



Newmarket

TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Newmarket Town Council

held on Monday 24th June 2024 at 6:15 pm at the Memorial Hall

Attendance:

Councillor P Winter (Town Mayor)
Councillor M Anderson
Councillor J Borda
Councillor A Drummond
Councillor J Harvey

Councillor J Jarvis
Councillor R Jones
Councillor J McHugh
Councillor R Nobbs
Councillor S Perry

Also Present: Town Clerk - C Whitaker, J Ashton – Minute Assistant, Sgt Chris Button – Suffolk Police, Mr M Jeffery – Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan Chair, 1 Member of the Press and 1 Member of the Public.

Minute

24/06/1 Welcome

The Chairman opened the meeting and read the Fire safety notice and confirmed that proceedings were being recorded by the Minute Assistant and asked if anyone else intended to record the meeting.

24/06/2 Apologies for Absence – LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)

Apologies were received from Cllrs Berry, Hood, Hulbert, Starkey, and Yarrow. Cllrs Clover and Crissall were absent.

24/06/3 Declaration of Members Interests & to Remind Councillors of the Need to Keep up to Date Their Register of Member's Interests and to Consider any Requests Received for Member's Dispensation

None noted. There were no requests for Member's Dispensation.

24/06/4 To Receive and Confirm the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 13th May 2024 and any Matters Arising.

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2024 were presented and the following amendment was made:

Page 2 – 24/05/8 Councillor Reports – this was amended to say that Cllr Drummond is working with SCC to get permission to allow the Jockey Club, who volunteered to put fencing up to prevent people parking on the verges.

Subject to the amendments being made, the following was agreed:

24/06/4.01 Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2024 be adopted and signed as a correct record by the Town Mayor.

There were no matters arising.

24/06/5 Public Open Session

No members of the public wished to Speak.

24/06/6 Police Report

Sgt Button gave a report on the data recorded for the previous 28 days and included the following:

- 35 offences of violence against the person ranging from no injury, common assaults to harassment and most remain under investigation.
- 8 recorded burglaries including business premises which remain under investigation.
- 5 arson and criminal damage offences; this is a reduction from the December figures.
- 3 drug offences, 2 out of court disposal the other is under on-going investigation.
- 23 theft offences across town including shoplifting and making off without paying.
- 10 public order offences.

There were no robberies and there were isolated investigations for Anti-Social Behaviour. They are working with partner agencies to resolve long term.

PC Matthew Tripp has replaced PC Sam Day and is already visiting schools and they continue to do preventative work and youth engagement within local schools.

Cllr Drummond reported that there had been speeding electric scooters on pavements that was not in the report Sgt Button advised that Newmarket still had an under-reporting issue.

A member of the public joined the meeting.

The Mayor and Town Clerk met with Inspector Adam Fitzgibbons (covering for Inspector Connor Lyons whilst on a 6-month secondment) on 12/06/2024. The following items were discussed:

- Increased Police presence at racing days – including the High Street and taxi ranks.
- Cherry Tree Pub, Exning Road – complaints regarding noise, ASB – police to do licence checks and liaise with WSC Licensing and Environmental Health.
- New Home Office initiative called ‘Clear, Hold, Build’ – where an area with drug issues is identified and action taken to clear. Police then work with local stakeholders to build on keeping the area drug-free going forward.
- There is an uplift in rural business crime – there is an ongoing operation to target this.
- Inspector Fitzgibbons enquired if the Council would be doing anything for the EUROS – possibly a big screen on the Severals, should any UK team reach the quarter finals. We can consider the logistics and cost for this. It would be a good community event.
- We will continue to send all of our event details to Inspector Fitzgibbons and Sgt Button.

Sgt Button left the meeting.

The Mayor proposed that item 10a be brought forward and the following was agreed:

24/06/6.01 Resolved

That item 10a Neighbourhood Plan Working Group report be brought

forward.

24/06/7 Working Group Reports – Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan

Mr Jefferys gave an update on the review of the plan which was first written in 2018 and adopted in February 2020. The current plan is on the website, and he encouraged Members to read it and to contribute ideas for the review. There are 32 policies which developers need to adhere to and 57 Community Actions; some may now not be achievable or there could be new ones that need to be added. All comments will be welcomed.

There will be a public consultation in August, Town Council consultation in September, with a first draft to be presented in September, then a consultation with WSC in October. Feedback from the consultations will be added in December with the aim of submitting it to the Inspector in February 2025.

Mr Jeffery left the meeting.

24/06/8 Councillor Reports
SCC – None noted.

West Suffolk Council (WSC) – Cllr Jarvis gave thanks to Members who had objected to the plan for housing for the St Felix site and was dismayed that nothing had been done with the site for 15 years. Building houses on this site is not progress for Newmarket and an opportunity to provide a community amenity was wasted. Cllr Jarvis reported that the licence for the reverse vending machines in Newmarket and Haverhill had been extended.

Cllr Drummond added that SCC had added the allocation of 50 houses to the WSC Local Plan and if it had been refused, SCC would have appealed and WSC would need to cover the costs. The back field will now be developed to provide a much-needed sports hub.

Cllr Anderson reported that 300 residents had attended the Party on the green. Thanks were given to the organisers and volunteers who helped to make it a great event.

Ward – Cllr Nobbs thanked the Town Clerk and staff for a great D-Day-80 event on 6th June. Town Clerk added that it was the excellent efforts of the new Event Manager that helped to make it a successful event.

Cllr Jones asked what could be done to prevent the flooding at Newmarket Brook. Cllr Drummond advised that pressure needs to be put on WSC to keep it clear and prevent blockages. Town Clerk will invite Damian Parker to a Community Services meeting to take questions on the management of the Brook.

Cllr Jones reported that the road works near the Tesco roundabout were causing havoc. The traffic lights were operating at the weekend, but no work was being done. Town Clerk agreed to contact Highways to see what could be done to mitigate the chaos.

Cllr Jones also requested that a letter of thanks be sent to the 2nd Newmarket Beavers for

their Community work, litter-picking in the Studlands area.

Cllr Perry reported that she is in contact with Anglian Water who are responsible for part of Newmarket Brook and they have agreed to unblock the grill area once a month. An ecologist is looking to see what else could be done to keep the water clean. She will be attending the BID meeting and will report back at the next meeting.

Cllr Jarvis reported that there is community area on Studlands that needs to be cleared in the Tulyer Walk location.

Cllr McHugh reported that there is a Welcome Warm Space at All Saints Church every Tuesday 10:00 – 12:00 where residents can talk confidentially about any issues and be sign posted to agencies that can provide help. Herself and Cllr Perry will be doing outreach work on the second Tuesday of each month and publicity will be forthcoming.

Cllr Anderson reported that he had spoken to the manager of Lloyds Bank who confirmed that the bank was not closing, but would only be closed every Tuesday from now onwards.

Outside bodies – MARPA

The minutes of the meeting with MARPA held on 21/05/2024 were received and noted.

24/06/9 Mayors Announcements

The Mayor reported that, in addition to attending committee meetings, working groups and other meetings, her activities included the following:

Attended the service at St Mary's Church celebrating 100 years of the Newmarket Branch of the Mother's Union.

13th June 2024 – Attended the opening of the King's Theatre Cinema.

21st June 2024 – Attended the "Suffolk Day" at Haverhill Market Square.

23rd June 2024 Presented the prizes for the JigSaw Championship at the Rowley Mile Racecourse.

Member of the public left the meeting.

24/06/10 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Development & Planning Committee Meetings held on 7th, 20th May and 3rd & 17th June 2024

The Cllr Harvey Vice Chairman of the Development & Planning Committee presented the minutes and recommendations from the Development & Planning Committee meeting held on 7th, 20th May and 3rd, 17th June 2024. There were no recommendations.

24/06/11 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 7th May 2024

Cllr Winter of the Community Services Committee presented the minutes and recommendations from the Community Services Committee meeting held on 7th May 2024.

24/06/11.01 Resolved (C/24/05/7.01 Recommendation)

That an Earmarked Reserve be created for funding for a new lift in the future.

24/06/12 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Finance & Policy Committee Meeting held on 20th May 2024

Cllr Harvey, the Chairman of the Finance & Policy Committee presented the minutes and recommendations from the Finance & Policy Committee meeting held on 20th May 2024.

24/06/12.01 Resolved (F/24/05/8.01 Recommendation)

That the ratification of the schedules of payments for the period 01/03/2024 – 31/03/2024 and 01/04/2024 – 30/04/2024 (Cash Book 1 - 4) be received and adopted.

24/06/12.02 Resolved (F/24/05/13.01 Recommendation)

That the application from Catch 22 Positive Futures for Newmarket (Youth Boxing Project) for £800 (the sum requested) be approved.

24/06/12.03 Resolved (F/24/05/13.02 Recommendation)

That the application from The Stable, High Street, Newmarket for £1,000 (of the £2,250 sum requested) be approved.

24/06/12.04 Resolved (F/24/05/13.03 Recommendation)

That Nexus Connecting Young People CIC be invited to the next full Town Council meeting to provide further information regarding their application.

24/06/13 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Human Resources Committee Meeting held on 20th May 2024

Cllr Harvey, Vice Chairman of the Human Resources Committee presented the minutes and recommendations from the Human Resources Committee meeting held on 20th May 2024.

24/06/13.01 Resolved (H/24/05/8.01 Recommendation)

That the proposal to provide an Employee Assistance Scheme by Health Assured was not approved at this stage but is to be discussed with Town Clerk for future consideration.

24/06/13.02 Resolved (H/24/05/9.01 Recommendation)

That an Assistant Town Keeper be employed for a temporary period.

24/06/13.03 Resolved (*H/24/05/11.01 Recommendation***)**

That the committee wished to record a vote of thanks to Olimpia for temporarily taking on additional responsibilities to support office staff.

24/06/14 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Leisure Services Committee Meeting held on 3rd June 2024

Cllr Nobbs, Chairman of the Community Services Committee presented the minutes and recommendations from the Community Services Committee meeting held on 3rd June 2024. There were no recommendations.

Cllr Perry raised that, on occasion, Full Council were being asked to accept minutes that hadn't yet been agreed by the actual Committee. This will be reviewed by the Finance & Policy Committee.

24/06/15 Working Group Reports

Environmental Working Group – Cllr McHugh gave a verbal report and confirmed that a Newmarket Earth Day event will be held on 26/04/2025 and the adopted species is

the hedgehog for the current year, which will be represented. There is a lot of information on the website for hedgehogs and how to report sightings of them. An informal meeting of officers and councillors had taken place, with a more formal Working Group meeting scheduled for 01/07/24. Some outside interested parties will be invited to this.

24/06/16 Staff Appraisal System Review

A report on the review of the staff appraisal system was presented and considered. The following was agreed:

24/06/16.01 Resolved

That all of the proposals in the report be approved and implemented immediately subject to consultation with a local Employment Law Consultant.

24/06/17 Correspondence

A letter of thanks had been received from the mother of the late Cllr Kavanagh.
A letter of thanks had been received from the organisers of the Newmarket Summer Charity Walk.

24/06/18 Date of the next Meeting

Monday 22nd July 2024 in the Memorial Hall at 6:15pm.

Meeting closed at 7:25pm

Signed: _____ Cllr Winter _____

Date: _____ 22.7.24 _____

Summary of Resolutions

Resolution	Resolution Wording
<u>24/06/11.01 Resolved (C/24/05/7.01 Recommendation)</u>	That an Earmarked Reserve be created for funding for a new lift in the future.
<u>24/06/12.01 Resolved (F/24/05/8.01 Recommendation)</u>	That the ratification of the schedules of payments for the period 01/03/2024 – 31/03/2024 and 01/04/2024 – 30/04/2024 (Cash Book 1 - 4) be received and adopted.
<u>24/06/12.02 Resolved (F/24/05/13.01 Recommendation)</u>	That the application from Catch 22 Positive Futures for Newmarket (Youth Boxing Project) for £800 (the sum requested) be approved.
<u>24/06/12.03 Resolved (F/24/05/13.02 Recommendation)</u>	That the application from The Stable, High Street, Newmarket for £1,000 (of the £2,250 sum requested) be approved.
<u>24/06/12.04 Resolved (F/24/05/13.03 Recommendation)</u>	That Nexus Connecting Young People CIC be invited to the next full Town Council meeting to provide further information regarding their application.
<u>24/06/13.01 Resolved (H/24/05/8.01 Recommendation)</u>	That the proposal to provide an Employee Assistance Scheme by Health Assured was not approved at this stage but is to be discussed with Town Clerk for future consideration.
<u>24/06/13.02 Resolved (H/24/05/9.01 Recommendation)</u>	That an Assistant Town Keeper be employed for a

<u>Recommendation)</u>	temporary period.
<u>24/06/13.03 Resolved</u> <u>(***H/24/05/11.01 Recommendation***)</u>	That the committee wished to record a vote of thanks to Olimpia for temporarily taking on additional responsibilities to support office staff.
<u>24/06/16.01 Resolved</u>	That all of the proposals in the report be approved and implemented immediately subject to consultation with a local Employment Law Consultant.