

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Newent Town Council Meeting held on Monday 12th December 2016 at the Market House, Newent at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillors E Wood (Mayor), Mrs J Davies, R Beard, D Blick, Mrs K Draper, Mrs S Marcovecchio, Mrs M Duncan, Mrs C Howley, C Thomas, E Heathfield, Mrs G Moseley, V Vesma

Also present – The Clerk and 2 members of the public

Public Participation Session: No items raised.

37.0 Apologies – Cllr Miss Shere

37.1 Declaration of Interests

Cllrs Mrs Howley, Blick, Mrs Moseley and Mrs Davies declared an interest in the request to purchase edging boards for the allotments.

37.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 28th November 2016.

The Clerk amended the voting numbers due to an error.

Resolved: The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28th November 2016 were approved, subject to the above amendment. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Wood, 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

37.3 Clerk's Update and Matters Arising

Freedom Leisure – The orienteering session will now take place on 22nd December. The Jubilee Wildlife Walk area will not be used.

Salt bin – The salt bin has been installed in Cliffords Mesne.

Diversion of footpath at Newtown Farm – Haygrove farm is the applicant.

Newent Initiative Trust grant – A thank you letter has been received.

37.4 Finance

37.4.1 To approve accounts to be paid

Payments made since last meeting	Chq No.	£
Wages		1,431.22
Gloucestershire County Council	13771	2208.10
GW 4x4	13928	100.00
Newent Community Garden	13929	250.00
A Plan Insurance	13930	251.48
Ofcom	13931	300.00
Payments to be considered	Chq No	£

Pestforce	13932	420.00
GAPTC	13933	20.00
Paperstation	13934	311.96
Mainstream Digital	13935	13.94
Perpetua Press	13936	163.20
Zurich Municipal	13937	65.70
Orchard Hire & Sales	13938	7.68
Hentland	13939	95.92
Morf Designs Ltd	13940	222.00
G D Parkers	13941	168.08
Domain Communications	13942	45.00
Leadon Vale Services	13943	170.00
Ermin	13944	196.47
D Morley	13945	20.80
K Noble	13946	18.19
Network Connections	13947	240.00

Resolved: The above expenditure is approved, to a value of £6,719.74. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, All in favour.

37.4.2 Update on changing banks and to consider options

The Clerk explained that the application had still not be processed due to a number of issues. Another set of forms would need to be submitted if the Council still wished to change banks.

Resolved: The Council resubmits the application form. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

37.5 Correspondence

37.5.1 Western Power Distribution – invitation to annual stakeholder workshop

No Councillors are available to attend.

37.6 Planning

37.6.1 Planning applications to be considered

P16488/16/TPO - Former Railway Line, Station Road, Newent
Removal of limbs from x 2 Corsican Pine trees as annotated on the submitted photographs and removal of x 1 Corsican Pine tree. Trees covered by G1 of TPO4. **Resolved:** No objection. The Council will ensure Highways are notified. **Record of Voting:** 11 in favour, 1 against.

Erection of a three bay garage and solar panels. Demolition of existing disused single storey piggery. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** All in favour.

P1639/16/FUL - 19 Redmarley Road, Newent
Erection of a single storey extension and porch. Demolition of existing porch. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** All in favour.

P1578/16/FUL - The Squirrels, Ross Road, Kilcot, Newent
Erection of a three bay garage with loft. Demolition of existing garage. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** All in favour.

P1626/16/FUL - 43 Drovers Way, Newent
Erection of a conservatory to rear of dwelling. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** All in favour.

37.6.2 To note planning decisions

The following decisions were noted;

Planning applications granted by Forest of Dean District Council

P1482/16/TCA Library and Tourist Information Centre - High St, Newent

Removal of x 1 Holly tree, x 3 Goat Willow tree and x 1 Lawson Cypress tree at Newent Library

P0072/16/TCA - Rymes Place Farm, Malswick, Newent
Discharge of conditions 4 (construction management plan), 5 (access widening details), 6 (landscaping scheme), 7 (biodiversity enhancement scheme), 8 (protection of trees, hedgerows, ditches, ponds, and Great Crested Newts), 10 (external appearance of substation, cabins and switchroom) and 12 (information board) of planning permission P1977/14/FUL (Revised description)

37.6.3 Naming of new street at Cleeve Mill Lane

Two Rivers Housing has made a request for the name Cleeve Chase to be considered.

Resolved: The Council agreed that the preferred street name is Mill Park. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, All in favour.

37.7 Estate Management

37.7.1 To consider and make decisions regarding vehicle report

As previously indicated a number of extra items would need to be purchased to ensure the council vehicles are kept in good condition.

Safety beacons and chevrons are required and a proposal for the vehicles to be sign written was also included as this would reduce the insurance premium.

Resolved: The additional items as set out in the report are purchased at a maximum cost of £1,095.27. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Davies, All in favour.

Resolved: The GAP protection policy would not be required.
Record of Voting: Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Davies, All in favour.

(Cllrs Blick, Mrs Davies, Mrs Howley and Mrs Moseley left the meeting whilst this item was discussed)

37.7.2 To consider request to purchase edging boards for allotments

The request has been made from the Allotments Association. The Council will review the remaining earmarked reserves as part of the budget process.

Resolved: 50 boards and pegs are purchased at a cost of £182.50 from the earmarked reserves. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, All in favour.

37.7.3 To agree litter picking requirements for the Christmas period

Concern was raised regarding needles not being removed during this period.

Resolved: Staff would not be required to litter pick on the bank holidays (25th, 26th, 27th December and 1st, 2nd January). **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, All in favour.

37.8 To consider options for additional photocopier requirements

The Clerk explained that the new photocopier did not include a stapler, although this had been requested and verbally agreed. The Clerk has had several conversations with the company who are insisting the Council pay extra for the stapler. **Resolved:** A letter is sent to the company insisting the agreement is honoured or legal advice would be sought. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, All in favour.

37.9 To review and adopt training policy/statement of intent

Resolved: The circulated policy is adopted. **Record of Voting:** All in favour.

37.10 To consider applying for the Local Council Award Scheme

The Clerk has reviewed the requirements and feels the Council would be able to apply for the foundation level of the award. Cllr Beard recommended the award as it would give residents confidence that the Council is transparent and completing the duties required. Cllr Mrs Davies thanked the Clerk for preparing the documentation.

Resolved: The Council applies for the foundation level of the Local Council Award Scheme at a cost of £130.00 which would be taken from the town promotion budget. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

37.11 To consider holding an extraordinary meeting to discuss the Rugby Club proposal

Cllr Beard confirmed 185 resident questionnaires had been completed and are currently being analysed.

Resolved: An extraordinary meeting is held on 30th January at 7.30 pm for this item only and will be held in the Memorial Hall or Community Centre. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, All in favour.

37.12 Proposal for a Newent Open Day

Cllr Mrs Howley brought forward this suggestion due to a number of concerns raised with the Council regarding town promotions, reduction in footfall and the large number of new residents who may not be aware of what the town can offer. Large town events don't necessarily help the traders e.g. butchers and greengrocers. The event would be held on a Saturday and would promote businesses in the town, clubs and organisations. Cllr Mrs Duncan suggested the School should be asked to participate. Cllr Blick suggested it could coincide with the Newent Orchestra's 'Celebration of Newent' event at the end of March.

Cllr Vesma proposed that this event should have a co-ordinated approach with the dementia friendly group with regard to consulting with the businesses. This was put to a vote and 10 Councillors were against, 1 abstained and 1 was in favour of amalgamating the two topics.

Resolved: A Working Group of Cllrs Mrs Howley, Mrs Davies and Mrs Marcovecchio is set up to organise a Newent Open Day in the summer. Cllrs Beard and Mrs Draper also offered their help. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, All in favour.

37.13 To review committee and representative reports

None.

37.14 Notices and Information

The Clerk stated that Severn Trent are due to replace the collapsed storm pipe at the Lake on 19th December.

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 8.26 pm.