resolved

That the 3rd draft budget for the Memorial Hall Regeneration Committee for 2009/10 be accepted subject to the following amendment:

4080 PWLB Loan Charges – reduce from £35,258 to £12,000.

09/01/15

TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON 19th JANUARY 09

Councillor Bailey presented the minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee held on 19th January 09.

09/01/15.01 Resolved

That the schedules for payments relating to the periods 1.11.08-30.11.08 and 1.12.08-31.12.08 be received and adopted.

09/01/15.02 Resolved

That the 3rd draft budget for 2009/10 for the Finance & Policy Committee be accepted subject to the following amendments:

4014 Light & Heat – reduce to £2,870

4015 – Gas – reduce to £2,870

F/09/01/11 – Councillor Bailey advised that the total Precept for 2009/10 is £377,712. The new Tax Base Rate had been received from FHDC after the Jan 09 F&P Meeting and therefore the revised figures for a Band D property would be an increase of 26p per week (£13.54 per annum). Councillor Bailey therefore proposed an amendment to recommendation F/08/01/32.01 to replace the current figures with the revised ones. The amendment was voted upon and carried.

Councillor Richer advised that the budget would result in a £500,000 debt for Newmarket as a result of the Capital Works loan.

09/01/15.03 Resolved

That in accordance with LGA 1992 s41 & s50, the Precept for the financial year 2009/10 be accepted at £377,712. This would be an overall annual increase of 25.3%, or £13.54 on the present Band D property per annum. This equates to an increase of £0.26p per week.

09/01/15.04 Resolved

That Councillors Turner and Bailey, together with the Town Clerk, meet with the Press on 27th January to brief them on the increase in the Precept.

09/01/15.05 Resolved

That in accordance with LGA 1972 s145 (1A) an additional Newsletter be distributed mid February to brief our Community of the reasons for the increase in the Precept and pointing out the benefits which would result from this increase.

09/01/15.06 Resolved

That in accordance with LGA 1972 s12 para 42 the Seventh Edition of the Council's Standing Orders be received and adopted.

09/01/15.07 Resolved

That the Seventh Edition of the Council's Financial Standing Orders be received and adopted subject to the following amendment:

Section 3.8 – delete *i.e.* £65,000 for the 2008/09 financial year.

09/01/15.08 Resolved

That the title of the Annual Review for 2009 be '1999-2009: Building on Success'.

09/01/15.09 Resolved

That the schedules of payments for Staff Salaries for the months of November and December 08 (Cashbook 3) be received and adopted.

Councillor Hirst declared an interest in the following item and left the meeting.

09/01/16 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 5th & 19th JANUARY 09**

Councillor Fletcher presented the minutes of the Development & Planning Committee meetings held on 5th and 12th January 09.

09/01/16.01 Resolved

That NTC voice no objections to planning application F/2008/0821/FUL – Erection of 14 affordable dwellings/demolition of No. 30 – 28a-30 Park Lane Newmarket.

Councillor Hirst returned to the meeting.

09/01/17 **TO RECEIVE A BRIEFING ON THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL SCHEDULED TO BE HELD ON 29th JANUARY 09**

Councillor Turner advised that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council would be held on 29th January at 6.30 pm and urged all Councillors to attend.

09/01/18 **UPDATE ON TOWN MAYOR'S CIVIC RECEPTION**

Councillor Turner advised that he would be holding a Civic Reception at the Memorial Hall on Friday, 6th March, from 7 – 9.00 pm to celebrate the work of the voluntary sector in Newmarket.

09/01/19 **INTERNAL AUDITOR'S INTERIM REPORT FOR 2008/09**

Councillors received the Internal Auditor's Interim Report for 2008/09 and were pleased to note that no recommendations had been made. Councillor Turner congratulated Town Clerk on this excellent result.

09/01/19.01 Resolved

That the Town Council accept the Internal Auditor's Interim report for 2008/09.

09/01/20 **REVISED FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

Councillors received information regarding the revised Freedom of Information Act and Model Publication Scheme and agreed the following resolutions:

09/01/20.01 Resolved

That NTC adopt the new Model Publication Scheme related to the Freedom of Information Act.

09/01/20.02 Resolved

That NTC adopt the Town Council's Information Template under the Model Publication Scheme related to the Freedom of Information Act.

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- 09/01/21** **SCC RESPONSE TO NTC LETTER REGARDING CLOCK TOWER JUNCTION IMPROVEMENTS**
Councillors noted SCCs response to their concerns regarding the Clock Tower junction road improvements and Councillor Burch expressed his disappointment that they had not listened to the Council's views. Councillor Turner advised that work in The Avenue had not yet caused problems.
- 09/01/22** **UPDATE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW**
Councillors noted information received from SCC, FHDC and the Keep Us Local group regarding the Local Government Review.

Councillor Hirst advised that the Boundary Committee would publish their decision on 13th February, followed by consultation until 13th March. The Secretary of State would then make a decision.
- 09/01/23** **REPORT(S) FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS ELECTED AS REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES**
None noted.
- 09/01/24** **WARD REPORT(S) FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS**
None noted.
- 09/01/25** **TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE**
The following correspondence was noted: Alison Hayes – Restructuring of Anglia Newspapers Group.

Councillors expressed their concern at the action taken by Johnston Press in moving a greater part of the production of local newspapers to Peterborough and agreed that the Town Clerk should write to both the Newmarket Journal and the Newmarket Weekly News expressing the Council's concerns over the impact such rationalisations would have on the future of the local press and the community.
- 09/01/26** **TO CONSIDER ANY LICENSING ISSUES RAISED WITH THE COUNCIL**
None noted.
- 09/01/27** **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
Thursday, 29th January 2009 at 6.30 pm
- 09/01/28** **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC**
With the vote being unanimous, it was

09/01/28.01 Resolved

That, under section 100a(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as prescribed in Part 1 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 and indicated against each item and, in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

The business of the meeting concluded at 7.40 pm.

Signed : _____

Date : _____