

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Newent Town Council Meeting held on Monday 11th July 2016 at the Market House, Newent at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillors E Wood (Mayor), Mrs J Davies, D Blick, Mrs S Marcovecchio, Mrs M Duncan, Mrs C Howley, C Thomas, R Beard, E Heathfield, Miss Shere, Mrs Draper

Also Present – The Clerk and 2 members of the public

Public Participation Session: No items raised.

27.0 Apologies – None

27.1 Declarations of Interests – Cllr Mrs Davies declared an interest in the accounts to be paid and the Onion Fayre Committee request.

Cllr Thomas declared an interest in the Onion Fayre Committee request.

27.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 27th June 2016

Resolved: The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27th June 2016 were approved. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Wood, 8 favour, 3 abstentions.

27.3 Clerk's Update and Matters Arising

Cllr Beard enquired if a response had been received from the District Council regarding the planning queries raised relating to application P0698/16/FUL. The Clerk confirmed another emailed had been sent chasing the response, but a reply is still awaited.

Possible use of CCTV at the Lake – The Council insurers have advised against using a resident's electricity supply. A CCTV notice will be erected in the area.

Newent in Bloom Grant – A thank you letter had been received.

Fishing Rules – The Police can prosecute anyone removing fish, even if it does not specifically state this on the fishing rules.

S106 funding for repairs to play area – The District Council have confirmed that £375 is available from the Stoke Mews development and have agreed to pay this to the Town Council.

27.4 Finance

26.4.1 To approve accounts to be paid

(Cllr Mrs Davies left the meeting whilst this item was discussed)

| Payments made since last meeting | Chq No. | £ |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Wages | | 1534.78 |
| HMRC | 13552 | 1801.70 |
| GCC | 13553 | 2204.54 |

| | Chq No | £ |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|
| Ermin | 13618 | 168.20 |
| Ellis Dawe & Son | 13619 | 325.44 |
| P Pain | 13620 | 200.00 |
| Highleadon Filling Station | 13621 | 270.24 |
| SSE | 13622 | 888.03 |
| G D Parker | 13623 | 97.12 |
| Grundon | 13624 | 137.30 |
| Millington & Ramstedt | 13625 | 115.19 |
| J Davies | 13626 | 11.70 |
| K Noble | 13627 | 9.92 |

Resolved: The above expenditure is approved, to a value of £7,764.16. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Heathfield. All in favour.

27.5 Correspondence

27.5.1 GreenSquare Group – Request to hold a Community Fun Day on 31st August on the Recreation Ground

Resolved: Permission is granted. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded Cllr Beard, All in favour.

27.5.2 Onion Fayre Committee – Request for staff assistance on Friday 9th September and agreement to underwrite any losses relating to the provision of a cash machine

(Cllrs Mrs Davies and Thomas left the meeting whilst this item was discussed)

The Clerk was asked to notify Barclays Bank of the event to ensure sufficient money is available in the machine. Cashback is available from most shops and a cash machine is available in the large Co-op.

Resolved: The Council would not underwrite losses from the provision of a cash machine. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, All in favour.

Resolved: Council staff would be made available to help set up on 9th September. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Blick, Seconded Cllr Wood, All in favour. The Onion Fayre Committee could make contact with the District Council regarding clearing up after the event.

27.5.3 Forest of Dean District Council – Decision if poll cards should be provided for the forthcoming election at a cost of £1,567.

Resolved: Poll cards should not be printed, although advertising would be required. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, 6 in favour, 3 against and 2 abstentions.

27.5.4 Newent Rugby Club – Request approval to run a bar on 22nd July and to note two events

Resolved: The request for a bar on 22nd July is approved. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, 10 in favour, 1 against.

27.5.5 Gloucestershire County Council – Bus service consultation

The Council feel that bus services should be increased not decreased and it would be disappointing for the service to May Hill to cease, which would have an impact on the local residents.

27.5.6 Coach Driver's Yearbook – Offer to upgrade listing at a cost of £175

Cllrs Beard and Miss Shere had recently attended a Market Towns Forum meeting and a report was given on how coach drivers have played an important role in increasing footfall in other towns.

Resolved: The enhanced listing is agreed at a cost of £175, to be taken from the tourism budget. A local café will be approached with regards to offering drivers refreshments. The Business Club should also be notified. **Record of Voting:** All in favour.

27.5.7 Gloucestershire Playing Field Association – Invitation for one member to attend the 90th Anniversary Reception on 16th September

Cllr Wood agreed to attend the event.

27.6 Planning

27.6.1 To note planning decisions

The following decision was noted;

Planning applications granted by Forest of Dean District Council

P0761/16/TCA – Home Farm Flats, Church Street, Newent
Fell 1 x cherry tree

P0676/16/TCA – Ivy House, High Street, Newent
Removal of 1 x Yew tree and 1 x Holly tree

P0517/16/FUL – Town House, Gloucester Street, Newent
Alterations and extension to existing dwelling

P0465/16/FUL – Lime Tree Nurseries, Newent
Single storey extension to enlarge kitchen and utility

P1915/15/APP – Land at Watery Lane, Newent
Approval of reserved matters for outline permission P1513/13/OUT
for erection of up to 30 dwellings and new access

27.7 Estate Management

27.7.1 To agree if the flood relief pipe should be installed before further measures are progressed

The District Council's Flooding Engineer has confirmed that an extra £20,000 funding has been approved for the bund. It is now likely the bund will progress first. Further updates will be reported back to the Council.

27.7.2 Newent Rugby Club – Request permission for a shower to be installed in the referee's changing room

Resolved: The latest electricity report needs to be checked. Permission is granted on the condition that the Town Council approves the contractor. **Record of Voting:** Proposed: Cllr Wood, All in favour.

27.8 Newent Leisure Centre – Joint Use Agreement update

Cllr Mrs Davies explained that the District Council are now exploring re-establishing the Committee and the Town Council will be allowed to nominate two representatives to sit on the Committee.

27.9 To revisit the decision taken at the Council Meeting on 13th June 2016 for four office accommodation options to be taken forward for further investigation, as requested in a motion signed by 6 Councillors in accordance with Standing Order 7a

Cllr Mrs Davies explained why Councillors requested the proposal to be re-addressed. After a lengthy debate, it was agreed that an Extraordinary Council meeting would be held on Tuesday 19th July at 7.30pm in the Market House to agree which two options will be taken forward.

27.10 Committee and Representative reports

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Staff Committee | The Clerk's appraisal has been completed |
| Christmas Lights Committee | The draft Minutes of meeting held on 22 nd June had been circulated for information Councillors were asked to each donate an item for the hamper for the scaffolding company |

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Cllr Blick | Flash flooding in Watery Lane caused by blocked drains. Cllr Blick to review cleaning contract |
| Cllr Mrs Howley | Work on the Jubilee Wildlife Walk is due to commence in August |
| Cllrs Beard and Miss Shere | Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum |

27.11 Notices and Information

A bingo evening is being held on Friday at the Circle Club to raise funds for the Christmas Lights event.

The Notice of Election for the two Councillor vacancies has been published and the deadline for nominations is 15th July.

Cllr Beard has a meeting arranged to discuss the issues of parking outside St Marys Church.

27.12 To review legal advice regarding lease options for recreation ground and agree actions

Resolved: That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. **Record of Voting:** 9 in favour and 2 against.

The open business of the meeting was concluded at 8.40 pm.