

The Memorial Hall, High Street, Newmarket, CB8 8JP
Tel: 01638 667 227. E-mail townclerk@newmarket.gov.uk

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A MEETING OF THE NEWMARKET TOWN COUNCIL

to be held at

Memorial Hall, High Street, Newmarket, CB8 8JP

Monday 16th December 2024 at 7.15pm

***or following on from the Development and Planning Committee
meeting, whichever is the later time***

**Councillors are hereby summoned to attend
for the purpose of transacting the business that follows**

The meeting is held in public and the public are encouraged to attend and participate. Just occasionally matters such as contractual or staffing matters do have to be held in the confidential part of the meeting.

Members of the public and press may not orally report or comment about a meeting as it takes place if present at a meeting of the Council, but otherwise may:

- a. film, photograph or make an audio recording of the meeting;
- b. use any other means for enabling persons not present to see or hear proceedings at a meeting as it takes place or later;
- c. Report or comment on the proceedings in writing, during or after a meeting or orally after the meeting.

The Council will where possible facilitate such recording unless it is being disruptive. It will also take steps to ensure that children, the vulnerable and members of the public who object to being filmed are protected without undermining the broader purpose of the meeting

AGENDA

1. **Welcome** - The Mayor to read the fire safety notice and announce that this meeting is being recorded and to ask whether anyone else intends to record the meeting
2. **Apologies** for absence
3. **Declaration of interests**
 - a) Councillors are invited to raise any declarations of interest concerning items on the agenda
 - b) To consider any requests for dispensation
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting held 25th November 2024**
 - a) To consider and adopt the minutes, as a true record of the proceedings
 - b) To consider any matters arising
5. **Public participation** – an invitation to members of the public to make representations to Councillors.
Resolutions can only be made on items on the agenda
Rules of public participation: no person may for longer than 3 minutes in total. The maximum time permitted for this item is 15 minutes. This is the only opportunity during the meeting for members of the public to address Councillors.
6. **Police Report** – to receive and note a report (verbal or written) from the PCT (Police Community Team)
7. **Councillor Reports** - to receive and note reports (if any) from County and District Councillors, Ward Reports and outside bodies reports from Town Councillors
 - a. **MARPA** – newsletter
 - b. **Any other reports**
8. **Announcements** - To receive the Town Mayor's and Deputy Mayor's Announcements (if any)
9. **Committee Meetings**
 - a) To receive the minutes and consider and approve any recommendations from the Development & Planning meetings held on 2nd December 2024
 - b) To receive the minutes and consider and approve any recommendations from the Leisure Services meeting held on 2nd December 2024
10. **Newmarket Town Council Budget 2025/2026** – to approve the Council budget and set the precept for the financial year 2025/2026
11. **Working Group Reports for FTC** – To receive any reports from the NTC Working Groups

- a. **Local History & Tourism Working Group**
- b. **Any other Working Group reports**

12. Consultations

- a. Enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings – to form a response
- b. Police and Crime Plan Consultation

13. Correspondence

14. Date of the next Meeting – 27th January 2025

Signed:  Cathy Whitaker, Town Clerk

Date: 10th December 2024



Minutes of the Meeting of Newmarket Town Council

held on Monday 25th November 2024 at 6:15 pm at the Memorial Hall

Attendance:

Councillor P Winter (Town Mayor)
Councillor J Berry
Councillor J Borda
Councillor J Clover
Councillor L Crissall
Councillor A Drummond
Councillor J Harvey

Councillor R Hood
Councillor P Hulbert
Councillor J McHugh
Councillor R Nobbs
Councillor S Perry
Councillor A Starkey
Councillor K Yarrow

Also Present: C Whitaker – Town Clerk, N – Alecock, - Deputy Town Clerk, C O'Reilly - Events Manager, J Ashton – Minute Assistant, 1 Member of the Press and 1 Member of the Public.

Minute

24/11/1 Welcome

The Chair read out the Fire safety notice and announced that the meeting was being recorded by the Minute Assistant asked if anyone intended to record the meeting.

24/11/2 Apologies for Absence – LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)

Apologies were received from Cllrs Anderson, Jarvis, Jones and Unwin. Town Clerk introduced two new members of staff to Council – Deputy Town Clerk and Events Manager.

24/11/3 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.

24/11/4 To Receive and Confirm the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 28th October 2024 and any Matters Arising.

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th October 2024 were presented and the following was agreed:

24/11/4.01 Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 28th October 2024 be adopted and signed as a correct record by the Town Mayor.

There were no matters arising.

24/11/5 Public Open Session

A member of the public complimented the Christmas decorations of the town and asked what was happening with the residents parking scheme and the Chair proposed that item 10 be brought forward. The following was agreed:

24/11/5.01 Resolved

That item 10 Working Group Reports be brought forward.

24/11/6 Working Group Reports

The Transport and Parking Working Group meet on Thursday 28/11/2024 with

representatives of WSC who have presented a draft report on new proposals for the scheme. When the proposals are agreed they will go out for consultation.

24/11/7 Police Report

A written report was presented and noted.

24/11/8 Councillor Reports

Suffolk County Council (SCC) – Cllr Drummond reported that there was an update on the owner of the Grosvenor Flats and the falsification of building regulation safety certificates in the newsletter. On Friday 29/11/2024 he will be attending a meeting with National Highways, Moulton and Kenton Parish Councillors at the “Gypsy Boy’s” grave junction to see what safety improvements can be implemented following a number of recent accidents.

Cllr Hood reported that the Wildwood area trees will be maintained after an unacceptable delay, but that she will arrange for the work to be carried out when the Christmas Lights are taken down. A traffic survey on Fitzroy Street will be carried out between 28/11/2024 and 17/12/2024 and a report will be produced in the New Year by Highways. This has been funded by her Highway Budget.

West Suffolk Council (WSC) – Cllr Perry reported that the BSIP (Bus Service Improvement Programme) response had been submitted; this time with a more robust entry. The submission is for a circular minibusservice for the town, a direct Newmarket to Bury St Edmunds service and a Sunday bus service. Thanks were given to Cllr Starkey for assisting with Racing Industry input to the submission.

Cllr Yarrow reported that he had attended a Rural Housing event at Lavenham and information on new developments will be emailed to Members.

Flagship representation will be at the February 2025 Full Council meeting; although this will be specifically focussed on the regeneration plans and not regarding the legal disposal of existing housing assets recently discussed.

The damaged cherry trees and associated tree protectors were planted by WSC in February 2021 and they will inspect them and report back. There is a need for better communication from WSC relating to all its planting locations.

The path behind the Academy is owned by SCC School’s Infrastructure Team and enquires will be made regarding installing a ramp once final confirmation of ownership is confirmed.

The Newmarket District Councillors had received an update with WSC’s Alex Wilson regarding Newmarket-related matters.

Outside Bodies – Cllr Borda reported that he had attended meetings with the Police Crime Commissioner (PCC), Well-Being Wednesday, Churches Together and the Newmarket Interfaith Open Day.

24/11/9 Mayors Announcements

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

Saturday 2nd November – Attended the Newmarket Sausage Festival and did the judging

for the best-dressed Sausage Dog.

Saturday 9th November – Laid a wreath for NTC in the Rose Garden at Bury St Edmunds.

Sunday 10th November – Attended the Act of Remembrance Parade and Remembrance Service at Tattersalls.

Monday 11th November – Attended the Act of Remembrance for Armistice Day at Newmarket War Memorial.

Tuesday 12th November – Planted crocuses on the Severals with children from Fairstead House School for the Rotary Club.

Tuesday 19th November – Attended the Substance Misuse Support Network at Peter O’Sullivan House

24/11/10 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Development & Planning Committee Meetings held on 4th & 18th November 2024

The minutes and recommendations from the Development & Planning Committee meetings held on 4th & 18th November 2024 were presented. There were no recommendations.

24/11/11 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 4th November 2024

The minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on 4th October 2024 were presented.

24/11/11.01 Resolved (C/24/11/7.01 Recommendation)

That the draft budget for the Community Services Committee for 2025/2026 be approved at £326,565.

24/11/11.02 Resolved (C/24/11/8.01 Recommendation)

That an application be submitted to install banner infrastructure on 8 lighting columns. That the banner infrastructure be used to publicise Town Council events and activities and those of our collaborating stakeholders where appropriate and with a contributing cost.

24/11/11.03 Resolved (C/24/11/9.01 Recommendation)

That NTC is only responsible for the benches on its own land and also on Highway land from Birdcage Walk to the Clock Tower/War Memorial and will maintain its assets accordingly. NTC is not responsible for any benches or street furniture outside these areas.

24/11/11.04 Resolved (C/24/11/9.02 Recommendation)

That the 16 bins and 29 planters on the High Street be replaced with Derby Wheelie Bin housing units and Bournville planters for £72,000 (£57,000 from current year budget and ear-marked reserve and £15,000 of confirmed funding from UKSPF via WSC). That NTC works with WSC regarding logistics of removal and installation.

24/11/12 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Finance & Policy Committee Meeting held on 18th November 2024

The minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee meeting held on 18th November 2024 were presented.

24/11/12.01 Resolved (F/24/11/6.01 Recommendation)

That the grant application from Abbeycroft Leisure be approved for £1,300. be approved.

24/11/12.02 Resolved (F/24/11/7.01 Recommendation)

That the ratification of the schedules of payments for the period 01/09/2024 – 30/09/2024 and 01/10/2024 – 31/10/2024 (Cash Book 1 - 5) be received and adopted.

24/11/12.03 Resolved (F/24/11/10.01 Recommendation)

That a Working Group be set with a remit of updating the website comprising of Town Clerk, Cllrs Harvey, McHugh and Perry.

24/11/12.04 Resolved (F/24/11/10.02 Recommendation)

That the draft budget for the Finance & Policy Committee for 2025/2026 be approved at £145,400.

24/11/12.05 Resolved (F/24/11/11.01 Recommendation)

That the grant application from Newmarket Community Arts for the sponsorship of the February 2025 Festival of Light for £1,000 be approved.

24/11/13 Working Group Reports

The Museum Working Group will be renamed to the Local History and Tourism Working Group. A meeting had been held last week resulting in a number of actions and is a work in progress – a report and proposals to be presented to Council at the December or January Full Council meetings.

24/11/14 Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan

A proposal was made for the Deputy Town Clerk to be the NTC Officer involved in the Neighbourhood Plan to:

- Input into the Planning Committee agenda regarding NNP policies relevant to planning applications, and report writing (if required) for specific planning applications
- Overall knowledge of the current NNP and the emerging NNP, to inform Councillor discussions at Full Council and Committee level
- Attending NNP Working Group meetings (every 2 months in office hours), preparing minutes, finalising and publishing agendas
- Liaising between the NNP Working Group and the Town Council
- Consulting with the NNP Writing Team, as necessary

The following was agreed:

24/11/14.01 Resolved

That the Deputy Town Clerk be appointed as the NTC Officer for the Neighbourhood Plan.

24/11/15 Newmarket Local History Society

A request from the Local History Society to have complimentary use of the Memorial Hall for a Community Event on 21st January 2025 to mark the 200th Anniversary of the birth of modern railway and to support the promotion of the event on NTC social media channels. The request was considered, and the following was agreed:

24/11/15.01 Resolved

That the request from the Local History Society to have complimentary use of the

Memorial Hall for a Community Event on 21st January 2025 to mark the 200th Anniversary of the birth of modern railway and to support the promotion of the event on NTC social media channels be approved.

Free refreshments will be provided for the event.

24/11/16 Correspondence

Post Office at Brickfields Avenue – there will be a new drop and collect service at Londis from 29th November 2024. Cllr Jones had reported that Londis is not wheelchair accessible and Londis HQ and the Post Office will be asked to supply a ramp. Town Clerk will write to Londis regarding the issue.

WSC Summary of changes to the WSC Street Trading Policy – were noted.

24/11/17 Date of the next Meeting

Monday 16th December 2024 in the Memorial Hall at 6:15pm.

Meeting closed at 6:40pm

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Summary of Resolutions

Resolution	Resolution Wording
<u>24/11/11.01 Resolved</u> <i>(C/24/11/7.01 Recommendation)</i>	That the draft budget for the Community Services Committee for 2025/2026 be approved at £326,565.
<u>24/11/11.02 Resolved</u> <i>(C/24/11/8.01 Recommendation)</i>	That an application be submitted to install banner infrastructure on 8 lighting columns. That the banner infrastructure be used to publicise Town Council events and activities and those of our collaborating stakeholders where appropriate and with a contributing cost.
<u>24/11/11.03 Resolved</u> <i>(C/24/11/9.01 Recommendation)</i>	That NTC is only responsible for the benches on its own land and also on Highway land from Birdcage Walk to the Clock Tower/War Memorial and will maintain its assets accordingly. NTC is not responsible for any benches or street furniture outside these areas.
<u>24/11/11.04 Resolved</u> <i>(C/24/11/9.02 Recommendation)</i>	That the 16 bins and 29 planters on the High Street be replaced with Derby Wheelie Bin housing units and Bournville planters for £72,000 (£57,000 from current year budget and ear-marked reserve and £15,000 of confirmed funding from UKSPF via WSC). That NTC works with WSC regarding logistics of removal and installation.
<u>24/11/12.01 Resolved</u> <i>(F/24/11/6.01 Recommendation)</i>	That the grant application from Abbeycroft Leisure be approved for £1,300. be approved.
<u>24/11/12.02 Resolved</u> <i>(F/24/11/7.01 Recommendation)</i>	That the ratification of the schedules of payments for the period 01/09/2024 – 30/09/2024 and 01/10/2024 – 31/10/2024 (Cash Book 1 - 5) be received and adopted.
<u>24/11/12.03 Resolved</u> <i>(F/24/11/10.01 Recommendation)</i>	That a Working Group be set with a remit of updating the website comprising of Town Clerk, Cllrs Harvey, McHugh and Perry.

<u>24/11/12.04 Resolved</u> <i><u>(F/24/11/10.02 Recommendation)</u></i>	That the draft budget for the Finance & Policy Committee for 2025/2026 be approved at £145,400.
<u>24/11/12.05 Resolved</u> <i><u>(F/24/11/11.01 Recommendation)</u></i>	That the grant application from Newmarket Community Arts for the sponsorship of the February 2025 Festival of Light for £1,000 be approved.
<u>24/11/14.01 Resolved</u>	That the Deputy Town Clerk be appointed as the NTC Officer for the Neighbourhood Plan.
<u>24/11/15.01 Resolved</u>	That the request from the Local History Society to have complimentary use of the Memorial Hall for a Community Event on 21 st January 2025 to mark the 200 th Anniversary of the birth of modern railway and to support the promotion of the event on NTC social media channels be approved.



RE: Police report

From Button, Christopher <Christopher.Button@suffolk.police.uk>

Date Sat 2024-11-16 10:33

To Townclerk <Townclerk@newmarket.gov.uk>

Good morning Cathy

Apologies for any confusion it was my understanding the Town Council did not want a report as previously completed and simply wanted a graph instead, can you advise what you need?

The data is comprised by me extracting information from a system we use called MyBeat which draws its own information from a range of sources such as our crime recording systems / calls for service (CADS) and information such as stop search/engagements/traffic enforcement – I then manually populate that data via excel and provide the figures you have previously requested.

A summary of what the categories mean:

ASB – means anti-social behaviour which has been risk assessed as either Standard / Medium or High

Arson and Criminal damage – Damage to property or criminal damage by means of fire

Burglary – This data capture is for residential and non-residential dwellings and structures

Drug offences – This covers all drug related offences - amounts to any drug offences A B and/or C drugs from possession, concerned in the supply, possession with intent to supply, conspiracy to supply etc.

I'll pause at this point as I don't wish to outline what the offence of the Robbery etc are?

A non-crime is anything that is not a stand alone criminal offence recorded investigation, child or adult safeguarding referrals, domestic non-crime - namely Police attendance at a domestic where safeguarding measures are taken but no criminal offences exist, there is an exhaustive list of non-crimes – perhaps it would be simpler to remove this figure from the data.

What is the confusion over Robbery and burglary? They are different criminal offences, recorded differently?

Yes I can compare the data across each month if that will aid.

Yes I can update upcoming events/activities this will also be found on the Suffolk Police Pages – There will be activities such as enforcement action or planned activity that is not publicised for obvious reasons.

Shop lifting or Theft from Shop is encompassed within the Theft data along with Theft from Person, Make off without payment etc

Many thanks

Sgt 1494 Christopher BUTTON

Sergeant – Newmarket CPT

Newmarket Police Station

Willie Snaith Road

Suffolk Constabulary

Ext: 4405

Website: www.suffolk.police.uk

Social media:



From: Townclerk <Townclerk@newmarket.gov.uk>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 3:13 PM
To: Button, Christopher <Christopher.Button@suffolk.police.uk>
Subject: Police report

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation.

Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Chris, council was very appreciative of the format of the report you provided at last council meeting.

However, some comments and requests were made which I have detailed below - would you be able to accommodate these?

- could we get some explanation of what the categories actually mean? What is non-crime? Some confusion over Robbery/Burglary categories.
- could there be a cumulative comparison month-on-month?
- could we get details of other projects and activities that are happening in our area?
- Where do shop-lifting statistics apply within these categories?

Regards,

Cathy Whitaker

Clerk to Newmarket Town Council

I am working flexibly so may send emails outside of normal office hours.

There is no expectation that you will respond outside of your normal working hours.



MARPA

Mid Anglia Rail Passengers' Association



NEWSLETTER November 2024

Published by MARPA
Edited by Peter Rutt
peterrutt06@aol.com

www.marpa.org.uk

WELCOME

Welcome to this autumn edition of the MARPA newsletter. The great news that our line will now be covered by a Community Rail Partnership is the main item, a culmination of many years of asking and campaigning. There are several items in this newsletter giving further information so please read on and enjoy.

THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAIR



So, the really good news this period was the announcement of the Community Rail Partnership (CRP) along our Mid Anglia line. MARPA has been campaigning for this CRP

for more years now than I can remember and so it was especially pleasing, and with a sigh of relief, that we received the news on 17th October. MARPA never gave up and at every opportunity pushed and cajoled the relevant bodies to set one up. We are delighted, and now see the opportunities to work with Suffolk County Council, other Local Authorities and Greater Anglia to build

on the progress that we have seen more recently.

On 11th October, MARPA was represented at the plaque unveiling at Ely Station for our former Chair John Drake who sadly died in December 2023. It was a simple ceremony with many of John's family present and also Alan Neville from Greater Anglia (GA). We are grateful to Alan for his assistance in this matter. There is an image of the splendid plaque later in this edition.

We have also been busy on other matters, one being our contact with Network Rail about the risks of crossing the line at Thurston Station - especially when leaving a westbound train (Bury direction) and exiting the station. You can read about this later. We have also met to discuss and formulate a response to the Suffolk Local Transport Plan (LTP) which seeks views from all interested parties. MARPA was also represented recently at the Greater Anglia Community Rail Conference at Ipswich.

Another important news item is the announcement from East West Rail that the non-statutory public consultation on the plans for the new line between Bedford and

Cambridge has now been launched. Do please look at the item below and consider responding individually to the consultation. MARPA will make a response, along with Railfuture, but individual responses are strongly encouraged.

I would personally like to thank the MARPA members who have or are giving up their time to represent our organisation at these various meetings.

More about all of these to follow.....

Finally I would like to wish all of our members the season's greetings. Best wishes.

Ross

More on the new CRP

Just to add some further information to the good news about the Community Rail Partnership mentioned at the start of this Newsletter by our chair.

Joining the five existing CRPs in Cambridgeshire, Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk overseen by Greater Anglia, the 55 mile Mid Anglia route connects Cambridge and Ipswich via Newmarket, Bury St Edmunds and Stowmarket. Soham on the Ipswich - Ely - Peterborough route is also likely to be included within the partnership.

The funding partners GA has now got on board to support the initiative reflect that geography - from the Cambridge & Peterborough Combined Authority, Cambridgeshire County Council and Cambridge City Council in the west to four local authorities in Suffolk, West Suffolk, Mid Suffolk, Ipswich Borough and Suffolk County Council. This is probably the largest collection of contributing bodies in any of the East Anglian CRPs, and reflects the enthusiasm of authorities along the route to support modal shift from road to rail and help engage communities along the line in

“their” railway. The press release from GA indicated that SCC had agreed to host the CRP officer once appointed from its base in Ipswich, an arrangement that is already working effectively with the East Suffolk CRP.

MARPA as the rail user group looks forward to working very constructively with the CRP. We see the aims of the two bodies as complementary; MARPA seeks to challenge the train operator to maintain and improve the quality of services for travellers, whilst the CRP will focus on building up local demand for rail travel through its many activities in communities right along the line. Hopefully then a virtuous circle, and exciting times ahead!

We will try to keep members informed about early developments as the new CRP starts to take shape.

Meeting with GA Train Timetable Planners - Connections for Norwich at Stowmarket

Marpa had a recent face to face meeting in Cambridge with train planners from GA about several issues that concern us. This was a rare occurrence as they generally do not go out ‘on the road’ to meet rail user groups etc. We also suggested some enhancements to the timetable that we feel would benefit both GA and their customers along our route. They agreed to consider all of the suggestions that we put to them. One matter which was agreed that had gone ‘wrong’ was some of the morning connections from Bury, Thurston & Elmswell for Norwich at Stowmarket. Generally, there is a five minute connection at Stowmarket but, in an effort to speed up the trains to Norwich from Liverpool Street, some Norwich trains were timed earlier, and so the connection was lost. Trains leaving Bury at 08.26 and 09.26 now have no connection at Stowmarket. The train planners admitted

that this was not their intention and they agreed to go back and look again at this.

UNUSUAL TRAINS OVER THE MID-ANGLIA ROUTE

In September, MARPA secretary Peter Feeney was waiting for a train at Elmswell when he took this picture of a railhead treatment train. This train is colloquially called 'the leafbuster' as it uses high pressure water jets to remove crushed leaf debris from the railhead to allow trains to brake and accelerate without slipping and sliding. This is vital work to ensure safety. The railway enthusiasts amongst you will note the unusual occurrence of a Class 69 locomotive on our route.



GBRf painted a class 66 in gold to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of Drax Power Station in North Yorkshire. The editor was quite surprised to find it made a couple of trips to Stowmarket in early October.

A LOOK AT THE BIGGER PICTURE – HEADLINES FROM RAIL EAST

RAIL EAST is a quarterly newsletter produced by Railfuture East Anglia which aims to promote thinking and debate about how we best work towards achieving “a bigger and better railway” for the east. Issue 203, published in September, looked at how the recent change of government might impact on rail both nationally and closer to home. Several articles considered ongoing Access for All issues at a number of stations in the region - a moot point for MARPA, with outstanding access concerns to be resolved at both Needham Market and Stowmarket. Linked to East West Rail, an article considered the scope for developing Tempsford in north Bedfordshire - where the proposed new railway will intersect with the East Coast Mainline - as a major new town. The issue also looked at plans developed by Essex CC to work with major employers in encouraging staff to use environmentally friendly ways of commuting to work. And there was a report on celebrations during the summer to mark the 175th anniversary of the Gainsborough line from Marks Tey to Sudbury. To read more, go to <https://www.railfuture.org.uk/tiki-like/east/rail-east/RailEast-Issue-203-September-2024.pdf>

HAVE YOUR SAY – MARPA DIALOGUE WITH GREATER ANGLIA

Members of the MARPA committee meet regularly with Alan Neville (AN), Greater Anglia's Partnerships Manager. Here are some points from our last meeting with him on 10th September.

Schedule for timetable changes: likely to be further delayed into 2026 by slow

production of the East Coast Mainline timetable revision. It was made clear that even minor additions and improvements on our line could not be considered prior to that being finalised. Delays in completing the Network Rail re-signalling project in the Cambridge area (C3R) also contributed. Note: outside the September meeting, MARPA participated in a helpful meeting at Cambridge with a timetabler from GA. A number of ideas re timetable enhancements were explored. None was judged unrealistic or impossible. The overriding concern from the GA side remains ensuring the reliability of the system and the maintenance of high performance levels. Our lobbying for improvements will continue!

Service punctuality: AN produced data to show what regular users of the service already know - that the Mid Anglia route had poorer performance than other parts of the regional railway, much of it caused by late running trains in the freight programme to and from Felixstowe. It was difficult to see what could be done in the short term to improve matters, other than for MARPA to continue lobbying GA to press NR over maintaining the reliability of the freight timetable.

Bury platform 1 waiting facilities: still on a GA to do list; the meeting heard of other potential developments involving use of the room space behind the platform which might assist in the campaign to improve facilities.

Waiting shelters at Elmswell & Thurston: Our view is that both are shabby and uncomfortable. AN agreed to discuss potential for enhancements and report back.

Bike storage on trains & platform

Customer Information Screens (CIS): the concern was over mismatch between train formations and the information available via customer information screens to passengers waiting on platforms. The practical consequence was that passengers with cycles could easily find themselves at the wrong end of the platform when boarding, the platform CIS showing incorrect details of where the cycle storage was located on the train. The problem was acknowledged, and early reports suggest that the situation subsequently appeared improved.

Book Review

'From British Rail to Freightliner – a Train Driver's story and other anecdotes, 1984-2022' by Tim Mallion

I cannot remember when the MARPA Newsletter last had a book review, and members might wonder why a group representing passenger interests between Ipswich and Cambridge would review a book that appears to be about freight. This book though is about the railway industry in the east of England, with many anecdotes relating to our route of interest. Long time Bury St Edmunds resident Tim Mallion's easy going style of writing makes the book a pleasure to read and is an absorbing look at one side of the railways that we probably do not know too much about. We in MARPA campaign on routes, facilities, services, access and general issues of interest to the passenger. We often do not think about the person up front, in the driver's cab, responsible for safely getting us where we want to be. This look at the mind of a driver and the challenges they face day to day is written in a way that brings us into the cab, dealing with accidents, incidents and the daily challenge of dealing with controllers, signallers and management.

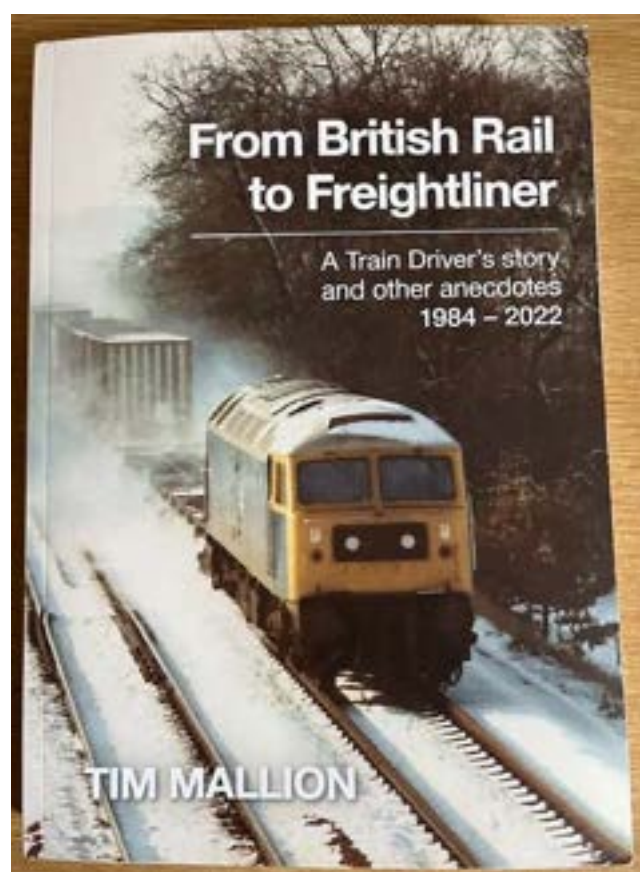
Driver Mallion was employed by British Rail in 1984 and for the first ten years he drove passenger, mail and freight trains from Ipswich. After 1995 when privatisation meant choosing a company that employs you, he opted for Freightliner and the early years of privatisation makes for fascinating reading. With my enthusiast's hat on I found the 'reviews' of the different types of locomotives fascinating.

With my MARPA hat on, there are anecdotes from Elmswell, Thurston and up the line towards Peterborough. In the light of another article in this newsletter about concerns over the safety of the Thurston barrow crossing, Tim recounts an incident from November 2020 about a near miss on this crossing where an intermodal train struck the rear wheel of a bike being wheeled across the crossing. Clearly near misses are not rare here, and MARPA

needs to ensure that this is flagged up to the industry.

I would recommend this book to anyone with an interest in railways, I also think it would make a good Christmas present for a railway enthusiast. The book is softback and 256 pages long.

'From British Rail to Freightliner – a Train Driver's story and other anecdotes, 1984-2022' by Tim Mallion is published by Softwood Books. Copies can be obtained from Tim Mallion direct. They are priced at £20 which includes postage and packing. Contact Tim at email railbooktim@gmail.com or write to him at 1 Temple Close, Icklingham, BURY ST EDMUNDS, Suffolk IP28 6QD



NEAR MISS AT THURSTON STATION

Lloyd Butler, our membership secretary, recounts his wife's experience on Wednesday September 25th:

'When I think of it my heart stops and I feel an overwhelming panic!

I was on my way home from Ipswich station

to Thurston, as I do nearly every Wednesday.

But the journey had been different this time as the trains had been delayed because of power lines not working.

I probably only waited half an hour longer for my train but the platform was changed a couple of times, which meant going back to the other side of the platform.

I arrived at Thurston as usual and got off the train with about half a dozen other people.

I automatically went to cross the line following the other passengers who had alighted from the same train.

I was vaguely aware of hearing the siren, but it wasn't as clear as usual because the train I had just got off was making quite a lot of noise.

But I was already crossing when I looked passed the train I had got off and saw a train approaching towards me.

It slowly registered that I was crossing a line when a train was approaching,

There were several others, some coming home from school, in front of us and the woman following me was pulling her luggage behind her.

We both entered the car park and looked at one another!

Only then did it register that we had just crossed the path of a train coming towards us.

How could I have made such a decision - crossing the line when the siren was operating, telling us about a train approaching?

I still have recall of that incident which I am sure must have affected the other passengers crossing the line.

How could I and the other passengers ignore the noise of the warning signal?

It seems unbelievable but we did!!'



Thurston crossing view towards Ipswich



Thurston crossing view towards the car park

Pictured left are the views for passengers as they left the train and then as they turn to cross the track with only a small red light (above the green) to indicate passengers should not cross.

The tragic case at Elsenham in 2005 showed that passengers often believe the warnings refer to the train they can see, rather than another one approaching. Following the Appraisal Summary for elimination of the barrow crossing, it is understood that Network Rail have placed a small Community Infrastructure Levy bid (of around £6,000 possibly) to continue with their appraisal. Thurston Parish Council support the first option of re-opening the historic subway with lifts and stairs on both sides of the line.

We have had a discussion with Network Rail about possible ways to reduce the risks at the crossing and we are waiting to hear back from them.

MARPA responds to the Suffolk Local Transport Plan

Suffolk County Council is consulting on its draft Local Transport Plan (LTP) until the end of November. The Plan is a statutory document, intended to shape policy on transport up to 2040. Informed by responses from individuals and organisations, the aim is for SCC elected members to approve a final version early in 2025.

The committee discussed the draft at several meetings early in November. Our formal response to SCC will shortly be made available on the MARPA website. The key message - our chief concern with the draft document is that it is strong on ambition (to achieve zero carbon in transport by 2040) but very weak on practical strategies that are likely to help fulfil that ambition.

A simple example: alongside the county-wide strategy document sit a number of "area" plans centred on population centres that aim to identify key transport challenges in each locality and set out specific measures to address them. The Thurston plan - grouping the village with Elmswell and

Woolpit as a significant area of population growth - states that 8% of people locally use "active travel" or public transport to get to work, against a target of 35%. Other than "encouraging" people to walk, cycle or use the train, the plan says nothing plausible about how that huge growth - over 400% - will be achieved.

Our view overall is that the draft plan misses opportunities to support rail as a crucial contributor to a zero carbon local transport policy. We urge SCC to be clearer about its demands on the train operator if services are to attract people to make the shift from road to rail in significant numbers. That is not simply about improving rail services - it involves SCC working with the train operator to make station facilities better, ticketing more transparent and, vitally, integration of bus and rail more coherent.

Let's hope at least some of our recommendations to enhance what the LTP says about rail find their way into the approved policy in 2025.

The Local Transport Plan and the associated area plans can be found at <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/transport-planning/suffolks-local-transport-plan>

East West Rail - a major milestone arrives

You wait months for a consultation - then two come along...

You will have picked up from your usual news sources that, at last, the delayed consultation on the final stages of East West Rail has now been published. The lengthy documentation is available at <https://eastwestrail.co.uk/consultation2024>.

MARPA will of course be responding - but we are urging individual members to make their voices heard too. Our colleagues and allies at Railfuture are preparing some guidance to help anyone interested in making a submission. Once that guidance is ready we will contact you. The deadline for responding is 24th January 2025.

The EWR project will have a transformative impact on the region generally, but quite directly on our Mid Anglia route and the communities it serves, with an hourly service scheduled from Ipswich via Cambridge onwards to Bedford, Milton Keynes and Oxford. That prospect may still be some years away, but MARPA believes it will not only facilitate longer distance journeys - with the completion of the project we can also expect faster journey times on the current Mid Anglia route. So we are urging all members to contribute to the consultation and so demonstrate support for the project.

John Drake's plaque at Ely



Further to our chairman's comment about John's plaque at Ely, this is the plaque in-situ. Should members wish to donate towards the cost, please use the same bank details as for your membership or send a cheque to our treasurer at Well House, The Street, Elmswell IP30 9BS. Should you make a donation on line please state 'plaque' and your name so we know what the money is for.

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Item 8 Mayors Announcements

13/12/24 – Rotary Club Carol Service at Tattersalls

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Minutes of a Meeting of the Development & Planning Committee
Held on Monday 2nd December 2024 at 6.15pm

Attendance:

Councillor R Hood (Chair)
 Councillor J Berry (from 6.17pm)
 Councillor A Drummond

Councillor P Hulbert
 Councillor R Nobbs
 Councillor S Perry (from 6.16pm)

Also Present: C Whitaker – Town Clerk, N – Alecock - Deputy Town Clerk, J Ashton – Minute Assistant, Cllr Winter as an observer and 1 Member of the Press (from 6.16pm).

	Minute	Action by
D/24/12/1	<u>Chair to Read the Fire Safety Notice and Announce that Proceedings May be Filmed or Recorded</u> The Chair welcomed everyone, opened the meeting, and announced that the Fire Safety Notice was not required.	
D/24/12/2	<u>Apologies</u> Apologies were received from Cllrs, Harvey, Jarvis and McHugh. Cllr Jones was absent.	
D/24/12/3	<u>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</u> None noted. There were no requests for dispensation.	
D/24/12/4	<u>To Confirm the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 18th November 2024 and any Matters Arising</u> The Chair presented the minutes of the Development & Planning Committee held on 18 th November 2024 and the following was agreed: <u>D/24/12/4.01 Resolved</u> That the minutes of the Development & Planning Committee held on 18th November 2024 be adopted and were signed as a true record by the Chair of the Development & Planning Committee. There were no matters arising.	
D/24/12/5	<u>Public Open Session</u> No members of the public were present.	
D/24/12/6	<u>Impact of Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan Policies on Applications Being Considered</u> Policy 14 – Trees and Policy 1 – Conservation Area Policy.	

D/24/12/7 Planning Applications

Week Commencing 11/11/2024 & 18/11/2024.

D/24/12/7/1 DCON(H)/13/0408/OUT - Application to discharge conditions 17 (construction method statement) and condition 22 (construction waste) OF DC/13/0408/out Hatchfield Farm, Fordham Road, Newmarket, Suffolk.

The application was noted.

D/24/12/7/2 DC/24/1524/FUL - Planning application- internal alterations to existing three flats to create an additional flat 5A, 5B, 5C, and - Flat 1 Wellington Street, Newmarket, Suffolk.

D/24/12/7.02 Resolved

The Committee voiced no objection subject to the approval of the WSC Listed Buildings Officer and fully supported the recommendations of the Fire Officer.

D/24/12/7/3 DC/24/1525/LB - Application for listed building consent- internal alterations to existing three flats to create an additional flat 5A, 5B, 5C and - Flat 1 Wellington Street, Newmarket, Suffolk.

D/24/12/7.03 Resolved

The Committee voiced no objections subject to the approval of the WSC Listed Buildings Officer and fully supported the recommendations of the Fire Officer.

D/24/12/7/4 DC/24/1467/HH - Householder planning application- a. entrance canopy b. single storey side and rear extension (following demolition of existing utility) c. render to all elevations - 28 Rowley Drive, Newmarket, Suffolk.

D/24/12/7.04 Resolved

The Committee voiced no objection subject to no objections from neighbours and would be extra supportive if the rendering were to add insulation to the property.

Cllr Nobbs declared an 'other interest' in the following application and left the meeting.

D/24/12/8 Amended and Deferred Plans

D/24/12/8/1 DC/24/1518/FUL – 8 Park Lane – owing to the fact that the existing property will be demolished, a site visit was not deemed necessary as the site could be fully viewed from the street, and the plans were revisited. The following was agreed:

Cllr Winter joined the meeting as an observer.

D/24/12/8.01 Resolved

That delegated powers be given to the Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk and Chair of this Committee to draft the wording of this objection and circulate to members for comment and approval before submission.

Cllr Nobbs returned to the meeting.

D/24/12/9 Planning Appeals

D/24/12/9/1 AP/24/0019/STAND Garage at Nowell Lodge, Fordham Road – appeal in progress.

D/24/12/10 East Cambs Planning Applications

The East Cambs Weekly Lists were noted.

D/24/12/11 To Receive Results of Applications as Determined by West Suffolk and Plans Withdrawn

West Suffolk Planning Determinations received during week commencing 11/11/2024 & 18/11/2024.

Applications	Description	Address	WS Decision	NTC Decision
DCON(A)/23/1989	Application to discharge condition 3 (main building later approval of details) of application DC/23/1989	LB 43 High Street, Newmarket, Suffolk	Approved	No objection
DC/24/0983/HH	Householder planning application- two storey extension	18A Lisburn Road, Newmarket, Suffolk	Refused	Objected
DC/24/1458/FUL	Planning application- a. external alterations to building including external doors and windows b. amended location of proposed parking space	The Old Courts, 147 All Saints Road, Newmarket, Suffolk	Approved	Objected
DC/24/1431/FUL	Planning application- conversion of existing hayloft for staff accommodation	Somerville Lodge, Fordham Road, Newmarket, Suffolk	Approved	No objection
DCON(A)/21/1580	Application to discharge condition 8 (construction management strategy), 9 (remediation strategy), and 11 (surface water disposal) of DC/21/1580/FUL	Unit 4 Albion Court, 9 Studlands Park Avenue, Newmarket, Suffolk	Approved	No objection
DC/24/1388/HH	Householder planning application- conversion of garage to habitable space and first floor side extension	11 Drinkwater Close, Newmarket, Suffolk	Approved	No objection
DC/24/0965/TPO	TPO 04 (2012) tree preservation order- one Conifer (T1 on plan T25 on TPO order)- Cut back branches to south to bring in line with existing hedge	5 Mill Reef, Newmarket, Suffolk	Approved	No objection

DC/24/0983/HH WSC refusal was noted. As the extension has already been built, Cllr Hood to contact Planning Officer to request an update on the way forward with this application and will revert to the next Planning Committee meeting.

D/24/12/12 Delegation Panel Decisions

The following applications were granted by the WSC Delegation Panel.

DC/23/1182/FUL – Planning application - a. Installation of compressor units to rear external wall - 128 High Street Newmarket.

DC/24/1458/UL - Planning application - a. external alterations to building including external doors and windows b. amended location of proposed parking space - The Old Courts, 147 All Saints Road, Newmarket, Suffolk.

The Committee were disappointed that the views of NTC were ignored by the Delegation Panel.

D/24/12/13 Licensing

Club Premises Certificate – NSDA Sports Club – Sports Pavilion Elizabeth Avenue Newmarket.

D/24/12/13.01 Resolved

That the application be deferred to the meeting of 16th December to make further enquiries.

D/24/12/14 Enforcement

No further information received. Any new issues will be added accordingly. The list of ongoing and outstanding issues included the following and the Clerk, Deputy Clerk will liaise with Committee members to form a plan for tracking, reporting and updating enforcement matters.

Planning

Mill Hill - Air B&B

Bury Road - Windows in Conservation Area

Former McColls - Listed Building

Highways (traffic/parking, speeding)

Exning Road - Bollards on grass verges - Awaiting permission from SCC.

High Street/Conservation Area

128 High Street - Licencing and planning non-compliance

Market Square - Shopfront breach

New Vape Shop High St - Shopfront breach.

Pavement Licences

Shops with illuminated signs without permission

Barbers

A member of the WSC enforcement team will be invited to a site visit around the Town and to report back to a D&P meeting.

Additions

11 St Mary's Square - no planning permission

Moons property - signage

18A Lisburn Road

128 High Street

Enforcement of the Shopfront policy – to be added to the next agenda

Flashing lights on signs

Silks development

Pavement Parking

Rutland Chambers – air con unit

St Mary's Square (3 properties)

St Mary's Square - bins

The Events Manager and Cllr Borda joined the meeting as observers.

D/24/12/15 Fitzroy Street

An update was given and a speed survey will be carried out from 18/11/24 to 17/12/2024 and a report will be presented in the New Year, funded by Cllr Hood's SCC Highway budget.

D/24/12/16 Five Bells

Town Clerk reported that a response is awaited from WSC.

D/24/12/17 St Mary's Square

Town Clerk reported that the bins that were not being taken in are being investigated by WSC and further enquiries will be made regarding the available storage for the bins.

D/24/12/18 Correspondence

None noted.

D/24/12/19 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 16th December 2024 at the Memorial Hall.

Meeting closed at 7:18pm.

Signed _____ Date _____

Summary of Resolutions/Recommendations

Resolution/Recommendation	Resolution/Recommendation Wording
<u>D/24/12/7.02 Resolved</u>	The Committee voiced no objection subject to the approval of the WSC Listed Buildings Officer and fully supported the recommendations of the Fire Officer.
<u>D/24/12/7.03 Resolved</u>	The Committee voiced no objection subject to the approval of the WSC Listed Buildings Officer
<u>D/24/12/7.04 Resolved</u>	The Committee voiced no objection, and would extra supportive if the rendering were to add insultation to the property.
<u>D/24/11/8.01 Resolved</u>	That delegated powers be given to the Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk and Chair of this Committee to draft the wording of this objection and be circulated to members for comment and approval before submission.
<u>D/24/12/13.01 Resolved</u>	That the application be deferred to make further enquiries.

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Minutes of a Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee
Held on Monday 2nd December 2024 at 7:20pm

Attendance:

Councillor R Nobbs (Chair)
Councillor J Borda

Councillor P Hulbert
Councillor S Perry
Councillor P Winter

Also Present: C Whitaker – Town Clerk, C O'Reilly – Events Manager, J Ashton – Minute Assistant, N Alecock – Deputy Town Clerk as an observer and 1 Member of the Press.

L/24/12/1 Chair to Read the Fire Safety Notice and Announce that Proceedings May be Filmed or Recorded

The Chair opened the meeting and announced that the fire safety briefing was not required and that the meeting was being recorded by the Minute Assistant.

L/24/12/2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Harvey and Jarvis.

L/24/12/3 Declaration of Member's Interests and to Remind Councillors of the Need to Keep up to Date Their Register of Member's Interests and to Consider Any Requests Received for Members Dispensation

None noted. There were no requests for dispensation.

L/24/12/4 To Receive and Confirm for Accuracy the Minutes of the Leisure Services Committee Meeting Held on Monday 7th October 2024 and Any Matters Arising

Members received the minutes of the Leisure Services Committee meeting held on 7th October 2024 and the following was agreed:

L/24/12/4.01 Resolved

That the minutes of the Leisure Services Committee meeting held on 7th October 2024 be adopted and signed as a true record by the Chair of the Leisure Services Committee.

Matters arising.:

Page 2 – L/24/10/08 – the Twinning Working Group is still to be set up.

L/24/12/5 Public Open Session

No members of the public were present.

L/24/12/6 To Receive the Accounts

The draft accounts for November 2024 were received and noted.

L/24/12/7 Draft Budget Proposal 2025/2026

The draft Leisure Services Committee budget for 2025/2026 was presented and the following was agreed:

L/24/12/7.01 Recommendation

That the draft budget for the Leisure Services Committee for 2025/2026 be approved at £213,064.

L/24/12/8 Events Update

Christmas 2024 – A report was presented and discussed on the planned activities.

St George's Day - Saturday 19th April 2025 at the Severals and Pavilion 1:00pm – 4:00pm with food and entertainment with a patriotic/mediaeval theme.

Newmarket Earth Day 2025 - A proposal was made to postpone the event from Saturday 26th April 2025 to 25th April 2026 in Memorial Gardens and Memorial Hall 11:00am – 3:00pm to allow for appropriate preparation and planning. The following was agreed:

L/24/12/8.01 Recommendation

That the Newmarket Earth Day 2025 event be postponed and be held 25th April 2026 to allow for preparation and planning.

VE Day 2025 – Thursday 8th May 2025 Severals 9:00am Town Crier and raising of the VE flag 9:00pm hot drinks at the Pavilion veranda with National Beacon lighting at 9:30pm.

Twinning 2025 – Maisons laFitte – 6th – 9th June 2025 has been suggested by the French committee for Newmarket to visit Maisons laFitte. Twinning Working Group to discuss, publicise and arrange the visit.

Budget: Most costs to be borne by the twinning visitors and the hosts in France. There is some Twinning budget for any costs incurred by NTC.

Carnival 2025 – Saturday 5th July 2025 1:00pm – 6:00pm Parade along the High Street to the Severals. Community Groups and organisations to take part in the walking parade from Memorial Gardens to the Severals Grounds (road closure required). Entertainments, acts, music, food, and activities.

Budget - £15,000

VJ Day 2025 – Friday 15th August The Severals and Pavilion – details to be confirmed by Royal Pageant-Master. Possibly, as per VE Day for a National Beacon Event. Stakeholders currently looking into putting on a war-time exhibition in the Pavilion for the day/evening.

Summer Entertainment 2025 – the following dates were proposed: Thursdays 2025 – July 24th & 31st, August 7th at the Memorial Hall Gardens, 14th & 21st the Severals Grounds and Pavilion – as per 2024 split.

Times: 1:00pm to 4:00pm. The following was agreed:

L/24/12/8.02 Recommendation

That the Summer Entertainment 2025 be held on Thursdays: July 24th & 31st, August 7th at the Memorial Hall Gardens, 14th & 21st at the Severals Grounds and Pavilion – as per 2024 split Times: 1:00pm to 4:00pm

14th August will be on the Severals, to fit in with the VJ Exhibition in the Pavilion.

Budget: £12,000 currently proposed budget 25/26. (EMR reserve available).

HAF 2025 Consideration for NTC School Holiday Events – A report on the Holiday Activity fund and proposal that NTC does not participate in 2025 was considered and the following was agreed:

L/24/12/8.03 Recommendation

That NTC does not participate directly in the HAF (Holiday Activity Fund) 2025 scheme, but that NTC facilities be offered to organisations participating in the scheme at a favourable cost.

A member of the press left the meeting.

Events Manager to reach out to local school holiday activity providers such as Prestige Sports, Premier Sports, Newmarket School of Dance, Formations Dance Company and the various local Newmarket primary schools to gauge interest of NTC being a host venue for organisations participating in the scheme.

L/24/12/9 Correspondence

None noted.

L/24/12/10 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 3rd February 2025 at the Memorial Hall.

Meeting closed at 8:00pm.

Signed _____ Date _____

Summary of Recommendations

Recommendation	Recommendation Wording
<u>L/24/12/7.01 Recommendation</u>	That the draft budget for the Leisure Services Committee for 2025/2026 be approved at £213,064.
<u>L/24/12/8.1 Recommendation</u>	That the Newmarket Earth Day 2025 event be postponed and be held 25th April 2026 to allow for preparation and planning.
<u>L/24/12/8.02 Recommendation</u>	That the Summer Entertainment 2025 be held on Thursdays: July 24th & 31st, August 7th at the Memorial Hall Gardens, 14th & 21st at the Severals Grounds and Pavilion – as per 2024 split Times: 1:00pm to 4:00pm
<u>L/24/12/8.3 Recommendation</u>	That NTC does not participate directly in the HAF

	(Holiday Activity Fund) 2025 scheme, but that NTC facilities be offered to organisations participating in the scheme at a favourable cost.
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DRAFT

RECOMMENDED Budget Summary 25/26**Newmarket Town Council**

Committee	Income	Expenditure	Net Expenditure
Finance & Policy	£ 100.00	£ 145,500.00	£ 145,400.00
Human Resources	£ -	£ 311,942.00	£ 311,942.00
Community Services	£ 66,030.00	£ 392,595.00	£ 326,565.00
Leisure Services	£ 28,000.00	£ 241,064.00	£ 213,064.00
Development & Planning	£ -	£ 10,000.00	£ 10,000.00
Total	£ 94,130.00	£ 1,101,101.00	£ 1,006,971.00

		2022/2023	2022/2023	2023/2024	2023/2024	2024/2025	2024/2025	2025/2026	actual % increase	Total Increase
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Projected Spend at 31/3/2025	RECOMMENDED Budget		
Committee										
Finance & Policy	Net Expenditure	£ 152,750.00	£ 132,842.00	£ 121,352.00	£ 81,961.00	£ 141,388.00	£ 104,910.00	£ 145,400.00	3%	£ 4,012.00
Human Resources	Net Expenditure	£ 189,700.00	£ 212,510.00	£ 277,108.00	£ 258,147.00	£ 288,125.00	£ 137,180.00	£ 311,942.00	8%	£ 23,817.00
Community Services	Net Expenditure	£ 173,583.00	£ 212,342.00	£ 227,979.00	£ 229,867.00	£ 291,373.00	£ 250,801.00	£ 326,565.00	12%	£ 35,192.00
Leisure Services	Net Expenditure	£ 188,677.00	£ 191,140.00	£ 191,130.00	£ 198,635.00	£ 196,144.00	£ 201,729.00	£ 213,064.00	9%	£ 16,920.00
Development & Planning	Net Expenditure	£ 10,500.00	£ -	£ 5,500.00	£ -998.00	£ 6,000.00	£ 4,500.00	£ 10,000.00	67%	£ 4,000.00
Total	Approved Precept	£ 715,210.00	£ 748,834.00	£ 823,069.00	£ 767,612.00	£ 923,030.00	£ 699,120.00	£ 1,006,971.00	9.09%	£ 83,941.00
% increase from previous year			5.94%		15.08%		12.15%			
Taxbase			5611.06		5655.60		5716.10		5814.88	BAND D REAL-TERM EFFECT £11.69 increase of 7.24% to residents
Band D			£127.46		£145.53		£161.48		£173.17	

Supplier ID:
502577

**Application for Parish/Town Council
Precept 2025/26**

Please complete the following and return to the Chief Financial Officer by 22 January 2025

PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL OF:

Newmarket Town Council

Please select your Parish/Town Council from drop down list

Date of Parish/Town Council Meeting, approving the precept

Contact details of the Parish/Town Clerk:

Name: Mrs Cathy Whitaker

Address: King Edward VII Memorial Hall, High Street, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 8JP

Tel No: 01638 667227

E-Mail: townclerk@newmarket.gov.uk

Bank Details:

Sort Code: 60-83-01

Account Number:

20394770

The amount requested by the above mentioned Parish/Town Council by way of precept from West Suffolk Council for the year 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 is as follows:

The 2024/25 figures below are the figures submitted by Parishes/Towns in January 2024 and are included for information purposes only.

	2024/25		2025/26	
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income
Administration	£ 409,163	£ -1,150	£ 430,842	£ -100
Allotments	£ 1,500	£ -900	£ 2,000	£ -900
Arts Centres	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Cemeteries	£ 61,322	£ -52,000	£ 75,200	£ -52,000
Civic Costs	£ 5,500	£ -	£ 5,500	£ -
Community Events	£ 39,000	£ -1,000	£ 62,500	£ -1,000
Disused Churchyard/Memorials	£ 12,450	£ -	£ 15,200	£ -
General Services	£ 225,631	£ -13,130	£ 244,295	£ -13,130
Grants to Other Bodies	£ 16,000	£ -	£ 21,000	£ -
Leisure Services/Sports Facilities	£ 49,235	£ -7,500	£ 57,000	£ -7,000
Other Expenses	£ 27,000	£ -	£ 10,000	£ -
Street Lighting	£ 35,500	£ -	£ 35,000	£ -
Village Hall/Memorial Hall/Other Property	£ 137,409	£ -21,000	£ 142,564	£ -20,000
Transfer to (+ve)/from (-ve) Reserves	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Net Expenditure	A	£ 923,030		£ 1,006,971
Parish Precept	B	£ 923,030		£ 1,006,971
Tax Base	C	5,716.10		5,814.88
Town Council Tax Band D	B ÷ C	£ 161.48		£ 173.17
Increase/-Decrease				£ 11.69
Percentage Increase/-Decrease				7.24%

Signed by:-

Chair of Parish/Town Council:

Date:

Parish/Town Clerk:

Date:



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Open consultation

Enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings

Published 24 October 2024

Applies to England

Contents

Scope of this consultation

Basic information

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Proxy voting

About this consultation

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This publication is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/enabling-remote-attendance-and-proxy-voting-at-local-authority-meetings/enabling-remote-attendance-and-proxy-voting-at-local-authority-meetings>

Scope of this consultation

Topic of this consultation

This short consultation seeks views on the detail and practical implications of allowing remote and hybrid attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings in England.

Scope of this consultation

Government is consulting on introducing powers for local authority members to apply to the relevant authority for a dispensation to attend formal council meetings remotely and vote by proxy in certain circumstances.

If any changes to legislation are made as a result of this consultation, they would only apply to local authorities in England, meaning:

- a county council
- a unitary authority
- a London borough council
- a district council
- the Common Council of the City of London
- the Greater London Authority
- the Council of the Isles of Scilly
- a parish council
- a joint board continued in being by virtue of section 263(1) of the 1972 Act
- a parish meeting constituted under section 13 of the Local Government Act 1972
- Transport for London, Para.5 of Schedule 10 of the GLA 1999 allows the GLA to regulate its own procedures and committees
- an authority established under section 10 of the Local Government Act 1985
- a joint authority established under Part 4 of the Local Government Act 1985
- a joint committee constituted to be a local planning authority under section 29 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004
- a combined authority established under section 103 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009

- a combined county authority established under section 9 of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023
- a fire and rescue authority constituted by a scheme under section 2 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 or a scheme to which section 4 of that Act applies, or created by an order under section 4A of that Act
- a National Park authority as referenced at section 184 of the LGA 1972 and/or established under section 63 of the Environment Act 1995
- the Broads Authority established by section 1 of the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Act 1988
- a conservation board established under section 86 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
- a police and crime panel established under section 28 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

Geographical scope

The questions in this consultation apply to all relevant local authorities in England as defined above.

They do **not** apply to authorities in Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland.

Impact assessment

If any policy changes are made following this consultation they will be subject to appropriate assessment. No impact assessment has been conducted at this time.

Basic information

This is an open consultation. We particularly seek the views of individual members of the public; prospective and current local authority members/representatives; all relevant local authorities defined above; and those bodies that represent the interests of local members/representatives at all levels.

Body/bodies responsible for the consultation

The Local Government Capability and Improvement Division in the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government is responsible for conducting this consultation.

Duration

This consultation will last for 8 weeks from 24 October 2024.

Enquiries

For any enquiries about the consultation please contact:
remoteattendanceconsultation@communities.gov.uk

How to respond

You can only respond to this consultation through our online consultation platform, Citizen Space. [Respond via Citizen Space](https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-standards-and-conduct/remote-attendance-and-proxy-voting) (<https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-standards-and-conduct/remote-attendance-and-proxy-voting>).

Ministerial foreword

The government has set out its intention to reset the relationship between central and local government as partners in delivering better outcomes for the communities we collectively represent. Key to this is supporting the sector to modernise democratic engagement, raise standards and widen the range of candidates standing for council by removing unnecessary barriers.

The attendance of elected members at local authority meetings is a core part of the democratic process at the local level and is integral to members carrying out their functions effectively. In addition to the value of members coming together to debate and discuss the issues which impact the lives of the people they represent; it is also important that local residents have the

opportunity to engage directly with the people they have elected to take key decisions on their behalf.

At the same time, the government recognises that there are circumstances in which it may not always be possible for members to attend council meetings in person. It is with this in mind that the government intends to amend the law to introduce provisions for remote attendance at local authority meetings.

The intent is that this increased flexibility will strike the balance between the principle that significant in-person engagement remains vitally important, and a recognition that there will sometimes be a need to accommodate members' requirements to attend council meetings remotely. We hope it will encourage a wider diversity of people willing and able to stand and actively participate in local democracy by creating improved conditions where meetings are accessible and inclusive.

In addition, we are seeking views on the possible introduction of proxy voting for those occasions when an elected member, due to personal circumstances, may be unable to attend even remotely, for example during maternity, paternity or adoption leave.

In line with the government's commitment to working with local government to establish partnerships built on mutual respect, genuine collaboration, and meaningful engagement, this short consultation seeks your views on the detail and practical implications of this proposition to inform our ongoing policy development.

Who we would like to hear from

Responses are invited from local authority elected members, all types and tiers of authorities, and local authority sector representative organisations. We are also particularly keen to hear from those members of the public who have point of view based on their interest in accessing local democracy in their area or standing as a candidate for local government at any tier to represent their local community at some future point.

Question 1

Please tick all that apply - are you responding to this consultation as:

a) an elected member – if so please indicate which local authority type(s) you serve on

- Town or Parish Council

- District or Borough Council
- Unitary Authority
- County Council
- Combined Authority / Combined County Authority
- Fire and Rescue Authority
- Police and Crime Panel
- Other local authority type - please state

b) a council body – if so please indicate which local authority type

- Town or Parish Council
- District or Borough Council
- Unitary Authority
- County Council
- Combined Authority / Combined County Authority
- Fire and Rescue Authority
- Police and Crime Panel
- Other local authority type - please state

c) a member of the public

d) a local government sector body – please state

The proposal for remote attendance

The government intends to legislate to give local authorities the flexibility to allow elected members to attend formal council meetings remotely. We believe that this modernising measure of providing broad flexibility to enable remote attendance will have the dual positive impacts of diversifying the representation of those willing and able to stand for elected office and enhance the resilience of local authorities in the face of local or national emergencies.

The intent is that this legislative change would give local authorities the flexibility to allow members to attend remotely.

Question 2

Do you agree with the broad principle of granting local authorities powers to allow remote attendance at formal meetings?

Yes/No

If you answered No to the above question please go directly to question 4.

Question 3

If you answered Yes to the above question, do you think that there should be specific limitations on remote attendance?

Please tick all the options below that correspond with your view and use the free text box for any other comments.

- a) Any formal meeting allowing remote attendance should have at least two thirds of members in physical attendance.
- b) Members should only be able to attend council meetings remotely in exceptional circumstances, such as those who are medically or physically unable to attend, or for reasons of local or national emergencies.
- c) There should be no limitations placed upon councils with regard to setting arrangements for remote attendance of council meetings, up to and including full remote attendance.
- d) [Free text box]

Question 4

If you are an elected member can you anticipate that you personally may seek to attend some of your council meetings remotely?

- yes
- no
- I am not an elected member

Question 4a

If you answered No please use the free text below

[Free text box]

Question 4b

If you answered Yes, could you indicate below which of the following options best describes your likely pattern of attending meetings remotely

- very occasionally
- from time to time

- regularly but not always
- all the time

Question 5

If you are responding to this consultation on behalf of a council as a whole, what proportion of the council's current elected members are likely to seek to attend council meetings remotely over the course of a year?

- less than 10%
- more than 10% but less than 50%
- more than 50% but less than 90%
- most of them 90% to 100%

Question 6

The government recognises that there may be cases in which it is necessary for councils to hold meetings fully remotely. Do you think there should be limitations placed on the number of fully remote meetings councils should be able to hold?

- a) Councils should be able to allow full remote attendance at up to half of council meetings within a twelve-month calendar period.
- b) Councils should only have the flexibility to change a meeting from in-person to online, or vice versa, due to unforeseen and exceptional circumstances.
- c) Councils should not have the flexibility to conduct fully remote meetings to ensure there is always an in-person presence.
- d) [Free text box]

Question 7

Do you think there are there any necessary procedural measures that would help to ensure a remote or hybrid attendance policy is workable and efficient?

Please tick all the options that correspond with your view and use the free text box for any other comments.

- a) Councils should be required to publish a list of attendees joining the meeting remotely and give notice if a meeting is being held with full remote attendance.

- b) Councils should be required to ensure that standard constitutional arrangements are followed for hybrid and fully remote meetings.
- c) Councils should be required to make arrangements to ensure restricted items (where a council decision is taken in private to protect confidentiality) are managed appropriately and to require remotely attending members to join from a private location.
- d) Other [Free text box]

Question 8

Do you think legislative change to allow councillors to attend local authority meetings remotely should or should not be considered for the following reasons?

Tick all the statements below that apply to your point of view.

Should be considered because	Should not be considered because
It is a positive modernising measure.	Councillors should be physically present at all formal meetings.
It would likely increase the diversity of people willing and able to stand for election in their local area, making councils more representative of the communities they serve.	It could lead to a significant number of councillors habitually attending remotely and ultimately reduce the effectiveness of councils.
Councils would be more resilient in the event of local or national emergencies which prevent in-person attendance.	It would be more difficult for councillors to build personal working relationships with colleagues, and engage with members of the public in attendance at meetings.
Free text box – please state any other reasons	Free text box – please state any other reasons

Question 9

In your view, would allowing councillors to attend formal local authority meetings remotely according to their needs particularly benefit or disadvantage individuals with protected characteristics, for example those with disabilities or caring responsibilities?

Please tick an option below:

- it would benefit members
- it would disadvantage members
- neither

Please use the text box below to make any further comment on this question.

[Free text box]

Proxy voting

Proxy voting is a form of voting whereby a member of a decision-making body may delegate their voting power to another representative to enable a vote in their absence.

It is possible some members may find that, due to their personal circumstances, they are temporarily unable to participate in meetings even if remote attendance provisions are in place. Provisions for proxy voting could provide additional flexibility to those who really need it on a time-limited basis, allowing affected members to indirectly exercise their democratic duty, participate in their local authority's governance, and ensure that their views are taken into consideration. In the context of local authorities, the representative would have to be another elected member of the local authority.

Question 10

In addition to provisions allowing for remote attendance, do you consider that it would be helpful to introduce proxy voting?

- yes
- no
- unsure

Question 11

If yes, for which of the following reasons which may prohibit a member's participation in council meetings do you consider it would be appropriate?

Please select all that apply:

- physical or medical conditions
- caring responsibilities
- parental leave or other responsibilities
- other [Free text box]

Question 12

Are there circumstances in which you feel proxy voting would not be appropriate?

[Free text box]

Question 13

If you think proxy voting is appropriate, are there any limitations you think should be placed upon it?

[Free text box]

About this consultation

This consultation has been planned to adhere to the Consultation Principles issued by the Cabinet Office.

Representative groups are asked to give a summary of the people and organisations they represent, and where relevant who else they have consulted in reaching their conclusions when they respond.

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal data, may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA), the UK General Data Protection Regulation, and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).

If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, as a public authority, the Department is bound by the Freedom of Information Act and may therefore be obliged to disclose all or some of the information you provide. In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic

confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government will process your personal data in accordance with the law and in the majority of circumstances this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties. A full privacy notice is included at Annex A.

Individual responses will not be acknowledged unless specifically requested.

Your opinions are valuable to us. Thank you for taking the time to read this document and respond.

Are you satisfied that this consultation has followed the Consultation Principles? If not or you have any other observations about how we can improve the process please contact us via the [complaints procedure](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-housing-communities-local-government/about/complaints-procedure) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-housing-communities-local-government/about/complaints-procedure>).

Annex A: Personal data

The following is to explain your rights and give you the information you are entitled to under the Data Protection Act 2018. Note that this section only refers to your personal data (your name address and anything that could be used to identify you personally) not the content of your response to the consultation.

1. The identity of the data controller and contact details of our Data Protection Officer

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) is the data controller. The Data Protection Officer can be contacted at dataprotection@communities.gov.uk

2. Why we are collecting your personal data

Your personal data is being collected as an essential part of the consultation process, so that we can contact you regarding your response and for

statistical purposes. We may also use it to contact you about related matters.

3. Our legal basis for processing your personal data

The Data Protection Act 2018 states that, as a government department, MHCLG may process personal data as necessary for the effective performance of a task carried out in the public interest. i.e. a consultation.

4. With whom we will be sharing your personal data

We use a third-party platform, Citizen Space, to collect consultation responses. In the first instance, your personal data will be stored on their secure UK-based servers.

5. For how long we will keep your personal data, or criteria used to determine the retention period.

Your personal data will be held for 2 years from the closure of the consultation.

6. Your rights, e.g. access, rectification, erasure

The data we are collecting is your personal data, and you have considerable say over what happens to it. You have the right:

- a) to see what data we have about you
- b) to ask us to stop using your data, but keep it on record
- c) to ask to have all or some of your data deleted or corrected
- d) to lodge a complaint with the independent Information Commissioner (ICO) if you think we are not handling your data fairly or in accordance with the law. You can contact the ICO at <https://ico.org.uk/> (<https://ico.org.uk/>), or telephone 0303 123 1113.

7. Your personal data will not be sent overseas

8. Your personal data will not be used for any automated decision making

9. Your personal data will be stored on a secure government IT system

Your data will be transferred to our secure government IT system as soon as possible after the consultation has closed, and it will be stored there for the standard 2 years of retention before it is deleted.



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