



Newmarket

TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Newmarket Town Council

held on Monday 24th November 2025 at 6:15 pm at the Memorial Hall

Attendance:

Councillor P Winter (Town Mayor)
Councillor M Anderson
Councillor J Clover
Councillor J Harvey (Deputy Town Mayor)
Councillor P Hulbert

Councillor J Jarvis
Councillor S Kavanagh
Councillor J McHugh
Councillor R Nobbs
Councillor C Revitt
Councillor K Yarrow

Also Present: C Whitaker Town Clerk, N Alecock - Deputy Town Clerk, J Ashton – Minute Assistant, Cllr Whittle – WSC, C O'Reilly – Events Manager as an observer, 1 Member of the Press and 4 Members of the Public.

Minute

25/11/1 Welcome

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

25/11/2 Apologies for Absence – LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)

Apologies were received from Cllrs Berry, Borda, Crissall, Drummond, Hood and Starkey.

25/11/3 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.

25/11/4 To Receive and Confirm the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 27th October 2025 and any Matters Arising.

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th October 2025 were presented and Cllr Winter made a proposal, seconded by Cllr Nobbs. A vote was taken which was unanimous and the following was agreed:

25/11/4.01 Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 27th October 2025 be adopted and signed as a correct record by the Town Mayor.

There were no matters arising.

The minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 27th October 2025 were presented and Cllr Winter made a proposal, seconded by Cllr Yarrow. A vote was taken which was unanimous and the following was agreed:

25/11/4.02 Resolved

That the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 27th October 2025 be adopted and signed as a correct record by the Town Mayor.

There were no matters arising.

25/11/5 Public Open Session

A member of the public spoke to item 6 and was happy with the decision of the WSC Monitoring Officer regarding Cllr Drummond's breaches of the Code of Conduct for Councillors regarding recent correspondence. They pointed out that this was not the first time that Cllr Drummond has been found in breach of the code, citing a West Suffolk Council instance and requested that this be taken seriously, as community safety and inclusion must remain to ensure that Newmarket is a safe and welcoming place for all.

25/11/6 Breach of Code of Conduct by a Town Councillor

All Members had received the West Suffolk Council Monitoring Officer's report and Cllr Drummond had emailed a statement to all Members to explain his position on the matter.

The Mayor read out a statement giving the NTC view on this matter as follows:

"Many Councillors of Newmarket Town Council expressed that they were appalled by the tone of Councillor Drummond's emails recently whilst he responded to communications from a member of the public. As the Mayor of Newmarket, I believe that the tone of Councillor Drummond's communications regarding this matter is not what should be expected from an elected Member.

Newmarket Town Councillors are expected to fully comply with the Councillor's Code of Conduct and to uphold very high standards when communicating with the public.

The Council are encouraged to see that Cllr Drummond has now apologised to the member of the public; whilst noting that initially he had stated that he would not.

Councillor Drummond also breached General Data Protection Regulation protocols by forwarding personal information to a third party; for which the relevant action has since been taken by the Council's Data Protection Officer.

Newmarket Town Council wishes to make very clear that the views expressed by Councillor Drummond in his correspondence were not the overall view of this Council and it wishes to sincerely apologise to the member of the public for the actions of Councillor Drummond in this case."

Cllr Harvey added that SCC is responsible for lampposts and it is illegal for flags to be put on them. However, SCC does not have the resource to remove them but will remove any whilst conducting lamppost maintenance.

The censure of Councillor Andy Drummond following a decision by the West Suffolk Council Monitoring Officer was considered. Cllr Winter made a proposal, seconded by Cllr Yarrow. A vote was taken as follows:

Votes For – 10

Votes Against – 1

Abstention = 0

With the majority of votes being for the motion, the following was agreed:

25/11/6.01 Resolved

That Cllr Drummond be censured for a breach of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

25/11/7 Police Report

The monthly report was presented and noted.

25/11/8 Councillor Reports

SCC – None noted.

West Suffolk Council (WSC) – Cllr Yarrow reported that the WSC Overview and Scrutiny Committee had reviewed the current sport facilities and there is only one indoor sports hall in Newmarket for 22,000 people, which is well below the National average. WSC and SCC are negotiating for a sports hub on the St Felix site but the proposed rear of the development location has produced access difficulties. Outdoor facilities are limited and the Newmarket Joggers are having to use the pavements around town. The Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan makes reference to this. Cllr Harvey stated that the reports at the O&S Committee are out of date and he added that other areas are being considered and he will update WSC.

Cllr Jarvis reported that the communal gardens on the Studlands estate will be maintained with the help of WSC Locality Budgets. Cllr Revitt requested that Newmarket Community Nature Reserved be involved.

Cllr Whittle – WSC - reported that he had met with WSC Officers for an update on the RPZ for Newmarket and the draft consultation will be issued soon to NTC. WSC and SCC are considering options for a recycling facility. There had been a Watercourse Day of Action and the waterway will need to be cleared regularly to remove fly tipping and to cut back the overgrowth along the route. During contact with the police they confirmed that the UK Terrorism Level is ‘substantial’.

Ward Reports – Cllr Harvey reported that he attended his first BID Board meeting on 18/11/25 and provided feedback on its website, the new App to monitor footfall, the need for new small units, the Christmas Lights event, a Reindeer Trail and Mystery Shopper scheme. 2026 would see the return of the Food and Drink Festival and the Pop-Up Shop is booked until June. The scaffolding on the Market Square – work is reported to be starting on 01/12/25. The BID are needing more Board Members.

Cllr Yarrow added that the Christmas Lights event had been well attended and complimented the organisers.

Cllr Jarvis reported that WSC are beginning to remove the Covid 2m stickers from pavements during its Action Days and he suggested that further Action Day activity might be carried out at Studlands.

Outside Bodies – None noted

25/11/9 Mayors Announcements

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

Saturday 1st November- Attended the Sausage Festival to judge the best ‘Sausage Dog.’

Saturday 1st November- Attended the Model Railway at the Memorial Hall.

Tuesday 4th November- Planted Crocus bulbs with The Rotary Club and Children from St. Louis School near the gym on the Severals.

Saturday 8th November- A wreath was laid on behalf of Newmarket Town Council at The Rose Garden Remembrance Service at St. Edmundsbury Cathedral.

Sunday 9th November- Laid a wreath at the War Memorial and attended The Remembrance Service at Tattersalls.

Tuesday 11th November- Laid a wreath and attended The Armistice Day Service at The War Memorial.

Friday 14th November- Attended the 'Open Door' AGM at The Catholic Church Hall.

Friday 21st November- Attended the Christmas Light Switch On and helped on 'The Tree of Hope Stall.'

25/11/10 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Development & Planning Committee Meetings held on 3rd and 17th November 2025

The minutes and recommendations from the Development & Planning Committee meeting held on 3rd November 2025 were presented. Cllr Harvey made a proposal, seconded by Cllr Hulbert. A vote was taken which was unanimous and the minutes were adopted. There were no recommendations.

The minutes and recommendations from the Development & Planning Committee meeting held on 17th November 2025 were presented. Cllr Harvey made a proposal, seconded by Cllr Yarrow. A vote was taken which was unanimous and the minutes were adopted. There were no recommendations.

25/11/11 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 3rd November 2025

The minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on 3rd November 2025 were presented. Cllr Winter made a proposal, seconded by Cllr Harvey. A vote was taken which was unanimous and the minutes were adopted:

25/11/11.01 Resolved (C/25/11/4.01 Resolved)

That the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on 3rd November 2025 be adopted and signed as a true record by the Chair of the Community Services Committee.

25/11/11.02 Resolved (C/25/11/7.01 Recommendation)

That the Community Services budget for 2026/2027 at £352,360 be approved.

25/11/11.03 Resolved (C/25/11/8.01 Recommendation)

That 4 planters be purchased from Broxap and be installed outside the Turkomon Restaurant at £990 each - £3,960. That installation costs are to be arranged with the Jockey Club.

25/11/11.04 Resolved (C/25/11/8.02 Recommendation)

That the installation of planters outside of the Jockey Club be deferred to investigate other options for the area further.

25/11/12 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Finance & Policy Committee Meeting held on 17th November 2025

The minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee meeting held on 17th November 2025 were presented. Cllr Harvey made a proposal, seconded by Cllr McHugh. A vote was taken which was unanimous and the minutes were adopted:

25/11/12.01 Resolved (F/25/11/4.01 Resolved)

That the minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee meeting held on 15th September 2025 be adopted and signed as a true record by the Chair of the Finance & Planning Committee.

25/11/12.02 Resolved (F/25/11/6.01 Recommendation)

That the ratification of the schedules of payments for the period 01/09/2025 – 30/09/2025 and 01/10/2025 – 31/10/2025 (Cash Book 1 - 5) be received and adopted.

25/11/12.03 Resolved (F/25/11/9.01 Recommendation)

That the Finance & Policy budget for 2026/2027 at £153,200 be approved.

25/11/13 Committee Membership

It was noted that Cllr Kavanagh will be joining the Community Services and Leisure Services Committees and Cllr Revitt will be joining the Community Services Committee.

25/11/14 Correspondence

WSC – Community Governance Review Parish and Town Briefing Note – was noted.

25/11/15 Date of the next Meeting

Monday 15th December 2025 in the Memorial Hall at 7:15pm.

Meeting closed at 6:43pm

Signed: __Cllr P.Winter_____

Date: __15.12.25_____

Summary of Resolutions

Resolution	Resolution Wording
<u>25/11/4.01 Resolved</u>	That the minutes of the meeting held on 27th October 2025 be adopted and signed as a correct record by the Town Mayor.
<u>25/11/4.02 Resolved</u>	That the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 27th October 2025 be adopted and signed as a correct record by the Town Mayor.
<u>25/11/6.01 Resolved</u>	That Cllr Drummond be censured for a breach of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.
<u>25/11/11.01 Resolved</u>	That the minutes of the Community Services Committee

<u>(C/25/11/4.01 Resolved)</u>	meeting held on 3rd November 2025 be adopted and signed as a true record by the Chair of the Community Services Committee.
<u>25/11/11.02 Resolved</u> <u>(C/25/11/7.01 Recommendation)</u>	That the Community Services budget for 2026/2027 at £352,360 be approved.
<u>25/11/11.03 Resolved</u> <u>(C/25/11/8.01 Recommendation)</u>	That 4 planters be purchased from Broxap and be installed outside the Turkomon Restaurant at £990 each - £3,960. That installation costs are to be arranged with the Jockey Club.
<u>25/11/11.04 Resolved</u> <u>(C/25/11/8.02 Recommendation)</u>	That the installation of planters outside of the Jockey Club be deferred to investigate other options for the area further.
<u>25/11/12.01 Resolved</u> <u>(F/25/11/4.01 Resolved)</u>	That the minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee meeting held on 15th September 2025 be adopted and signed as a true record by the Chair of the Finance & Planning Committee.
<u>25/11/12.02 Resolved</u> <u>(F/25/11/6.01 Recommendation)</u>	That the ratification of the schedules of payments for the period 01/09/2025 – 30/09/2025 and 01/10/2025 – 31/10/2025 (Cash Book 1 - 5) be received and adopted.
<u>25/11/12.03 Resolved</u> <u>(F/25/11/9.01 Recommendation)</u>	That the Finance & Policy budget for 2026/2027 at £153,200 be approved.