

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Newent Town Council Meeting held on Monday 13th November 2017 at the Market House, Newent at 7.30 pm.

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

Also present – The Clerk and 4 members of the public

Public Participation Session: No items raised.

61.0 Apologies – District Councillor Mrs Gooch

61.1 Declaration of Interests - None.

61.2 Forest of Dean District Council update

Unfortunately, District Councillor Mrs Gooch was unable to attend the meeting but had agreed to respond to the questions submitted by Cllr Blick.

61.3 Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 23rd October 2017

P 372 is to be amended to read The Deputy Mayor declared the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Resolved: The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 9th October were approved. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Wood, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

61.4 Clerk's Update and Matters Arising

Planning application P154/17/OUT – Bradfords Lane – Further to the Council's response to the planning application, Kodiak Land has confirmed that they will only be building on 53% of the site and therefore hope to retain the Newent daffodils. The ancient trees would not be felled. The developer will look into renewable energy sources, but this can be raised again during the consultation on reserved matters. The District Council has requested that details of the S106 funding requirements are submitted and the Clerk will be applying for the replacement of 3 pieces of play equipment.

61.5 Finance

61.5.1 To approve accounts to be paid

Payments made since last meeting	Chq No	£
Wages		2297.53

Barclaycard Transactions:	£
Fasthost Internet	3.00
MKM Building Supplies	14.89

Payments to be considered	Chq No.	£
Safpro	14373	180.00
Contract Sign Services	14374	188.14
Buildbase	14375	1182.80
Festive Lights	14376	117.83
Forest Products	14377	114.38
Chris Hyett	14378	124.91
Direct Autos	14379	145.20
Highleadon Filling Station	14380	185.20
Grant Thornton	14381	720.00
Mainstream Digital	14382	13.33
Abbey Business Group	14383	18.31
Ofcom	14384	300.00
GAPTC	14385	95.00
G D Parker & Co	14386	139.47
EE	14387	30.41
Screwfix	14388	19.32
B Wellington	14389	35.00
Paperstation	14390	60.95
K Noble	14391	21.45

Resolved: The above expenditure is approved, to a value of £6,007.12. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Davies, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

61.6 To consider response required to correspondence/consultations received

61.6.1 Request to erect a banner on the Market House to advertise the Friday market in the Memorial Hall

Resolved: The request is approved, providing no fixings are attached to the Market House and the banner is only tied on.

Record of Voting: Proposed Cllr Blick, Seconded Cllr Vesma, All in favour.

61.6.2 Forest of Dean District Council – Allocations Plan modifications consultation

The link to the documents had been previously circulated. Councillors will review the documents and if requested by a Councillor, the item will be added to a further agenda.

61.6.3 Forest of Dean District Council – To consider street name for new development in Culver Street

Cllr Mrs Moseley had been approached by a relative of a former Head Teacher to ask for a street to be named Hudson Walk. The Council did not feel this development was appropriate but would consider it in the future.

Resolved: The Council propose Thurston Gardens as the preferred name. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllrs Mrs Howley, All in favour.

61.7 Planning

(2 members of the public joined the meeting at this juncture)

61.7.1 Planning applications to be considered

P1635/17/FUL – Land at Rymes Farm, Malswick, Newent

Variation of condition 05 (landscaping scheme) in order to remove the requirement for the 12 newly planted Oak trees along the northern site boundary of planning permission P0806/16/FUL.

Resolved: Objection. The Council cannot understand the need for the variation. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Heathfield, All in favour.

P1693/17/TCA – Ourome, Graces Pitch, Newent

Removal and replacement of x 1 Holly tree. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Vesma, All in favour.

P1697/17/FUL – Wildsmith Meadow, Malswick, Newent

Replacement of 5, and one new floodlight. Erection of 250 seater spectator stand. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Wood, All in favour.

P1772/17/TPO – Town Farm, Gloucester St, Newent

Removal of x 1 Oak tree covered by G6 of G41, TPO198.

Resolved: Objection. This is a healthy tree and although it is close to a building it is not causing any obstruction and should not be removed. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, 6 in favour, 1 against, 6 abstentions.

P1732/17/FUL – 41 Lakeside, Newent

Single storey garden room extension. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Mrs Davies, All in favour.

61.7.2 To note planning decisions

PERMITTED

P1441/17/FUL – Newent Rugby Club, Watery Lane, Newent
Installation of 6 no 13 metre high columns supporting a total of 8 floodlights to illuminate an existing grass rugby pitch. Removal of existing floodlighting.

P1537/17/FUL – Fledgelings, High St, Newent
Removal of condition 05 (Archaeological programme) of Planning permission P0300/16/FUL and Listed Building Consent P0301/16/LBC.

P1543/17/FUL – The Poplars, High Street, Newent
Removal of condition 05 (Archaeological Programme) of planning permission P0294/16/FUL and Listed Building Consent P0295/16/LBC

P1578/17/AG – Okle Clifford Farm, Okle Green, Upleadon
Prior notification for erection of an agricultural building

P1433/17/FUL – Shenley, Southend Lane, Newent
Erection of a single storey extension to bungalow (demolition of existing conservatory)

P1537/17/FUL – Springfield Grange, Cliffords Mesne
Application under Section 192 to establish whether conversion of part of an outbuilding to a bedsit for staff accommodation would require planning permission

P1405/17/FUL Cemetery, Watery Lane, Newent
Variation of condition 02 (approved plans), 05 (landscaping scheme) and 06 (works to trees) to reduce the size of the garden of remembrance, relocation of infant graves and alterations to the landscaping of planning permission P1692/13/FUL

61.8 Estate Management

61.8.1 Cemetery extension update

The Clerk confirmed that planning permission had been granted for the changes to the cemetery extension layout. Works would be progressed as required, however, it is likely that the first action would be to plant the box hedging for the children's grave section.

61.8.2 Newent Rugby Club – Request permission to erect small security light on the end of the changing rooms

Resolved: Permission is granted providing the light does not shine into the road. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Vesma, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, 12 in favour, 1 abstention.

61.9 Review of office accommodation options

The Council had previously agreed to take the options for refurbishing the Lodge or to build a new office to public consultation. Another option for the Council to purchase a town centre premises has now become available.

Resolved: That the Town Council supports the acquisition of a property offering a town centre location, using a public works loan.

The Lodge would need to be sold to support the purchase of an identified freehold office accommodation and to optimise the value of the Lodge, planning permission for change of use from commercial to residential will be applied for.

Record of Voting: Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Heathfield, 11 in favour, 2 abstentions.

A discussion took place regarding the public consultation process. Some concerns were raised regarding the need to go to consultation so quickly, however, due to offer of first refusal it was agreed to arrange the consultation as soon as possible. **Resolved:** A public consultation seeking residents' approval to borrow from the Public Works Loan Board and to sell the Lodge would take place on 24th November between 4.00 pm – 6.30 pm in the Church Rooms and on Saturday 25th November between 10 am – 12.00 pm in the Market Square. An advert will be placed in the New Ad as well as on-line. Cllrs Mrs Davies, Wood, Beard, Mrs Howley, Mrs Moseley and Blick are appointed on to a Working Group to prepare the documentation for the consultation events. **Record of Voting:** Cllr Mrs Davies, Seconded Cllr Draper, All in favour.

61.10 To confirm response to Local Government Boundary Review

Cllr Heathfield explained that the Working Group had reviewed the different options and the affect they would have on Newent. **Resolved:** The Council's proposal for warding arrangements are:

Proposed Name	No of Cllrs	Reasons
Newent Town	2	Newent Town should stay as it currently is but as Newent Town should have Lakeside, The Butts, Crofts, Gloucester Street and Cleeve Estate included which will increase the ward total from 3,350 to 3,726, with 2 District Councillors still able to look after it effectively, as it does presently. This will ensure electoral equality, reflect community identities and more importantly be a recognisable boundary for the electorate of this ward.
Rural Newent North East and Oxenhall	1	Rural Oxenhall and Newent North East should lose Lakeside, The Butts, Crofts, Gloucester Street and Cleeve Estate to Newent Town because it is felt due to the geographical area, that these estates should be reunited with the town. To include the parishes of Pauntley and Upleadon to rural

		Newent North East and Oxenhall would increase community cohesion, as both are aligned to the rest of the rural ward of Newent North East and Oxenhall and both use Newent Town. We have allowed for a variance in this ward due to the new Ross Road housing development which would bring this ward more in-line with the 10% variance for the 1 Councillor proposed.
Rural Newent South West and Tibberton	1	The rural Newent South West and Tibberton Ward should remain as it currently is with the same number of electors (1,412) and the 1 Councillor as there is now looking after it. Newent Town Council believes the variance is allowed in this case because the proposal states there should be no change to the boundaries as Tibberton and Taynton are close neighbours and shouldn't be split. The proposal is for this ward to remain unchanged.

Record of Voting: Proposed Cllr Heathfield, Seconded Cllr Mrs Wadley, 12 in favour, 1 against.

61.11 To agreement arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting

At last year's meeting residents asked if the date could be moved and the location changed. A discussion took place regarding the format of the meeting and the best location and date. **Resolved:** The Annual Parish Meeting will take place in the Memorial Hall, preferably on 9th or 23rd of April (subject to availability). Refreshments would be served and displays available to browse before the main meeting. District and County Councillors would be invited to present reports. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Davies, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

61.12 To consider a tourist information report

Cllr Thomas gave an overview of a report he had prepared, which had previously been circulated and discussion pursued.

Resolved: Cllr Thomas can continue in discussions with Newent Library to establish the possibility of including a Tourist Information Centre in the Library. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Thomas, Seconded Cllr Blick, All in favour.

61.13 To receive committee and representative reports

Committee and Representative reports were received as follows:-

Cllr Mrs Draper

Christmas Lights Committee
The Committee had received a Newent Community Ambassador Award

Cllr Heathfield

Young Leaders Conference at Newent Community School

Cllrs Mrs Wadley and Mrs Duncan

Town and Parish Liaison meeting

Cllr Mrs Duncan	Patients Forum
Cllrs Beard and Thomas	Meeting with County Councillor Windsor-Clive regarding street lighting concerns
Cllr Vesma	Homelessness Survey
Cllr Vesma	Presentation by the Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Tourism Association
Cllrs Vesma and Mrs Howley	Dementia meeting at Sheppard House
Cllrs Mrs Marcovecchio and Wood	Allotment inspection and meeting with owner of neighbouring property

(2 members of the public left the meeting at this juncture)

61.14 Notice and information

The Clerk informed the Council that the District Council have resolved to allow the Town Council 6 days during the year when parking charges are suspended. The Town Council are asked to propose a date before the end of December and it was unanimously agreed to apply for Saturday 23rd December.

A discussion took place regarding the closure of Barclays Bank and it was agreed that a letter is sent to the Bank asking if the empty building could be used as a pop-up shop until new tenants are found.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the proposal for a life size bronze statue of Valegro to be installed in the Market Square. Councillors raised concerns regarding the location, what public consultation process had been carried out to decide on the location and who will be responsible for the statue. The Clerk was asked to send a letter to District Councillor Mrs Gooch raising the concerns and also to Gloucestershire County Council requesting consultation before any decision is made.

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 9.13 pm.