



NEWARK TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, Market Place, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG24 1DU
Tel: 01636 680 333 ~ Fax: 01636 680 350
Email: post@newark.gov.uk ~ Website: www.newark.gov.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 20th September 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 Mrs I Brown M Cleasby M G Cope Cllr R A Crowe Mrs G Dawn P Duncan Ms H Gent K Girling L Goff S Haynes D Hyde D Jones (Ap) D Lloyd T Roberts MBE M Skinner (Ap) R Williams
Apologies received from:	Councillors	D Jones, M Skinner
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

TC16/17/18	Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Thursday 22nd June 2017
	The Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Thursday 22 nd June 2017 were AGREED as a true and accurate record, and signed by the Mayor.
TC17/17/18	Declarations of Interest
	It was AGREED to accept Members Declarations if any arose during the meeting; all Declarations of Interest should already be contained within the Agenda reports.
TC18/17/18	Minutes of the Planning Committee, Wednesday 28th June 2017
	The Chairman, Cllr T Roberts MBE, presented the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday 28 th June 2017.
TC19/17/18	Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, Wednesday 12th July 2017
	The Chairman, Cllr D Lloyd, presented the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 12 th July 2017.
TC20/17/18	Minutes of the Planning Committee, Wednesday 2nd August 2017
	The Chairman, Cllr T Roberts MBE, presented the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday 2 nd August 2017.
TC21/17/18	Minutes of the Planning Committee, Wednesday 30th August 2017
	The Chairman, Cllr T Roberts MBE, presented the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday 30 th August 2017.
TC22/17/18	Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, Wednesday 6th Sept 2017
	The Chairman, Cllr D Lloyd, presented the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 6 th September 2017. Cllr M Cope said that in Minute FGP 27/17/18 – Allotment Agreement Review; he had not been accurately quoted, the Town Clerk replied that this should be raised again at the next meeting of that Committee when the Minutes will be submitted for approval.
TC23/17/18	Town Mayor's Announcements
	The Town Mayor, Councillor Mrs Rita Crowe, reminded Members that the Annual Air Bridge Commemoration Service was to be held on Sunday at Newark Cemetery. The Mayor also informed Members that her Quiz Night on Monday 25 th September was now fully booked. The Mayor was pleased to report that Newark had achieved a 'Gold Award' in the East Midlands Britain in Bloom. This was a great achievement that would be marked with a ceremony in the Town Hall in the near future.
TC24/17/18	Town Council Leader's Announcements
	The Town Council Leader, Cllr D Lloyd had no Announcements.
TC25/17/18	Town Clerk's Announcements
	The Town Clerk, Mr Alan Mellor, had no Announcements.
TC26/17/18	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
		<p>Cllr D Lloyd moved the motion, and went through the reason for the submission of this motion.</p> <p>He said that this proposal was solely focussed on the aim of achieving a financial saving but with seemingly no assessment of the impact that it would have on the resulting Police resources that would be available in Newark. The local community are already concerned about the level of police resources in the town with many seeing the current provision as being inadequate. For example Newark has a significant night time economy attracting significant numbers of people into the town, particularly at the weekends; this currently places a strain on police officer resources and any changes, like these, which will result in officers being taken away from the town are not acceptable.</p> <p>He was convinced that without the ability for police officers to keep arrested individuals in the Newark custody suite, they would be required to accompany them to the Mansfield or Bridewell police stations and be lost to the streets of Newark for long periods of time.</p> <p>This proposal is a further example of the process of attrition that will further reduce available police resources and could result in an increase in crime within Newark at the expense of the local community.</p> <p>This proposal is ill thought out and could have disastrous implications for the local community that will see a further reduction in the already stretched resources available in Newark.</p>
		Cllr K Girling then formally seconded the motion.
		Cllr L Goff said that too many public services were being lost in Newark and he fully supported the motion.
		<p>Cllr T Roberts MBE concurred with the arguments put forward. The Police Station was designed to provide a full range of police services, available to local officers.</p> <p>There was a danger of a gradual erosion of these services being lost from Newark Police Station which could undermine the longer term viability of the site. The Police Station in Newark is a vital and necessary aspect to help make the local community feel safe.</p>
		Cllr K Girling said he was concerned that future plans would further remove emergency services in Newark. Newark was a growing community that needs these services.
		Cllr D Lloyd concluded that all the comments made by him and other Members were no criticism of police officers who work to keep the community safe. He hoped that this motion would make Senior Officers think again about this proposal.
		Following discussion it was AGREED UNANIMOUSLY that Newark Town Council resolves to:
	(i)	Object to the closure of the Custody Suite at Newark Police Station on the basis that it will result in a reduction in the resources available to police the local community in and around Newark.
	(ii)	Seek an assurance from the Chief Constable and the Police Commissioner for Nottinghamshire that Newark Police Station will be

			retained in its current status in the long term.
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Meeting Closed:	7.55pm	Next Meeting:	Wednesday 13th December 2017
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