



Newmarket

TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee **Held on Monday 1st December 2025 at 7:15pm**

Attendance:

Councillor J McHugh (Chair)
Councillor J Borda
Councillor J Harvey
Councillor P Hulbert

Councillor J Jarvis
Councillor S Kavanagh
Councillor P Winter

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

L/25/12/1 Chair to Read the Fire Safety Notice and Announce that Proceedings May be Filmed or Recorded

The Chair opened the meeting, read out the fire safety notice and confirmed that the meeting is being recorded by the Minute Assistant.

L/25/12/2 Resignation of Chair for the Leisure Services Committee

Cllr Harvey tendered his resignation as Chair of the Leisure Services Committee and this was received by the Committee.

L/25/12/3 Election of Chair for the Leisure Services Committee for the Municipal Year to May 2026

Cllr Harvey nominated Cllr McHugh, seconded by Cllr Hulbert. There were no other nominations. A vote was taken which was unanimous and the following was agreed:

L/25/12/3.01 Resolved

That Cllr McHugh be elected as the Chair for the Leisure Services Committee for the Municipal Year to May 2026.

Cllr Harvey left the Chair and Cllr McHugh took the Chair.

L/25/12/4 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Nobbs.

L/25/12/5 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/25/12/6 To Receive and Confirm for Accuracy the Minutes of the Leisure Services Committee Meeting Held on Monday 6th October 2025 and Any Matters Arising

Members received the minutes of the Leisure Services Committee meeting held on 6th October 2025 and Cllr Harvey made a proposal seconded by Cllr Borda. A vote was taken which was unanimous and the following was agreed:

L/25/12/6.01 Resolved

That the minutes of the Leisure Services Committee meeting held on 6th October 2025 be adopted and signed as a true record by the outgoing Chair (Cllr Harvey) of the Leisure Services Committee.

Matters arising:

L/25/10/12.01 Recommendation – the new noticeboard for the Memorial Gardens is on order and in production.

L/25/12/7 Public Open Session

No members of the public were present.

L/25/12/8 To Receive the Accounts

The draft accounts for November 2025 were received and noted.

L/25/12/9 Budget 2026/2027

Town Clerk presented the Leisure Services Budget for 2026/2027 and explained that the 42% increase was due to the high maintenance costs for the Memorial Hall this year with having to replace the lift, the heating system, refurbish the public conveniences and repair leaks and malicious damage. Relevant Earmarked Reserves are in need of replenishment and a plan for saving for future year's repairs and maintenance for the ageing assets within our care.

The Leisure Services budget for 2026/2027 was considered and Cllr Winter made a proposal, seconded by Cllr Borda. A vote was taken which was unanimous and the following was agreed:

L/25/12/9.01 Recommendation

That the Leisure Services Budget for 2026/2027 at £ 303,494 be approved.

L/25/12/10 Chairs

A report on the current condition of the chairs in the Memorial Hall and possible replacements was considered. Cllr Winter made a proposal seconded by Cllr Hulbert. A vote was taken which was unanimous and the following was agreed:

L/25/12/10.01 Recommendation

That the replacement of 5 trolleys and 150 chairs at £9,480.50 for the Memorial Hall be approved.

L/25/12/11 Working Group Reports for LS

There were no reports. Cllr Kavanagh requested that she join the Environmental Working Group. This will be noted at the Full Council meeting on 15th December.

L/25/12/12 Events Update

The Events Manager presented the report, including feedback from the Railway 200 Model Railway Exhibition on 31st October and 1st November. This had been well attended and was something for the wider community.

Christmas at the Sevels is imminent – 4th to 7th December with a wide provision for

Book number 15 2025 -2026

all ages.

Plans for the Newmarket Earth Day on 25th April 2026 are underway with a meeting of the Working Group planned for early January.

2026 Events schedule was discussed: January – Railway 200 commemorative event/Town Trail launch – 30th January. February – half-term drop-in craft event.

March – suggestion of a possible Easter event. April – Earth Day. June – MLF

Twinning visit weekend of 21st June AND Lexington Singers / Newmarket

Community Choir joint choral event on 26th June. July/August – Summer

Entertainment holiday children's events. September – Grenadier Guards conferment of Freedom of the Town and march/concert. October – possible Halloween children's

event. November – Remembrance Day/Armistice Day 2026. December – Christmas 2026,

The Committee thanked the Events Manager for all their work.

L/25/12/13 Correspondence

None noted.

L/25/12/14 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 2nd February 2026 at the Memorial Hall.

Meeting closed at 7:54pm.

Signed _Cllr McHugh_____ Date __2/2/26_____

Summary of Recommendations

Recommendation	Recommendation Wording
<u>L/25/12/3.01 Resolved</u>	That Cllr McHugh be elected as the Chair for the Leisure Services Committee for the Municipal Year to 31st March 2026.
<u>L/25/12/6.01 Resolved</u>	That the minutes of the Leisure Services Committee meeting held on 6th October 2025 be adopted and signed as a true record by the outgoing Chair (Cllr Harvey) of the Leisure Services Committee.
<u>L/25/12/09.01 Recommendation</u>	That the Leisure Services Budget for 2026/2027 at £ 303,494 be approved.
<u>L/25/12/10.01 Recommendation</u>	That the replacement of 5 trolleys and 150 chairs at £9,480.50 for the Memorial Hall be approved.