

**SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION AT THE 13<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2026 MEETING**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at the MRCC commencing at 7pm.**

**Present:** Councillor G Hobbs (Chair)  
Councillor I Harrison (Chair from 8pm)  
Councillor N Hutchings  
Councillor A Luke  
Councillor S Preston  
Councillor M Talbot

**Also in attendance:** District Councillor Mrs Saddington and 50 members of the public

**NM149-26 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Dolby and County Councillor Laughton.

**NM150-26 Declarations of Interest**

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

**NM151-26 Minutes**

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 were accepted as a true and correct record.

**NM152-26 Public 10 Minute Session**

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

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and took the opportunity to remind residents to complete the Neighbourhood Plan survey before the deadline of 13<sup>th</sup> March, if they had not already done so.

The Chair referred to a letter that had been circulated to households in the village referring to North Marsh (The Willows). The Chair confirmed that this letter was not from the Parish Council, albeit appeared in the same kind of format used in Council correspondence.

For information, the Chair gave a brief background to the history of North Marsh (The Willows), reminding residents that the Parish Council had tried to acquire the land when it came up for sale and was successful in achieving a Government Grant and contributions from residents. However, the bid made of £225,000, which was higher than the independent valuation, failed as the landowners wanted to maximise their asset. The Parish Council had worked with the current owner (who lived locally) to establish a working relationship, but recognised that there had been quite a lot of activity over the last few weeks which had caused concern to residents.

The Chair invited a resident who had raised a number of concerns with multiple agencies to outline their issues with the land. The resident advised these were not personal complaints but were observations and concerns by residents.

Other residents present were then allowed the opportunity to raise any concerns they may have.

The Chair advised that the Parish Council had previously highlighted concerns with Newark & Sherwood District Council Planning Enforcement and the Rights of Way Team at Nottinghamshire County Council. It was understood that both agencies had been in contact with the landowner.

At the invitation of the Chair, Councillor Mrs Saddington read an email from the Planning Enforcement Team which provided an update on the situation.

Councillor Mrs Saddington's position was to be neutral due to her position on the Planning Committee. If a planning application was submitted to Newark & Sherwood District Council, Councillor Mrs Saddington advised that residents would have the opportunity to comment.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and presenting their views to Members. If residents continued to have concerns they could be sent to the Parish Council through the Clerk at [northmuskhampc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:northmuskhampc@hotmail.co.uk).

**NM153-26 To consider any matters that need to be raised with District Cllr Mrs Saddington**

Councillor Mrs Saddington advised that the County Council had applied a 3.99% increase to the Council Tax.

**NM154-26 Newark & Sherwood District Council**

**(a) To receive feedback on the Neighbourhood Planning event with Locality held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

The Chair advised that, while the webinar arranged by Newark & Sherwood District Council with Locality had been informative, it was clear that the Government had no plans to provide an alternative source of funding to parishes who were in the process of putting together a Neighbourhood Plan.

The Parish Council would need to fund any professional assistance from reserves.

**(b) To received correspondence in relation to a Statutory Consultation on Local Government Re-Organisation**

Members received and noted correspondence received from Newark & Sherwood District Council in relation to a Statutory Consultation on Local Government Re-Organisation. The correspondence outlined the different options that had been put forward, with the final decision being taken by Central Government. Members could complete the survey contained within the correspondence should they wish to do so.

The Clerk advised that at a recent briefing questions had been asked about the devolution of services and also what would happen to reserves held by District and Borough Council's who had been fiscally prudent. No information was available at this stage in relation to devolution, but pending projects that would be funded from reserves may be brought forward.

**NM155-26 To consider any matters that need to be raised with County Councillor Laughton**

There were none to raise.

**NM156-26 Nottinghamshire County Council**

**(a) To receive details of the Boots & Berets Awards 2026**

Members noted the details of the Boots & Berets Awards. After discussion, it was AGREED that delegated authority be given by the Chair and Vice-Chair to investigate if there were any residents that would be eligible to be nominated.

**(b) Nottinghamshire County Council Planning - Electronic Consultation for Ness Farm and Cromwell Quarry, the Great North Road, Cromwell, Nottinghamshire NG23 6JE – Committee Report**

The Chair advised that permission had been granted for the development as outlined. The Parish Council's comments in relation to footpaths had been noted but advised that having permissive footpaths on the key was their error and there would not be any on the reinstated lake area.

**NM157-26 Planning**

**(a) To ratify comments submitted in relation to Amendments to Planning Application 22/01983/FULM**

Members ratified the comments submitted in relation to application 22/01983/FULM on Foxholes Solar Farm. Members recognised that this was an excellent submission and captured the concerns they had raised.

**(b) Amended Planning Application Consultation - 25/01920/FUL - Land Adjacent Rose Cottage, Main Street, North Muskham - Proposed Residential Development of Six Dwellings**

After consideration, it was AGREED that the previous comments submitted by the Parish Council were still relevant and there was no reason to amend.

**(c) To note correspondence received 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**

After consideration, it was AGREED that the concerns raised by the Parish Council in relation to pedestrian access remained and would remain until the developer addressed the issue of a safe route for pedestrians.

- (d) To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan  
Members received and noted the update circulated on the Neighbourhood Plan. The next meeting would be held on 16<sup>th</sup> April where the results of the survey would be presented and then released to the village. The Steering Group would then formally prioritise actions to be taken.

Members acknowledged that funding was an issue that needed to be addressed.

- (e) To receive an update on matters with Planning Enforcement  
Members received and noted the update on matters that currently sat with Planning Enforcement.

**NM158-26 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 – February – £333.60
- PAYE – February - £83.40
- Village Handyman – February -
- Hugo Fox – Website - £20.99
- Christmas Trees – TBC
- Microsoft – 365 Subscription Renewal - £89.99
- D Lyne Ground Maintenance – Hedge Maintenance - £180
- Talbot Builders – Sandbag Store - £660.58
- Four Square Healthcare Ltd – Defib Pads - £109.29
- Jenni Smalley – EMIB AGM - £32
- Wordprint – Printing - £462

The Clerk advised that the invoice for the Christmas Trees had still not been received despite requests.

(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 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Members noted that the balance of the Parish Council's accounts as at 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026 was £51,881.51 and were now balanced and reconciled.

**NM159-26 Parish Council Matters**

(a) Allotments/Green Hub Report

There were no matters to report.

Councillor Preston noted that the Blooming North Muskham team would be moving on to the allotments shortly. The Clerk confirmed that a skip had been ordered and would be delivered to site on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> March.

- (b) To receive an update on the GNR Solar Park
- (c) To receive an update in relation to actions taken regarding the Village Handyman role  
The Chair advised that an email had been placed on the Muskham Messenger outlining that the Parish Council would be seeking a new village handyman from June. This had resulted in three people coming forward to express an interest.
- (d) To receive an update on progress of an application to Historic England in relation to an Interpretation Board for the Muskham Cross (a scheduled monument)  
The Clerk advised that an application had been submitted to Historic England for Scheduled Monument Consent.
- (e) To receive details of a Consultation announced for Cadent's H<sub>2</sub>East Pipeline: Humber to Nottinghamshire  
This matter had been considered under Minute No NM159-26 (a).

**NM160-26 Environmental & Community Issues**

- (a) Play Area  
There were no matters to raise.
- (b) To receive an update on the Cafe / Hub project  
The Chair updated Members on the present position with the Café/Hub projected.  
  
The Steering Group were looking to arrange an Open Day once illustrative drawings were available. It was AGREED that a budget of £1,000 and delegated authority be given to the Clerk and Councillor Hutchings to progress the drawings required.
- (c) To receive an update on the Emergency Plan  
Members received and noted an update on the Emergency Plan. Discussion took place around the delivery of the leaflet that had been produced as part of the Plan. It was AGREED that the Muskham Magazine team be asked to deliver this as they had the Neighbourhood Plan survey.
- (d) To receive an update on 'Blooming North Muskham'  
Members received and noted an update from Councillor Luke. Members of the Steering Group had recently attend the recent East Midlands in Bloom AGM, and the school had confirmed that they were keen to be involved.

The group were now moving onto the allotments. The pub had entered the 'Best Kept Pub' competition.

The Parish Council had organised a litter pick on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March. The Clerk confirmed that litter picking equipment had been booked with Newark & Sherwood District Council.

(e) To receive an update on proposals for a North Muskham Village Festival

The Chair understood that there was still a desire to hold a village festival. After discussion, the Clerk was asked to include this as an early item on the April agenda and to invite volunteers who were interested in arranging the festival to attend.

The weekend of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> July was the date being considered.

**NM161-26** Highways

(a) Highways Log

The Clerk advised that there were no additional matters that had been logged with highways.

(b) To note the request for a site meeting with National Highways

The Clerk advised that a response was awaited from National Highways in relation to the request for a site meeting to discuss the A1 Slip Road to the north of the village.

(c) To receive an update from the Clerk in relation to matters raised with Via

The Clerk advised that concerns raised in relation to highways matters in the village had been discussed with Officers at Via recently.

Concerns had been raised particularly in relation to the surfacing on Waltons Lane and Great North Road, and the concerns of speeding traffic on Waltons Lane, Main Street and Nelson Lane had all been discussed.

In relation to Waltons Lane and Great North Road, Officers considered that it may be suitable for the roadmaster service but no indication was given of a timescale. Officers confirmed that potholes should still be logged via the MyNotts App and Inspectors would be asked to review. In relation to the footway, Officers advised that the width of Waltons Lane would not accommodate a footpath.

The Clerk advised that interactive speed signs could be sited in areas where there were concerns about speeding traffic and would be positioned for a period of 6 weeks. After discussion, Members considered that signs should be deployed on Nelsons Lane and Main Street and it was AGREED that the Clerk progress this.

Officers had confirmed that the resurfacing of the A1 roundabout was included within the capital programme as a request. The programme had not yet been confirmed.

**NM162-26 Notts Association of Local Councils**

(a) To note the appointment of a new Chief Executive Officer

Members noted that a new Chief Executive Officer had been appointed to the Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils.

After discussion, the Clerk was asked to contact NALC to explain the position with the withdrawal of funding from the Government towards Neighbourhood Plans and to ask for assistance in lobbying at a National level for this to be reviewed.

**NM163-26 Correspondence**

There was none to receive.

**NM164-26 Date of Next Meeting**

Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

**NM165/26 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.

Minute No NM166/26

The meeting closed at 9pm.