



Newmarket TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting
of Newmarket Electors
Monday 12th May 2025 at 6.15pm at the Memorial Hall,
High Street, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 8JP

Town Clerk welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave housekeeping guidance regarding fire exits and rest rooms.

Attendance:

Representing NTC: Cllr P Winter (Town Mayor), Cllrs Anderson, Berry, Borda, Crissall, Drummond, Harvey, Hood, Hulbert, Jarvis, Jones, McHugh, Nobbs, Starkey, Yarrow.

Representing SCC: Cllrs Drummond and Hood.

Representing WSC: Cllrs Anderson, Hood, Jarvis, Yarrow. (NB: Cllr Lynch was present in the public area).

Also present: C Whitaker – Town Clerk, C O'Reilly – Events Manager, M Jefferys – Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan Working Group, PCs M Tripp and A Feeney – Suffolk Constabulary, Member of the press and Members of the Public approximately 15.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Perry and Unwin.

2. Introductions and Welcome From The Town Mayor, Cllr Philippa Winter

The Mayor opened the meeting and asked Cllrs to introduce themselves.

3. To Receive the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 25th April 2024

The Mayor presented the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 25th April 2024. They were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Winter, seconded by Cllr Drummond, with a unanimous vote. The following was agreed:

24/05/3.01 Resolved

That the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 25th April 2024 be adopted and signed as a correct record by the Town Mayor.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. To Receive the Mayor's Report

The Mayor's report is appended to these minutes under Appendix A.

6. Report from PC Matthew Tripp

PC Tripp gave an update on recent activities which included the following:

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- A summary of the new operating model for policing across Newmarket since September 2024, detailing the police officers for the area working within the Community Policing Team (CPT).
- Enforcement.
- Liaison with stakeholders to target serious organised crime – ie: county lines, with 45 arrests to date resulting in ten years of convictions.
- Increase in police officers coming to Newmarket.
- Recent burglaries – apprehending/remanded and awaiting trial.
- Spotlight initiative with government funding for policing hotspot areas of crime; such as retail and violence against women, where a reduction in crime numbers has been noticed.

Following questions from the floor and Councillors;

- A14 diversions through Newmarket High Street causing gridlock following serious accidents. It is a balance between site safety, investigation and getting traffic moving as soon as possible.
- Numbers of police in Newmarket.

7. To Receive a Report from Michael Jefferys, Chair of the Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

The original NPP was adopted in February 2000 and it is now in the process of being reviewed and re-written. At last year's Town Meeting an in depth presentation of the results of a public consultation was given. The end of the re-writing should be the end of June this year, following which the plan will be subject to a six-week consultation which will be widely publicised in September. West Suffolk Council will then carry through to final adoption in 2026.

Following a query from a member of the public; NNP is specifically for the Parish of Newmarket and forms part of the WSC Local Plan defining rules and areas for planning and development up to 2035. These are the rules that developers must follow and meet to be able to develop area and policies relating to other areas are included – ie: green spaces, how we think the town should look like in the future.

Another resident of the town was disappointed in the Newmarket High Street offering in comparison to other towns in the region, stating for example the amount of vape shops, nail bars and barber shops. Cllr Hood responded regarding recent extreme concerns regarding vape shops.

8. To Receive Reports from Recipients of Town council Small Grants

Groups and organisations who had received support from the Town Council during the past year were invited to say a few words:

- Alan Shand representing Newmarket Community Awards, under the banner now of Newmarket Charitable Foundation.
- Louise Eatock representing Newmarket Community Arts.
- Rachel Mann representing the Hope For Tomorrow charity.
- Kira Barnard representing Newmarket Academy for the Lexington Link exchange.
- Rachel Wood representing the Bill tutte Scholarship Fund.
- Sarah Bradbury representing the West Suffolk Citizen's Advice Bureau.

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- John Berry representing the Legends of the Turf Project Committee.

Written reports were read out from:

- Discover Newmarket
- Catch 22

9. Open Session – Questions from Electors

Questions were invited from residents.

A resident of Studlands area requested information regarding the pathway between the Laureate School Road and Willie Snaithe Road and the current state of the SCC Definitive Map.

Cllr Drummond gave some background to the issue and informed that the current owner of the building in question were working on putting in a pathway at this time.

It would be sensible to get the path put on the Definitive Map going forward, although it was noted that this can be a time-consuming exercise. This path should become a Public Right of Way.

There were no further questions and the Mayor thanked everyone for attending the meeting tonight.

The meeting closed at 7.52pm

Signed __ Cllr P.Winter _____

Dated __ 11/5/26 _____

APPENDIX A. MAYOR'S REPORT 2025

It was a great honour for me to be elected to serve for another year as Mayor of Newmarket during which I seem to have spent quite some time at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral either for the traditional Remembrance Service in The Rose Garden, The Justice Service, the Civic Carol Service, along with other Civic Services. This is always a pleasure for me as I was on the Appeals Committee when the Tower was added in 2005.

I felt I should communicate more with other stakeholders in the town, so I meet on a regular basis with Inspector Tim Scott, who updates me on all items relevant to the town, i.e county lines, shoplifting and anti-social behaviour.

I have recently attended a meeting at The National Horseracing Museum for the New Young Writers awards. I also attended The Annual Meeting of Discover Newmarket. Town Maintenance is a particular precedent of mine and although some things have improved there is still much to do and is something that I will fight for as long as I am a Councillor. You will soon notice that the High Street planters are being replaced this summer and we already have new litter bins. The fencing at the Severals Grounds is also currently being renewed. We continue to maintain our town memorials and flintworks in our cemetery and two closed churchyards. Our Memorial Hall has

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recently been redecorated internally. We have also carried out some additional spring planting.

A new St George's Day event took place over Easter weekend this year and was enjoyed by many residents on the Severals grounds and please do join us for the return of our town Carnival on 28th June.

Lastly, I along with many councillors are frustrated by the length of time it takes to get things done, but we will continue to put pressure on areas that are necessary.

I am very proud however of what we have already managed to achieve – some details of which you will see displayed in the Hall here and, going forward, I aim to continue this progress for the benefit of our community.

We have several new members of staff this year and I would like to thank them all, and in particular the Town Clerk, for all their hard work during the year, and also the Councillors who give their time on a voluntary basis to help make Newmarket a better place.