

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Newent Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 19th July 2016 at the Market House, Newent, at 7.30 pm.

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

Also Present: 2 members of the public

As the Mayor had been delayed, Cllr Mrs Davies opened the meeting. In the absence of the Town Clerk, Cllr Mrs Davies also took the Minutes.

Public Participation Session: No items raised.

28.0 Apologies – Cllr Mrs S Marcovecchio, Town Clerk

28.1 Declarations of interest – none were expressed.

28.2 To consider future council office accommodation options and to agree two options to be taken forward for further investigation.

The options to be considered were:

Option 1 The Lodge

1a To refurbish and reinstate as Council Office

1b To refurbish and sell property

Option 2 The Library

To pursue option for joint use

Option 3 Newent Community Centre

To remain at the centre. There is a proposal as part of the redevelopment for a new office on the ground floor with use of a meeting room.

Option 4 New Build

In the town centre

All possibilities were debated fully and the following resolutions were made:

Cllr Mrs Draper proposed that Option 3 be excluded and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Duncan. 8 voted in favour of the proposal and 1 against.

(Cllr Wood joined the meeting at this juncture and continued to chair the meeting)

Cllr Mrs Davies proposed that Option 1a be included and this was seconded by Cllr Beard. 6 voted in favour of this proposal and 4 against.

Cllr Beard proposed that discussions on Option 2, the Library, be pursued. 4 voted in favour of the proposal and 6 against.

Cllr Blick proposed that a New Build in the town centre should be explored and this was agreed. If this was the final outcome, then Option 1b would come into force, following public consultation.

Resolved: That the Town Clerk be asked to pursue and obtain information, relating to Options 1 and 4. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Wood. All in favour.

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.10 pm.