



Newmarket

TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Newmarket Town Council

held on Monday 16th December 2024 at 7:15 pm at the Memorial Hall

Attendance:

Councillor J Harvey (Deputy Town Mayor)
Councillor J Borda
Councillor L Crissall

Councillor R Hood
Councillor P Hulbert
Councillor R Jones

Also Present: N Alecock - Deputy Town Clerk, C O'Reilly - Events Manager, J Ashton – Minute Assistant, 1 Member of the Press, the Scout Leader – 2nd Newmarket Troop and 1 Member of the Public.

Minute

24/12/1 Welcome

The Chair read out the Fire safety notice and announced that the meeting was being recorded by the Minute Assistant confirmed that no-one else intended to record the meeting.

24/12/2 Apologies for Absence – LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)

Apologies were received from Cllrs: Anderson, Berry, Drummond, Jarvis, McHugh Nobbs, Perry, Starkey, Yarrow and Winter. Cllrs Clover and Unwin were absent.

24/12/3 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.

24/12/4 To Receive and Confirm the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 25th November 2024 and any Matters Arising.

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th November 2024 were presented and the following was agreed:

24/11/4.01 Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25th November 2024 be adopted and signed as a correct record by the Deputy Town Mayor.

There were no matters arising.

24/12/5 Public Open Session

A Scout and Cubs Leader from 2nd Newmarket Troop reported that, having been hit during Covid losing juniors and leaders, they were now up to 50 children with 10 - 15 volunteers and are still growing. However, the building that they use is old and running out of space to accommodate everyone. They would like to make use of an empty garage behind the building for storage; also to improve access from the building and are looking for funding for materials to achieve this.

Members were pleased to hear that the group was growing and recognised the community contribution. The Leader was urged to submit a grant application giving details with costs and to also seek funding from SCC/WSC Cllrs locality budgets.

A member of the public left the meeting.

Book Number 47 2024 -2025

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24/12/6 Police Report

A written report was presented and noted. The graph with cumulative comparisons to the previous 3 months was welcomed as well as inclusion of the non-crime category which provides a useful indicator on police activity; however clarification over the classifications of the ASB categories was requested. Enquires will be made at the next meeting between the Police, Town Clerk and Mayor regarding any initiatives and plans that are being implemented. Regular, suggested at least quarterly, attendance from the Police at FTC would be useful for any questions to be asked directly.

24/12/7 Councillor Reports

SCC – Cllr Hood reported that the monthly report had been issued.

West Suffolk Council (WSC) – Cllr Hood informed that there is a lot of work around devolution taking place. She will be attending the Full Town Council tomorrow evening (Tuesday 17 December 2024).

Ward Reports – Cllr Hulbert attended the WSC Disability Group where issues were raised particularly shops/cafes etc not accepting cash or displaying signs notifying of this. He also reported that the Voluntary Network can assist people to attend Doctor/Hospital/Dental visits for people over the age of 55 and people with disabilities for a small charge.

Outside Bodies – MARPA Newsletter - was noted. Cllr Harvey advised that a meeting of the Transport and Parking Working Group will be arranged to discuss particularly the East/West rail link (consultation), BSIP and any developments regarding Residents' Parking.

A member of the press left the meeting and returned a minute later.

24/12/8 Mayors Announcements

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

Friday 13th December – The Rotary Club Carol Service at Tattersalls.

24/12/9 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Development & Planning Committee Meetings held on 2nd December 2024

The minutes and recommendations from the Development & Planning Committee meeting held on 2nd December 2024 were presented by Cllr Hood, Chairman. There were no recommendations.

24/12/10 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Leisure Services Committee Meeting held on 2nd December 2024

The minutes of the Leisure Services Committee meeting held on 2nd December 2024 were presented (by Cllr Harvey on behalf of Cllr Nobbs, Chairman).

24/12/10.01 Resolved (L/24/12/7.01 Recommendation)

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

24/12/10.02 Resolved (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.

24/12/10.03 Resolved (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.

24/12/10.04 Resolved (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.

24/12/11 Newmarket Town Council Budget 2025/2026

The draft NTC budget For 2025/2026 was presented and considered. The following was agreed:

24/12/11.01 Resolved

That the NTC budget for 2025/2026 be approved at £1,006,971 equating to a 9.09% increase on net expenditure compared to the 2024/25 approved budget.

The precept for the financial year 2025/2026 was considered and the following was agreed:

24/12/11.02 Resolved

That the NTC precept for the financial year 2025/2026 be set at £173.17 for a band D property equating to a 7.24% increase to residents.

24/12/12 Working Group Reports

Local History & Tourism Working Group - A meeting had been held where the membership was considered and the terms of reference defined. Agreed actions include: to collate and curate all documents and items currently held by Newmarket Local History Society (NLHS) and others with a view to secure storage with accessibility somewhere yet to be established; to resurrect the Town Trail incorporating Legends of the Turf and ideally include it in the Town Guide being prepared. Look into setting up a Trust/Charity to attract grants, etc and to promote local history including through schools.

There were no other Working Group reports (apart from the intention to convene the Transport & Parking Working Group).

A member of the press left the meeting.

24/12/13 Correspondence

Enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings consultation – a draft response will be compiled by Cllr Harvey and circulated for comment prior to submission online by the deadline of Thursday 19 December 2024. Individuals can also submit their own views as Councillors or members of the public.

Police and Crime Plan Consultation – the consultation will be circulated for comments to be collated to form a response. Individuals can also submit their own views.

24/12/14 Date of the next Meeting

Monday 27th January 2025 in the Memorial Hall at 6:15pm.

Meeting closed at 8:05pm

Signed: _____ Cllr Winter _____

Date: _____ 27.1.25 _____

Summary of Resolutions

Resolution	Resolution Wording
<u>24/12/10.01 Resolved</u> <i><u>(L/24/12/7.01 Recommendation)</u></i>	That the draft budget for the Leisure Services Committee for 2025/2026 be approved at £213,064.
<u>24/12/10.02 Resolved</u> <i><u>(L/24/12/8.01 Recommendation)</u></i>	That the Newmarket Earth Day 2025 event be postponed and be held 25 th April 2026 to allow for preparation and planning.
<u>24/12/10.03 Resolved</u> <i><u>(L/24/12/8.02 Recommendation)</u></i>	That the Summer Entertainment 2025 be held on Thursdays: July 24 th & 31 st , August 7 th at the Memorial Hall Gardens, 14 th & 21 st at the Severals Grounds and Pavilion – as per 2024 split Times: 1:00pm to 4:00pm.
<u>24/12/10.04 Resolved</u> <i><u>(L/24/12/8.03 Recommendation)</u></i>	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.
<u>24/12/11.01 Resolved</u>	That the NTC budget for 2025/2026 be approved at £1,006,971 equating to a 9.09% increase.
<u>24/12/11.02 Resolved</u>	That the NTC precept for the financial year 2025/2026 be set at £173.17 for a band D property equating to a 7.24% increase to residents.