



Newark TOWN COUNCIL

EXTRAORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 9TH APRIL 2025

Monday 31st March 2025

Dear Councillors

You are summonsed to attend an Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council on **Wednesday 9th April 2025 at 7pm** to be held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Gleadell
Town Clerk



NEWARK TOWN COUNCIL

MEMBERSHIP

The Council is made up of 12 members, 10 elected and 2 ex-officio. The 10 elected members are elected by the residents of Newark for a period of 4 years. The 2 ex-officio members are the Mayor and the Town Clerk. The Mayor is elected by the Council for a period of 4 years. The Town Clerk is appointed by the Council for a period of 4 years. The Council meets on the 1st, 3rd and 5th of each month, except in the month of August when it meets on the 1st, 3rd and 5th of September. The Council is responsible for the overall management of the town and for the implementation of the policies set by the residents.



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A G E N D A

EXTRAORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 9TH APRIL 2025

1	Apologies for Absence		
2	To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 19th February 2025	Minutes Attached	Page 5
3	To receive Declarations of Interest from Members and Officers <i>Relevant Legislation: Localism Act 2011 s31</i>	Verbal	
4	Town Mayor's Announcements	Verbal Report	
5	Town Clerk's Announcements	Verbal Report	
6	Leader of the Council's Announcements	Verbal Report	
7	Presentation by GNR Solar Park	Presentation	
8	To agree consultation response to GNR Solar Park proposals (referred to Town Council by the Planning Committee)	Report Attached	Page 7



Newark TOWN COUNCIL

Agenda Item No: 2

Committee Date: Wednesday 9th April 2025

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Wednesday 19th February 2025 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall.

Membership Present:	Town Mayor	Cllr D Ledger (in the Chair)
	Councillors	I Brown D Campbell T Collier B Corrigan E Cropper S Crosby S Dickinson L Geary L Goff J Kellas D Moore (Ap) G Rix (Ap) N Ross L Roulstone M Skinner (Ap) M Spoors (Ap) P Taylor
Apologies received from:	Councillors	D Moore, G Rix, M Skinner, M Spoors
Town Council Staff:	Town Clerk	Matthew Gleadell
Public:	There was 1 member of the press present.	
Venue:	Council Chamber	Town Hall

TC35/24/25 Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 29th January 2025

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on Wednesday 29th January 2025 were **AGREED** as a true and accurate record.

TC36/24/25 Declarations of Interest from Members and Officers

No Declarations of Interest were received.

TC37/24/25 Town Mayor's Announcements

The Town Mayor gave a brief overview of recent events she had attended and stressed how much she had enjoyed the role to date.

TC38/24/25 Town Clerk's Announcements

The Clerk identified the forthcoming event on 1st March. He also mentioned that the Microsoft Authenticator Software Security update had been implemented; any Members struggling should contact HC in the office. A handout was available following the meeting to help and advise members dealing with this security update.

The Clerk updated Members as to the opening of the Sherwood Avenue Play Park.

The Clerk also reminded members of a forthcoming Market Update Briefing meeting the following Monday.

TC39/24/25 Leader of the Council's Announcements

The Leader of the Council updated Members as to a recent attendance at Towns Fund Board meetings.

TC40/24/25 Planning Committee – Scheme of Delegation

There was extensive debate amongst Members in relation to this item.

It was evident from the debate that there was broad support for simplifying the process for dealing with planning applications.

During the meeting the Clerk reminded Members of the context and background to the report, namely, a discussion at a planning committee meeting which had a particularly long Agenda, which was full of largely small non-contentious applications. At this time the Town Clerk advised of alternative options for removing some of the smaller planning permissions from the Agenda.

After extensive debate it was resolved as follows:

1. That the Town Clerk come back with a more detailed proposal, including the criteria for delegated authority on any particular planning application, the frequency of referrals for decisions to be made by the Chairman, provision for either all Members or simply planning committee members, to be notified of applications at the same time and appropriate policy to ensure that any applications dealt with under delegated authority are itemised and dealt with as an item on a planning committee agenda.

Meeting Closed:	8.15pm	Next Meeting:	Wednesday 23rd April 2025
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EXTRAORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

SUBJECT:	GNR Solar Park – Consultation Response
REPORT BY:	Matthew Gleadell

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 That members determine if they wish to submit any formal response as a Council to the GNR Solar Park consultation, and if so, the nature of such response.

2. Background

- 2.1 The planning committee have referred the GNR Solar Park consultation to the Town Council due to the size, scale and significance of the proposals.
- 2.2 Members are referred to the website of the GNR Solar Park for full background information.
<https://www.gnrsolarpark.co.uk/the-project>
- 2.3 The Agenda item that prompts members to debate this item will be preceded by a presentation from representatives from the developer.
- 2.3 The proposed development sits outside the Newark Town Council boundary however the scale of the development and its proximity to Newark is such that the town will undoubtedly see an impact from the development.
- 2.4 This is a planning matter with national significance. The size of the development is such that the grant of consent will be determined by the Secretary of State. The response of the Council (if any) must be based on material planning considerations which members of the Planning committee are familiar with.
- 2.5 The Governments policy on nationally significant solar farms can be found at the following web page.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-policy-statement-for-renewable-energy-infrastructure-en-3>
- 2.5 Consultation Response options:
1. The Council may choose to support or oppose the development in full or in part with reasons tendered in support of such position.
 2. The Council may adopt a neutral stance on the proposed development.
 3. The Council may choose not to submit any response whatsoever.

3. Financial, Legal, Equality, Environmental & Risk Issues

All relevant matters contained in the report and web links within.

Background Papers:	Working papers
Lead Officer:	Matthew Gleadell Tel: 01636 684801 Email: matthew.gleadell@newark.gov.uk