



Newark TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

SUNDAY 10TH MAY 2026

5th May 2026

Dear Councillor

You are summonsed to attend the Annual Town Council meeting on Sunday 10th May 2026, which will be held in the Ballroom at the Town Hall.

Please be seated by **11.45 am** - the meeting will commence at 12 noon.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Gleadell
TOWN CLERK



Newark TOWN COUNCIL

A G E N D A

Item No.	Agenda Item Description	Page No
1	To elect a Chairman/Town Mayor for the ensuing Civic Year 2026/2027.	
2	To elect a Deputy Chairman/Deputy Town Mayor for the ensuing Civic Year 2026/2027.	
3	In accordance with Standing Order 5, to announce the Council Leader and Opposition Spokespersons of the Council.	Page 5
4	To determine the composition of the Committees/Sub-Committees and Working Groups of the Town Council and to appoint the membership thereof for the Civic Year 2026/2027.	Page 7
5	To appoint the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Committees/Sub Committees and Working Groups of the Town Council from the membership appointed as a consequence of Agenda item 4.	
6	The Town Council will be advised by the Leader/ Group Spokesperson of their choice of Spokesperson on each of the Committees/Sub Committees.	

ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

SUBJECT:	Announcement of the Council Leader Appointment and Opposition Spokespersons
REPORT BY:	Matthew Gleadell

1. Recommendations

1.1 That the respective Groups/Political parties declare their appointments to the following positions:

1. Leader of the Council – Independents for Newark and District (assuming members approve of IFND appointing a Leader as the largest Group albeit without a majority).
2. Opposition Spokesperson – Labour
3. Opposition Spokesperson – Conservative
4. Opposition Spokesperson – Green

2. Background

2.1 Standing Order 5 refers to Opposition Spokespersons. In recent years however these roles have also been known and referred to as 'Group Leaders' .

3.0 Financial, Legal, Equality, Environmental & Risk Issues

3.1 Contained in the report.

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

ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

SUBJECT:	Composition of and Appointment to Committees
REPORT BY:	Matthew Gleadell

1. Recommendations

1.1 That the members confirm the appointments to the Committees / Sub Committees as set out in this report.

2. Background

2.1 **Standing Order 24 provides that the Council will, at its Annual Meeting, appoint such Committees as they are required to appoint under Standing Order 27.**

The current standing committees required to be appointed are:

- a) *Finance and General Purposes*
- b) *Planning*
- c) *Personnel Sub Committee*
- d) *Environmental Stewardship Sub Committee*
- e) *Events, Arts, Culture and Twinning Sub Committee*

2.2 The Council is under no obligation to continue with the same composition of the membership of the Committees and Sub Committees as has been in place in the preceding Civic Year. The current appointments are detailed in Appendix 1. It is recommended that the committees and sub committees remain as they are in terms of membership numbers.

2.3 The Council has in recent years sought to provide that the Committees and Sub Committees are proportionately represented by each group, with the number of members on each reflective of the overall political / group make-up of the entire Council. There is no legal obligation to do this, however, the attached Appendix 2 sets out the current proportionate representation numbers and suggested composition that as close as possible meets the proportional representation figures.

3.0 Financial, Legal, Equality, Environmental & Risk Issues

3.1 Contained in the report.

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

Appendix 1 – 2025/2026 Appointments

Finance and General Purposes Committee

- All Town Councillors
 - o Cllr. Susan Crosby (Chairman)
 - o Cllr. Barbara Corrigan (Vice-Chairman)

Planning Committee

- 9 Town Councillors

No.	Name	Group / Party
1.	Cllr. Lisa Geary (Chairman)	Labour
2.	Cllr. Tom Collier (Vice-Chairman)	IFND
3.	Cllr. Dawn Campbell	IFND
4.	Cllr. Esther Cropper	IFND
5.	Cllr. Sophie Dickinson	IFND
6.	Cllr. Neil Ross	IFND
7.	Cllr. Lynn Roulstone	Labour
8.	Cllr. Mathew Skinner	Conservative
9.	VACANCY	

Personnel Sub Committee

- 5 Town Councillors

No.	Name	Group / Party
1.	Cllr. Paul Taylor (Chairman)	Labour
2.	Cllr. Glenis Rix (Vice-Chairman)	Independent
3.	Cllr. Susan Crosby	IFND
4.	Cllr. Matthew Skinner	Conservative
5.	Cllr. Diane Ledger	Independent

*Cllr. Diane Ledger wishes to step down.

Environmental Stewardship Sub Committee

- 5 Town Councillors

No.	Name	Group / Party
1.	Cllr. Lynn Roulstone (Chairman)	Labour
2.	Cllr. Esther Cropper (Vice-Chairman)	IFND
3.	Cllr. Susan Crosby	IFND
4.	Cllr. Glenis Rix	Independent
5.	Cllr. Mathew Skinner	Conservative

Events, Arts, Culture and Twinning Sub Committee

- 5 Town Councillors

No.	Name	Group / Party
1.	Cllr. Tom Collier (Chairman)	IFND
2.	Cllr. Sophie Dickinson (Vice-Chairman)	IFND
3.	Cllr. Dawn Campbell	IFND
4.	Cllr. Jack Kellass	Conservative
5.	Cllr. Lynn Roulstone	Labour

Appendix 2 – Proportional Representation

The overall composition of the Council is as follows:

Group / Party	No. of Councillors	Percentage of Seats
IFND	8	44.4%
Labour	3	16.65%
Conservative	2	11.1%
Green	1	5.5%

Plus x 4 Independent Councillors each representing 5.55% of the available seats on the Council.

In the case of the Green party and Independent Councillors on smaller committees and sub committees of 5, their proportionate number of seats does not account to a whole seat. Members should consider if they wish to seek to incorporate all groups on all sub committees which in doing so does make the proportional representation academic.

Planning Committee

Assuming a committee of 9 as per present arrangements.

44.4% of 9 is 3.5

16.65% of 9 is 1.49

11.1% of 9 is 0.99

5.5% of 9 is 0.49

Based on the above the suggested make-up of the Committee to be as close as possible to being proportionate and also incorporate all groups would be :

IFND x 3

Labour x 2

Conservative x 1

Green x 1

Other independents x 2

Some groups may not wish to take their seats in which case the membership will appoint alternatives from other groups as has occurred previously.

Personnel Sub Committee

Assuming a sub committee of 5 members if all groups are to be represented then each group would have 1 seat (on the basis that unaligned independents are treated as a group for the purpose of this exercise).

IFND 1

Labour 1

Unaligned Independents 1

Conservative 1

Green 1

In the case of Personnel due to the nature of the business involved and consistency it is suggested that the same members continue if willing to do so albeit this would deny the Green party of a seat.

Cllr. Ledger has indicated a desire to stand down from this Sub Committee.

Environmental Stewardship Sub Committee and Events, Arts, Culture and Twinning Sub Committee

As Sub Committees of 5 members again to accommodate all groups each group would have a single seat.

It is expected that even if the membership do wish to offer a seat to every group that the Green member may not wish to take a seat on each sub committee in any event in which case the membership can seek nominations from other groups.