

# NEW MILLS TOWN COUNCIL

New Mills Town Hall, New Mills, High Peak SK22 4AT

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## Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held in The Council Chambers, New Mills Town Hall, New Mills At 7.00pm on Monday 12 August 2024

**Councillors Present** Steve Davey (Chair), Lyn Bannister, Beth Eadie, Simon Evans, Margaret Ritchie, and Liam Stowell.

**In Attendance** 3 members of the public, Clare Wild (Clerk), DCC Cllr Anne Clarke, HPBC Jennifer Benzer.

### Apologies for Absence

Absent Cllr: John Reed, David Aris-Sutton, Katy Pearson, Michelle Bancroft, Matthew Donovan and Andrew Denton presented apologies.

### FTC/24/157 Variation of Order of Business

**RESOLVED:** to move

- Item 5 and 6 to discuss part with the exclusion of the Public and Press
- Item 8a to discuss resource element with the exclusion of the Public and Press
- Item 15, Co-op Fields, to the last item on the agenda.

### FTC/24/158 Declaration of Members Interests

Cllr Steve Davey (SD)

- Item 8c Woolly Wanderers as partner is a member. SD would remain in the meeting but have no vote.

Cllr Simon Evans (SE)

- Item 10 Planning. As a member of the Development and Planning Committee of High Peak Borough Council (HPBC). SE would remain in the meeting but have no vote.
- Item 18. As a member of the board for New Mills & District Volunteer centre. SE would remain in the meeting but have no vote.

Cllr Lyn Bannister (LB)

- Item 20 (revised to Item 16) Mount Pleasant. Had a pecuniary interest and would leave the meeting.
- Item 8c Woolly Wanderers as a founding member. LB would remain in the meeting but have no vote.

Cllr Beth Eadie (BE)

- Item 12a Ollersett Fields. As family member of New Mills Junior Football Club. BE would remain in the meeting but have no vote.

### FTC/24/159 Public Speaking

Derbyshire County Council (DCC) Councillor Anne Clarke reported that the DCC boundary review had been completed with New Mills and Hayfield not undergoing any changes. Thanks expressed to Council and residents who had responded to the consultation. Adult Care Consultation had closed and the Discretionary Funding consultation would end later this month

Issue regarding a leak in a car park in the town centre had been picked up by DCC highways but the responsibility for cleaning any waste fell to High Peak Borough Council (HPBC).

Regarding the sinkhole on Hayfield Road Cllr Anne Clarke had limited information but had been working to establish links to gain knowledge swiftly in order to inform the community of the latest and most accurate information. Investigations were ongoing, water for local residents had been restored and traffic management measures were in place. No work start date had been announced.

A member of public wanted to know why the bus shelter in New Mills centre had not been repaired despite panels being missing for an extended period of time. It provided limited shelter presently and the fixtures, despite being highlighted, remained a tripping hazard.

Concern had been raised regarding the traffic on the roads that remained open due to the sinkhole causing road closures. Signage had been seen as inadequate.

Member from New Mills Junior Football Club announced his presence and welcomed any questions relating to the proposal for welfare facilities at Ollersett Fields.

HPBC Cllr Simon Evan (SE) updated the council and public present of the following matters

- Pathways near to the leak mentioned by Cllr Anne Clarke had been cleaned by HPBC and he will be monitoring until matter resolved.
- Public toilet on High Street budget had been allocated by HPBC, it has been hoped that work would commence in September.
- Policy and Crime consultation had been ongoing but due to close.
- Been assisting New Mills Football on planning matters.

## **FTC/24/160 Minutes Of The Previous Meetings**

Additional outstanding minutes would be approved at the next Town Council Meeting but will be added to the website in draft format once available. To be discussed further when press and public excluded.

## **Policy and Strategy Approval**

**FTC/24/161** **RESOLVED:** Council approved the Social Media Policy and Communications Strategy as recommended by the Communications and Engagement Committee.

**FTC/24/162** **RESOLVED:** Council approved the Volunteer Policy as recommended by the Parks, Open Spaces and Events Committee. Clerk to proceed with recruitment.

### **Events**

**FTC/24/163** **RESOLVED:** Council approved Cllr Beth Eadie request to develop the film commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Torrs Riverside Park Opening.

**FTC/24/164** **RESOLVED:** Council agreed to purchase the fireworks for NMTC Bonfire Night, opting to remain with usual noise level, within the allocated 2024-2025 budget which would allow for a ten minute display.

**FTC/24/165** **RESOLVED:** Council granted permission for knitted dragons to be displayed in High Lea Park, High Lea Hall and the Town Hall by Woolly Wanderers, subject to satisfactory risk assessment carried out by the Clerk. This will support their New Mills Festival Event, the Dragon Trail.

**FTC/24/166** **Finance**  
**Accounts for payment**

Payments for approval - 12th August 2024				
Payment	Recipient	N/C	Details	Sub Total
D	Deere Financial	5945	Tractor Rental - July 24	£ 725.92
D	Ecotricity	5941	TH - Elec Acc. 28 May - 28 Jun 24	£ 665.02
D	Ecotricity	5942	LLR- Elec Acc. 01-30 Jun 2024	£ 65.72
D	Ecotricity	5939	HC - Elec Acc. 01-30 Jun 24	£ 271.57
D	Ecotricity	5940	Parks - Elec Acc. 01-30 Jun 24	£ 143.20
D	Ecotricity	5982	Parks- Elec Acc. 01-31 Jul 2024	£ 147.59
D	Ecotricity	5983	TH - Elec Acc. 28 Jun-28 Jul 24	£ 766.55
D	Ecotricity	5984	HC - Elec Acc. 01-31 Jul 2024	£ 276.92
D	Ecotricity	5985	LLR- Elec Acc. 01-31 Jul 2024	£ 67.74
D	Everflow	5969	Water Inv 01-30 Sept 24	£ 381.56
D	Opus	5953	LLR Gas 10 Jun - 09 Jul 2024	£ 26.25
D	Opus	5958	Gas Acc 27/05-- 25/6	-£ 6.55
D	Opus	5958	Gas Acc 24/6-24/7	£ 8.93
D	Opus	5959	Gas Acc 26/6-26/7	£ 24.66
D	PWLB	5961	Loan Repayments - Parks Volunteer Centre	£ 3,544.07
D	Sage	5986	Chargeable Period 01-31 August 2024	£ 89.40
POA	Ginge & Co	5936	HC - Ice Cream	£ 99.00
POA	Ginge & Co	5973	Ice Creams	£ 105.60
POA	Ginge & Co	5974	Ice Creams	£ 66.00
POA	Ginge & Co	5975	Ice Creams	£ 158.40
POA	Peakbean	5950	Ground Coffee	£ 28.50
POA	Wild	5960	Bookers - HLH Coffe Shop Stock Replenishment	£ 381.01
POA	Zurich	5957	Annual Insurance	£ 14,530.89
B	Green T & Son	5954	Infant Play Area Repairs	£ 1,077.60
B	Storry	5981	Professional Charges - July 2024	£ 1,050.00
B	ADT - HLH	5938	HC - CCTV Charge Period 22 Jul 24 - 21 Jul 25	£ 413.63
B	Catterall	5952	Fuel Acc. June 2024	£ 372.50
B	DALC	5944	CiLCA Training	£ 350.00
B	ADT - TH	5937	Intruder Alarm Charge Period 19 Jly-18 Oct 24	£ 298.87
B	ADT - HLH	5987	HC - Alarm Charge Period 27 Aug - 26 Nov 2024	£ 262.50
B	Mellands Skips	5963	Skip Hire for removal of TH & Rm 8 Items	£ 222.00
B	Foster	5962	Mower & Hedgecutter Repair	£ 219.00
B	Fenland Leisure - OLP	5949	High Lea Playground Replacement Components	£ 199.14
B	Screwfix	5951	Safety Helmets/Combi Drill/Bit Extension	£ 178.62
B	Vain	5972	Software Updates - 6 Devices	£ 169.56
B	Senior	5989	Sand/Post Mix/Cement	£ 168.66
B	JLH Plumbing Heating & Gas	5979	TH Gas Boiler & 2 x Electric Water Heater Services	£ 168.00
B	Vain	5965	Clerks email access out of office	£ 155.34
B	Wm Eyre & Son	5968	Horticultural & Cleaning Goods	£ 142.07
B	Espo	5950	Toilet Rolls/Cleaning Materials - Parks/HLH/TH	£ 141.54
B	Senior	5935	Paddling Pool Safety Covers	£ 135.67
B	Hydro-X	5948	Parks - Legionella Control Jul 2024	£ 133.20
B	Hydro-X	5947	TH - Legionella Control Jul 2024	£ 133.20
B	Hydro-X	5977	Parks - Legionella Control Aug 2024	£ 133.20
B	Hydro-X	5978	TH - Legionella Control Aug 2024	£ 133.20
B	Wild	5988	HC Stock	£ 125.58
B	FP Mailing	5934	Rental Period 15 July-14 Oct 24	£ 90.00
B	JLH Plumbing Heating & Gas	5980	Cottage Gas Boiler Service	£ 84.00
B	Vain	5966	Completion of works	£ 78.40
B	Screwfix	5956	Push-fit Pipe & Connectors	£ 77.90
B	Espo	5955	Parks - Bin Liners TH - Copier Paper	£ 71.64
B	Screwfix	5976	Parks - Grab Adhesives & Silicone	£ 65.21
B	Wild	5970	HC - Aprons	£ 42.60
B	Lewis	5946	Mobile Phone Top-up	£ 30.00
B	Wild	5943	HC - Ramekins	£ 14.99
B	Wild	5967	Printer Toner for Back Office	£ 13.99
B	Wild	5971	HC - Card Reader Till Rolls	£ 4.95
B	Lewis	5964	Paddling Pool Drain Cover	£ 4.59
				<b>£ 29,529.30</b>

**RESOLVED:** The Council approved payments for the expenditure presented to all members in advance of the meeting.

FTC 24/167 Bank Balances

**Bank Balances**

Statement date	Account	Balance
30/06/2024	Community Directplus	£8,000.00
30/06/2024	Business Select Instant Access	£154,799.37
30/06/2024	Business Select 14 Day	£28,173.93
30/06/2024	Business Select 14 Day*	£4,466.77
30/06/2024	Unity Trust	£20,131.55
30/06/2024	Petty cash	£150.00

The Council noted the bank balances as at 30 June 2024.

FTC/24/168 Ring Fenced Donation from Torr Vale Mill Preservation Trust (TVMPT)

Clerk advised that TVMPT who had been in the process of winding up and had contacted the Town Council to offer a donation, of remaining funds in their account, to support a project that promoted the Torrs and/or heritage in New Mills. Funds to follow as the Council had been able to meet the eligibility criteria.

FTC/24/169 Planning

The Chair advised all present that NMTC had limited weight in the decisions made by HPBC. Four options would be provided to members on the applications presented between 4 July 2024 and 5 August 2024: support, object, do not object, or just provide comment.

**RESOLVED:**

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	SITE ADDRESS	APPLICANT	COMMENT
HPK/2024/0303	Application for Listed Building Consent for the installation of an EV charger to wooden fence post on tarmac/hardcore driveway	Lower Hague Fold Farm New Mills SK22 3AX	Mrs R Parry	Do not object
<a href="http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=267622">http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=267622</a>				
DET/2024/0025	Prior notification for the change of use from agricultural building to dwelling house	Birch House Spinnerbottom Birch Vale SK22 1DH	Mr Redfern	Do not object
<a href="http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=267724">http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=267724</a>				
HPK/2024/0319	Application for Removal of Variation of a Condition 2 following Grant of HPK/2022/0032	Land at rear of 145 High Hill Road New Mills	Mr T Green	Do not object
<a href="http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=267728">http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=267728</a>				
HPK/2024/0244	Retrospective application for retention of Agricultural shed 8' x 10'	Land to the East of the Threshing Barn Laneside Road New Mills SK22 4QN	Mr B Crawshaw	Do not object
<a href="http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=267310">http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=267310</a>				
HPK/2024/0300	Retrospective permission for a detached summerhouse	<u>Hurstfield</u> House Hague Bar New Mills SK22 3AT	Mr B Wood	Do not object
<a href="http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=267619">http://planning.highpeak.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=267619</a>				

#### FTC/24/170 Swift Boxes at the Town Hall

**RESOLVED:** As recommended by the Parks, Open Spaces and Event Committee, the Town Council agreed Nature New Mills, who had been working with Derbyshire Swift Conservation Team, had been granted permission to install swift boxes on the Town Hall. The cost for boxes and installation would be met with external funding and there is very limited maintenance.

#### Ollersett Recreational Fields

FTC/24/171 **RESOLVED:** As recommended by the Parks, Open Spaces and Event Committee, the Town Council agreed to hold a public meeting, in the locality

to Ollersett Fields, for New Mills Junior Football Club to address the concerns expressed by residents and any further questions or comments raised by the community.

**FTC/24/172** **RESOLVED:** As recommended by the Parks, Open Spaces and Event Committee, the Town Council agreed to appoint a Working Party post-meeting, to collect the views of community and all stakeholders, providing a report to assist the council decide the next steps in relation to Ollersett Fields.

**FTC/24/173** **RESOLVED:** The Town Council granted approval for the Town Hall to be used as a meeting venue to create and establish a Neighbourhood Forum for New Mills, led by HPBC Move More, with a focus on New Mills East Area. The Town Hall will be provided for a regular meeting once a month for 2 hours, for 6 months, free of charge to establish a new forum that NMTC will be a key partner of.

**FTC/24/174** **Network Rail Update**

Project manager had been scheduled to update to the Council on latest matters but gave late apologies. Chair reported Work continued to remain on schedule. A car park for staff had been installed to reduce the traffic issues on Waterside Road. The final stage of the work would be drainage solution placed on New Mills Town Council land, requiring on ongoing responsibility and maintenance. The Council awaits final site plans of a proposed attenuation pond detailing the dimensions but due to timelines agreement from the council would be requested in advance of the next meeting. The reinstall of the equipment from Hague Bar to Newtown Recreation Ground and Bakehurst Centenary Park had been underway.

**RESOLVED:** The Town Council agreed to delegate the responsibility to the Chair, any three Cllrs, Clerk and Parks Manager to be consulted and make any final decisions.

**FTC/24/175** **Hurst Lea Wall – follow up on FTC/24/135**

Clerk advised that NMTC had been made aware that the wall was a dangerous structure and given 14 days to make safe. Historical question over ownership had prevented any remedial work been taken in the past as possible part ownership by a third party. Council took the decision to make the structure safe whilst ownership is established. Investigation into responsibility is ongoing, any actions required to be considered will be brought to future committee and/or FTC meetings.

**FTC/24/176** **High Lea Hall (HLH)**

Clerk gave a verbal update since last council meeting in July.

- Positive feedback from visitor entering the Hall
- Takings remain variable and weather dependent
- Staff have been recruited to support
- Deep cleaning is undertaking whilst Hall closed to the public

- 'Pimms' had been served at HLH over the weekend, under a temporary licence, and had increased sales income.

Cllr Simon Evans declared an interest as on HPBC Licencing Committee

- Non-electronic marketing needs to be developed further
- Visitor numbers are slowly growing and repeat customers are being observed

Cllrs commented that would like to see greater cohesion between the social media accounts of HLH and NMTC in the future. Clerk advised that with the new Social Media Policy and the Communications Strategy this should be achievable.

#### **FTC/24/177 Rowarth Play Area**

Council considered a request made by Friends of Rowarth to plant a hedge in Rowarth Play area with guidance and support from the Council. Friends of Rowarth want to apply for a free hedging pack from Woodland Trust and have requested approval to lead the project, under the guidance and support of the Parks Manager.

**RESOLVED:** The Council would prepare the ground for planting and provide limited support during initial growth plus limited ongoing care and maintenance.

#### **FTC/24/178 New Mills Leisure Centre**

**RESOLVED:** The Town Council agreed to endorse a letter being sent from Save New Mills Leisure Centre Group to High Peak MP, John Pearce.

#### **Correspondence**

**FTC/24/179** The Town Council noted the correspondence received during July 2024.

**FTC/24/180** **RESOLVED:** The Town Council would respond to express an interest in obtaining further information on a proposal by Hathersage Parish Council to allow a reduction in cost to use services at Hathersage open air swimming pool in exchange for making a contribution. There would be no commitment at this stage.

**FTC/24/181** **RESOLVED:** The Town Council agreed to send a letter to Derbyshire County Council in response to their consultation to end discretionary funding following a request from New Mills & District Volunteers Centre and understanding the potential impact to other organisations in New Mills and across the High Peak.

#### **FTC/24/182 Exclusion of the Press and Public**

**RESOLVED:** The press and public to be excluded from the meeting of the following matters on the grounds that they could involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in The Local Government Act, Schedule 12A, Part 1.

#### **FTC/24/183 Minutes of the Meeting**



Council expressed concern that the minutes were not being produced in line with the Standing Orders and viewed that these were essential to ensure information would be open and transparent. Clerk explained that it had been a challenging time but agreed with their importance. Through training and experience an alternative approach had been proposed that would see information shared with the public in advance of meetings and briefer minutes.

**RESOLVED:** The Council agreed that as this process would allow for greater public engagement they would look forward to adopting this method moving forward and the Personnel Committee would review any additional staffing requirements.

**FTC/24/184** **RESOLVED:** The Town Council agreed to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Torrs Riverside Park Opening file to be developed with the assistance of NMTC staff. Due to the short production time overtime would be accepted to ensure no impact to service provision.

LB left the meeting 9.02pm

**FTC/24/185** **RESOLVED:** The Town Council agreed to extend the meeting by 10 minutes.

#### **Co-op Fields**

**FTC/24/186** The Clerk had prepared a report that had been presented to Council that contained key findings, timeline of events and recommendations in relation to this matter. Members present discussed the issue.

**FTC/24/187** **RESOLVED:** The Town Council agreed to defer the remaining items to the next Full Council Meeting, noting that the next agenda would need to contain less items allowing adequate time to consider the items that had been deferred at this and the previous Full Town Council meeting and closed the meeting.

**The meeting closed at 21.14 pm**

**Signed as a true and correct record of the meeting**

Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* Please ensure that each page is signed and dated\*\***