



NEWARK TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, Market Place, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG24 1DU
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Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 13th December 2017 in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall.

Membership Present:	Town Mayor	Cllr Mrs Rita Crowe (in the Chair)
	Councillors	Mrs C Barker-Powell (Ap) Mrs I Brown M Cleasby (Ap) M G Cope Cllr R A Crowe Mrs G Dawn (Ap) P Duncan Ms H Gent K Girling L Goff S Haynes D Hyde D Jones D Lloyd T Roberts MBE M Skinner R Williams
Apologies received from:	Councillors	Mrs C Barker-Powell, M Cleasby, Mrs G Dawn
Town Council Staff:	Town Clerk	Alan Mellor
	Mayor's Officer	P Tomlinson
Public:	There was one member of the public present.	
Venue:	Council Chamber	Town Hall

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, one minute's silence was held in memory of Mr Chris Grant, a previous Town Mayor and Councillor.

TC27/17/18 Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20th September 2017

The Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20th September 2017 were **AGREED** as a true and accurate record, and signed by the Mayor.

TC28/17/18 Declarations of Interest

Cllr D Lloyd declared an interest on behalf of all District Councillors present at the meeting in pages 12, 20 and 35 of the Agenda; these involved Planning Applications for Elm Avenue.

It was **AGREED** to accept any other Members Declarations, if any arose, during the meeting; all Declarations of Interest should already be contained within the Agenda reports.

TC29/17/18 Minutes of the Planning Committee, Wednesday 27th September 2017

The Chairman, Cllr T Roberts MBE, presented the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday 27th September 2017.

TC30/17/18 Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, Wednesday 4th October 2017

The Chairman, Cllr D Lloyd, presented the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 4th October 2017.

TC31/17/18 Minutes of the Planning Committee, Wednesday 1st November 2017

The Chairman, Cllr T Roberts MBE, presented the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday 1st November 2017.

TC32/17/18 Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, Wednesday 8th November 2017

The Chairman, Cllr D Lloyd, presented the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 8th November 2017.

TC33/17/18 Minutes of the Planning Committee, Wednesday 29th November 2017

The Chairman, Cllr T Roberts MBE, presented the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday 29th November 2017.

TC34/17/18 Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, Wednesday 6th December 2017

The Chairman, Cllr D Lloyd, presented the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 6th December 2017, marked 'TO FOLLOW' in the Agenda. These Minutes had been circulated to Member prior to the meeting earlier in the evening.

Cllr L Goff asked if there was any update on **FGP49/17/18 – WW1 100th Anniversary Commemoration** with regard to relocation of the Memorial to the Fallen.

Cllr D Lloyd responded that the update was contained within that minute, in that contact would be made with the diocese of Southwell in relation to the black granite. He informed Cllr L Goff that when any further news is available it would be made public, and everyone would be informed.

FGP54/17/18 – Dog Bins – Cllr K Girling wanted to point out that he had actually said he thought **all** dog bins should be replaced with normal bins, not just some of them.

TC35/17/18 Town Mayor's Announcements

The Town Mayor, Councillor Mrs Rita Crowe, informed Members that they were all invited to attend the New Year's Hunt Meet on Monday 1st January 2018.

TC36/17/18 Town Council Leader's Announcements

The Town Council Leader, Cllr D Lloyd noted the new 'snowflake' lights that had been put up around the Market Place, and commented what an improvement they had made to the Christmas Lights in Town.

He also congratulated those who were organising a second Concert at the Riverside Park in August of next year; it proved that the Town Council's 'Newark Festival' had been successful in bringing significant numbers people into the town, with all the benefits associated with that, to the extent that those organisers felt another Concert could be held.

TC37/17/18 Town Clerk's Announcements

The Town Clerk, Mr Alan Mellor, had no Announcements.

TC38/17/18 Notice of Motion

Members **CONSIDERED** the following motion put to the Town Council in accordance with Standing Order 6 (1).

Motion proposed by Cllr D Lloyd, seconded by Cllr K Girling

- (i) Newark Police Station Custody Suite

Cllr D Lloyd moved the motion, and went through the reason for the submission of this motion.

He felt that the response from the Chief Constable was open-ended, and that the wording was a 'little loose'. The inference was that the Police Station would be maintained - Cllr D Lloyd said he was therefore seeking reassurance that the existing station would be maintained in the longer term, and also that the impact of their decision would be closely monitored.

He pointed out that there were fewer detainees arising from the police policy to detain less people. Savings in this area may enable more investment in resources in the town, however the shortfall arising from police officers being required to accompany prisoners further away from the town would have to be bridged first.

Cllr K Girling seconded the motion and reserved his right to speak.

Cllr L Goff ask how much more would be lost from the town of Newark; the Magistrates Court had now gone, as had A & E. He was very concerned about the loss of more public services and facilities in the Town.

Cllr D Jones then spoke; he said he fully supported everything that the Leader of the Council had said. He pointed out that 'maintaining' the Police Station was not the same as using it. He felt that this was short-sightedness on their part as more time would be spent by Officers now having to go somewhere else.

Cllr D Jones said that if the Town Council do not fight, they will not win.

Cllr K Girling then talked about the monetary element; he informed Members that he sits on the Police & Crime Commissioners Panel and that there was an underspend of £1m, with plenty of funds in reserve.

Cllr Mrs I Brown reiterated Cllr L Goff's concerns with regard to further loss of services in the Town. There were already fewer police on the streets of Newark – how was the Town Council going to do what they need to, if there was no funding.

Cllr Mrs I Brown proposed that a letter should be written to Robert Jenrick MP requesting his support.

Cllr D Lloyd thanked all Members for their support.

He agreed that the loss of the Magistrates Court was regretful but pointed out that Newark had not 'lost' A & E, the facility had never been called that.

Cllr D Lloyd said that the growth of the Town would require more public services, not less and that operational policing should be provided from a Newark Base. Council budgets have been reduced, but they are still investing in community safety.

Following the above discussion it was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that Newark Town Council resolves to:

- (i) Seek an assurance from the Chief Constable and the Police Commissioner for Nottinghamshire that the existing Newark Police Station will be retained in its current status in the long term.
- (ii) Request that the Chief Constable monitors the impact of this decision by measuring the change in Police Officers time that is operationally available from Newark Police Station, and provide this information to the Town and District Councils.

TC39/17/18 PWLB Loans

The Town Clerk went through the Agenda Report. He pointed out that the loan repayments had been reflected in the revised Medium Term Financial Plan, submitted with the report, which demonstrated that they were affordable without requiring any additional increases in the Town Council's precept.

The recommendations contained in the report were then **AGREED** unanimously and the Town Clerk was instructed to submit the necessary applications to obtain the borrowing approvals

Meeting Closed:	8.00pm	Next Meeting:	Wednesday 14th February 2018
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