

SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION AT THE 11th MAY 2026 MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday, 21st April 2026 at St Wilfrid's Church, Main Street commencing at 7pm.

Present: Councillor S Dolby
Councillor G Hobbs
Councillor I Harrison
Councillor N Hutchings
Councillor A Luke
Councillor S Preston
Councillor M Talbot

Also in attendance: District Councillor Mrs Saddington, County Councillor Laughton (Arr 7.55pm) and 3 members of the public

NM167-26 Apologies for absence

There were none.

NM168-26 Declarations of Interest

It was agreed that any declarations of interest would be stated by Members as required during the meeting

NM169-26 Minutes

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9th March 2026 were accepted as a true and correct record.

NM170-26 Public 10 Minute Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.01pm to allow for the public session.

No questions were raised so the meeting was immediately reconvened.

NM171-26 To consider any matters that need to be raised with District Cllr Mrs Saddington

Councillor Mrs Saddington advised there was little to report from the District Council.

An Extraordinary Planning Committee Meeting had been arranged for Monday, 27th April 2026 to specifically consider the Foxholes Farm Solar application.

The Chair confirmed that details of this meeting had been received and reminded Members that the Parish Council had objected due to concerns of the impact on Vicarage Lane and the cumulative impact.

The Chair thanked Councillor Mrs Saddington for her report and reconvened the meeting at 7.07pm.

In terms of the Planning Committee, it was AGREED that Councillor Hobbs would compile a statement summarising the Parish Council's objections which could be used when the Clerk registered a Member to speak at the Committee. Councillor Hobbs would attend and represent the Parish Council.

NM172-26 Newark & Sherwood District Council

(a) **Public Consultation on the Draft Interim Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 2026**

Members noted the Draft Interim Affordable Housing SPD that was out for consultation.

Given the Parish Council's experience with a Rural Housing Exception Site, it was AGREED that delegated authority be given to the Chair and Clerk to respond with its observations, particularly in relation to the Section 106.

(b) **Public Consultation on the Draft Developer Contributions & Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 2026**

Members noted the public consultation on the Draft Developer Contributions & Planning Obligations SPD. Councillor Hobbs noted that this would make the CIL and Section 106 schemes clearer. It was AGREED that no response be made to this consultation.

(c) **To receive information on the Newark and Sherwood Town and Parish Parks Legacy Fund Scheme**

Members noted the information received in relation to the Town and Parish Parks Legacy Fund Scheme. After discussion, it was AGREED that Councillor Luke would investigate further.

NM173-26 **To consider any matters that need to be raised with County Councillor Laughton**

This item would be taken if and when Councillor Laughton arrived.

NM174-26 Nottinghamshire County Council

(a) There were no matters to consider.

NM175-26 **Planning**

(a) 25/01975/FUL – The Ness Farm, Great North Road, North Muskham - Conversion of existing barn to 2 bedroom house, with new porch, garden room extension and external parking area

Members noted the application for the development as outlined. After discussion it was proposed by Councillor Talbot, seconded by Councillor Hutchings, that no objection be raised.

(b) 26/00255/HOUSE – The Slipway, Mackleys Lane, North Muskham - Removal of chimneys. Two storey side and front extensions, new pitched roof and extension to garage, external alterations including re-roofing, extend balcony, cladding, render and new windows and doors

Members noted the application for the development as outlined. It was AGREED that a site meeting be held on Sunday, 26th April, with any comments made following that site meeting to be ratified at the 11th May meeting of the Parish Council.

The Clerk was asked to determine with the Planning Officer when comments were required and to request an extension of time should it be necessary.

(c) 26/00492/HOUSE – Farnlea, Nelson Lane, North Muskham - Proposed replacement garage, single storey extension and attic conversion

Members noted the application for the development as outlined. It was AGREED that a site meeting be held on Sunday, 26th April, with any comments made following that site meeting to be ratified at the 11th May meeting of the Parish Council.

The Clerk was asked to determine with the Planning Officer when comments were required and to request an extension of time should it be necessary.

(d) 26/00379/RMA – SOHA International New Manor Park, Main Street, North Muskham - Reserved matters application for details of the access, appearance, layout, landscaping and scale of proposed dwelling

The Clerk referred to an additional planning application that had been received for consideration.

Prior to consideration of this item, Councillor Hutchings declared a pecuniary interest and removed himself from the meeting.

It was AGREED that this be included within the site meeting to be held on Sunday, 26th April, with any comments made following that site meeting to be ratified at the 11th May meeting of the Parish Council.

Councillor Hutchings rejoined the meeting.

(e) To consider additional information in relation to 25/02087/FUL – Applegreen, Muskham Services, Great North Road, North Muskham - Demolition of existing Burger King / Greggs unit, former Travelodge motel building and HGV fuel pump island and canopy, and the erection of a new amenity building, new HGV pump island and canopy, car parking including EV charging spaces, landscaping, and associated works

The Chair referred to the meeting held recently with National Highways. Opportunity had been taken to highlight the lack of pedestrian access from the village.

As no pedestrian access had been included within the additional information received, Members AGREED that while noting the amended plan the Parish Council's objection remained as there was no provision for pedestrian access.

Councillor Hobbs advised that the lack of pedestrian access to the facility had been highlighted in the recent Neighbourhood Plan survey.

(f) To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan

An update on the Neighbourhood Plan had been circulated to Members in advance of the meeting.

The Clerk advised that a donation of £250 had been agreed by British Sugar towards the costs of the Plan. Councillor Hobbs confirmed that there was no other funding available.

After discussion, the Chair asked that a discussion be held with the Planning Consultant to provide an estimate of costs for consideration at the May meeting.

(g) To receive an update on matters with Planning Enforcement

The Clerk updated Members on the matter of the container on Main Street. Members noted that two additional containers had now appeared at the opposite end of the field on Great North Road. The Clerk advised that the Enforcement Team had agreed to one additional container to be sited to enable items to be moved from the container on Main Street. Investigation would be made into the second container.

In relation to The Willows, the Clerk advised that the Enforcement Team were hopeful that clarification could be provided on whether planning permission was required shortly.

Discussion took place in relation to the suggestion that gates be placed across the footpath and whether the Parish Council would support such an installation. Members noted that the footpath had been used by quad bikes in the past, and that these also impacted on Crab Lane and the south part of the footpath.

After discussion, the Clerk was asked to contact the landowner to establish if proposed plans could be shared with the Parish Council to enable it to be determined if the plans could be supported.

In terms of the southern end of the footpath/bridlepath, the Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the Rights of Way team. Members requested that Councillor Laughton be included in any site meeting to be arranged.

The Clerk was asked to establish when the gabions would be removed at The Nook, Marsh Lane as it had been some time since it had been determined they did not have permission to remain.

NM173-26 To consider any matters that need to be raised with County Councillor Laughton

(cont) With the arrival of Councillor Laughton, the Chair suspended the meeting at 8.17pm for his report.

Councillor Laughton that the number of pothole gangs had been increased to 10 from 4, and the budget had been increased by £20m.

A site visit had been made with the Head of Via to review the condition of the A1 roundabout. He had agreed to review the decision not to resurface this financial year.

An offer of £300 was made to the Church from Councillor Laughton's Divisional Fund to assist with heating following the recent oil theft.

The Chair thanked Councillor Laughton for his report and reconvened the meeting.

NM176-26 Financial Matters

(a) Accounts for payment

The Chair referred to the accounts for payment. It was AGREED unanimously that the following accounts be agreed for payment:

- Clerk's Wages – March – £333.60
- PAYE – March - £83.40
- Village Handyman – March - £205.74
- Hugo Fox – Website - £20.99
- Christmas Trees – £140
- Talbot Builders - £143.85 & £42.67
- PWLB Loan – First Instalment – £1,697.24
- Notts Association of Local Councils – Annual Subscription - £312.31
- MRCC – Room Hire - £41.25

(b)

To note any receipts

The following receipts were noted:

- Newark & Sherwood Community Lottery - £108
- Bathley Parish Council – JPAG Contribution - £273
- Weston Parish Council – JPAG Contribution - £354.50
- Norwell Parish Council – JPAG Contribution - £500
- Allotment Rents - £419.16

(c) Financial Report as at 31st March 2026

Members noted that the balance of the Parish Council's accounts as at 31st March 2026 was £47,761.30 and were now balanced and reconciled.

(d) To note information received from PKF Littlejohn in relation to the External Audit

The Clerk advised that information had been received from PKF Littlejohn in relation to the External Audit. The accounts would now be finalised for submission for internal audit.

NM177-26 Parish Council Matters

(a) Allotments/Green Hub Report

Councillor Preston reported that there were currently two vacant plots. The Allotment Sub-Committee had asked whether an open day could be held to promote the area.

Discussion took place on which budget head would be used to purchase the paint for the container. The Clerk confirmed this would be met from the Allotments R&R budgethead.

The Chair queried whether ploholders were kept updated on the work being undertaken as part of the Blooming North Muskham initiative. Councillor Luke confirmed they were.

(b) To receive an update on the GNR Solar Park

Members noted the update circulated by Councillor Hobbs in advance of the meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that the final submission had been made to the Planning Inspectorate by the Consultant on behalf of JPAG.

It had been confirmed at the last meeting of JPAG that, while North Muskham would retain the position as Chair of JPAG, but would not lead on the H2East Cadent pipeline.

(c) To receive an update in relation to actions taken regarding the Village Handyman role

The Clerk was asked to circulate the job specification to those individuals that had expressed an interest in the role and ask for CV's to be submitted if they wished to be considered.

It was AGREED that delegated authority be given to the Chair and Clerk to progress the matter.

(d) To consider the adoption of a Biodiversity Policy

Members considered the draft Biodiversity Policy circulated by the Clerk in advance of the meeting.

It was AGREED that this be adopted into Policy.

(e) To receive feedback from the Cadent H2East Pipeline Briefings

Reference to the briefings had been included in the note circulated in advance of the meeting. Members noted that details were limited and subject to change as the process evolved.

The Clerk referred to the survey included in documentation sent to Members.

(f) To confirm arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting

After discussion, it was AGREED that no change be made to the format of the Annual Parish Meeting this year.

The Clerk was asked to look to a date in June for the meeting to be held.

- (g) To receive feedback from the Newark Healthcare Consultative Group
Councillor Luke referred to the promotion of Jess's Rule through the Group, and also 'Ask for Newark' to encourage people to ask for treatment at Newark Hospital.

Members asked that Councillor Luke promote these areas in the Muskham Magazine.

Beaumont House Hospice were also looking to promote their services and were asking Parish Council's to assist. Members suggested an invitation be extended to attend the Village Fayre.

- (h) To consider a request for maintenance assistance with the Memorial site at Cromwell Lock

The Chair referred to a request for assistance with maintenance of the Memorial site at Cromwell Lock. This would be on a monthly basis. It was AGREED that this be included in the specification for the village handyman role. Councillor Hobbs would advise the Association.

- (i) To consider Parish Council support at the Village Fayre on 6th June 2026

Members noted that a request had been made for the Parish Council to support the Village Fayre on 6th June by providing the BBQ. This was AGREED.

The Clerk advised that as 9pm had been reached, Members needed to consider whether to suspend consideration of the remaining items on the agenda or suspend Standing Orders to enable the meeting to proceed. It was AGREED that the meeting continue and suspended Standing Orders.

NM178-26 Environmental & Community Issues

- (a) Play Area

There were no matters to report.

- (b) To receive an update on the Cafe / Hub project

The Chair advised that a visit had been arranged to Newstead Community Café.

The Clerk had been requested to establish from the Parish Council's solicitors the cost to close/assign the current lease to the MRCC and draw up a new lease from the Parish Council to the MRCC, with a new lease to the Community Benefit Society it was suggested be established for the café/hub.

The Methodist Chapel were offering 60% of the sale proceeds from the Chapel towards the cost. It was acknowledged there would be a funding gap for the suggested modular building with a projected cost of £150,000. Options that could be considered to meet the shortfall were grant funding from the National Lottery, raising shares through the Community Benefit Society or a PWLB Loan.

- (c) To receive an update on the Emergency Plan
Members noted the update from Councillor Hobbs in advance of the meeting. The Emergency Plan leaflet was ready to be circulated once the revision was made to the defib pads line.

This would be delivered by the Muskham Magazine team.

- (d) To receive an update on 'Blooming North Muskham' in 2026
Members noted the update from Councillor Luke circulated in advance of the meeting.

Thanks were extended to British Sugar for donating soil. A donation of £250 was also expected.

- (e) To receive an update on proposals for a North Muskham Village Festival
Members noted that a Village Festival would be held on the 4th July. The Parish Council supported this initiative but it was AGREED it would not be involved in the arrangements.

- (f) To consider renewing the Asset of Community Value on The Ferry, Ramblers Lane, North Muskham
Members noted that the registration of The Ferry as an Asset of Community Value had expired. After discussion, it was AGREED that the Clerk submit an application to renew this listing.

NM179-26 Highways

- (a) Highways Log
There were no matters currently on the log.

- (b) To receive feedback from the site meeting with National Highways
The Chair updated Members on the site meeting with National Highways. The concerns highlighted in relation to the southbound slip road into the village were acknowledged. National Highways would be supportive of a closure and would arrange any consultation required.

Members had also expressed their concerns in relation to pedestrians walking alongside the A1 to access the services. The National Highways Officer agreed that the issue was significant and presented a substantial risk to the pedestrians using that route and our concerns, together with his own, would be fed back to those responding to the Welcome Break application.

NM180-26 Notts Association of Local Councils

- (a) April Newsletter
Members noted the April Newsletter.

(b) April Training Update
Members noted the update in relation to training.

NM181-26 Correspondence

The Chair referred to contact from residents expressing concern at the behaviour of the owner of an electric motorbike that was being ridden erratically and at speed. The Clerk advised that any instances should be reported to the Police on 101. Opportunity would be taken to raise this at the next meeting of the Safer Neighbourhood Group.

The Clerk was asked to contact Notts Wildlife Trust in relation to the resignation of the current leader of the volunteer group. If the Trust were agreeable, an advert for a new leader would be put out on the Messenger.

NM182-26 Date of Next Meeting

Monday, 11th May 2026 – Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

An alternative date would be arranged for the Annual Parish Meeting.

NM183/26 To consider the exclusion of the press and public:

That pursuant to the provision of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

This item was not held.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.