

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Newent Town Council Meeting held on Monday 25th September 2017 at the Market House, Newent at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillors Mrs J Davies (Mayor), E Wood, D Blick, R Beard, Mrs Howley, Mrs M Duncan, E Heathfield, Mrs G Moseley, Mrs R Wadley

Also present – The Clerk and 3 members of the public

Public Participation Session: No items raised.

58.0 Apologies – Cllrs Vesma, Thomas, Mrs Draper and Mrs Marcovecchio

58.1 Declaration of Interests

Cllrs Blick, Mrs Moseley and Mrs Howley declared an interest in the allotment charges.

58.2 Planning queries

Clive Reynolds, the Development Manager at the Forest of Dean District Council, attended the meeting for this item. Mr Reynolds spoke about the different planning processes including issues in conservation areas, permitted development, the process for planning applications being dealt with under delegated authority or at committee and the purpose of site inspections. An update on the Allocations Plan was also given.

Mr Reynolds answered numerous queries raised by Councillors and agreed to investigate, along with the Conservation Consultant, the concerns regarding a property in Church Street that is going into disrepair.

Concerns were raised regarding the lack of footpaths being installed in new developments. The Council were advised to raise any concerns regarding highway representations to planning applications with the local County Councillor and call a meeting with the Highways Manager, as it is difficult for the District Council to go against the County Council's recommendations.

Mr Reynolds stated that the best way to influence the Planning Committee is to attend and speak at the committee meetings, as well as lobbying the local District Councillors.

Mr Reynolds was thanked for attending the meeting.

(Mr Reynolds left the meeting at this juncture).

58.3 Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 11th September 2017

Resolved: The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 11th September were approved. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Blick, Seconded Cllr Beard, All in favour.

58.4 Clerk's Update and Matters Arising

Community Led Housing – The presentation has been arranged for 7 pm on Wednesday 27th September 2017.

58.5 Finance

58.5.1 To approve accounts to be paid

Payments made since last meeting	Chq No	£
Wages		4250.86
Newent Initiative Trust	14272	8000.00
Newent in Bloom	14273	1500.00
Barclaycard Transactions:		£
Fasthost Internet		3.00
Payments to be considered	Chq No.	£
Viking	14274	49.33
Newent Circle Club	14275	25.00
Highleadon Filling Station	14276	153.64
Chris Hyett	14277	124.91
Grundon	14278	172.06
B & P Catering Services (P Palmer)	14279	84.15
Sage	14280	53.84
G D Parkers	14341	120.70
SSE	14342	333.00

Resolved: The above expenditure is approved, to a value of £14,870.49. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded Cllr Blick, All in favour.

58.5.2 To review budget update report

The circulated report was noted and no issues raised.

58.5.3 To consider fees and charges for 2018/19

Cllr Heathfield explained the working group's process for reviewing the fees and charges, and the circulated proposal was considered.

Cllr Beard requested that fishing permit fees are removed until the full review of the fishing rules and permit allocation has been completed.

Resolved: Excluding the fishing permits which will be considered at a later date, the following fees are approved for introduction on 1st April 2018 and allotment fees will be applicable from 1st November 2018;

Market House	£5.00 per hour
Market Stall	£45.00
Funfair/Large Circus at Rec	£545.00
Small Circus at Rec	£386.00
Casual pitch hire at Rec	£25.00 Events charged as per the Lake excluding changing rooms
Use of Changing Rooms	£5.00 per hour plus £50.00 refundable deposit
Events at the Lake inc use of electricity if required	£25.00 all day commercial £15.00 all day charity £12.50 half day (3.5 hours) commercial £7.50 half day (3.5 hours) charity
Memorial Bench	£100.00 plus cost of bench
Memorial Tree	£50.00 plus cost of tree
Allotment Fees	
Full Plot	£50.00
Half Plot	£25.00
Quarter Plot	£13.00
Discount for early payment	£3.00 full plot £1.50 half plot £1.00 quarter plot

Resolved: Changes to cemetery fees are as follows, all other fees will remain unchanged;

Re-opening of burial plot	£70.00
Reopening of cremated remains plot	£50.00
Scattering of ashes in the Garden of Remembrance	£40.00
Garden of Remembrance Plaque – single 6” x 4”	£50.00

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

58.6 To consider response required to correspondence/consultations received

58.6.1 Request for a memorial tree to be planted at the Lake

Resolved: The request is approved subject to the Estate Supervisor's approval of location and all costs are to be met by the family. **Record of Voting:** All in favour.

58.6.2 NHS Gloucestershire – Health and wellbeing for the future:
Community Hospitals in the Forest of Dean public consultation

A discussion took place and concerns were raised. **Resolved:** The Council cannot support the proposal until assurance is received that a new facility will be built prior to the two hospitals being vacated. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Blick, Seconded Cllr Wood, 8 in favour, 1 abstention.

58.7 Planning

58.7.1 Planning applications to be considered

P0976/17/FUL - Site at Lower Newent Woods, Cliffords Mesne, Newent

Erection of 7 unit holiday accommodation and associated works (revised plans). **Resolved:** No comment. The Council request that residents' representations are considered. **Record of Voting:** All in favour.

P1433/17/FUL - Shenley, Southend Lane, Newent

Erection of a single storey extension to bungalow. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** All in favour.

P1441/17/FUL - Newent Rugby Football Club, Watery Lane, Newent

Installation of 6, 13 metre high columns supporting 8 floodlights to illuminate an existing grass rugby pitch. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** 6 in favour, 2 against, 1 abstention.

58.7.2 To note planning decisions

PERMITTED

P1350/17/TCA Porch House, 35 Church Street, Newent
Works to x 1 Ginko tree at Porch House, 35 Church Street to include a 20% crown reduction and reduction of long laterals by a maximum of 3 m.

P1358/17/TPO Cargill Meats Europe Ltd, Freemans of Newent Ltd, Town Farm, Gloucester Street, Newent
Removal of x 1 Oak tree covered by G6 of G41 TPO198

REFUSED

P1105/17/FUL New House, Graces Pitch, Newent, Glos
Erection of a detached house

58.8 Estate Management

58.8.1 To receive the Estate Supervisor's report and agree any actions

Cllr Blick stated that the allotment hedge needed to be cut. The Clerk confirmed it was on the schedule, however, all works are delayed due to the painting of the Market House.

A query was raised regarding wearing of hi-viz jackets and the Clerk confirmed they were worn as per the guidance.

Staff were congratulated on the jobs that have been completed.

The report was noted.

58.8.2 To agree location for siting of new information board at the Lake

Cllr Mrs Howley explained the possible options.

Resolved: The information board will be installed by the small hedge at the entrance to the lake and the litter bin will be moved. Slabs will be fitted if required. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Howley, Seconded Cllr Wood, All in favour.

58.8.3 To agree colour of disabled access benches and locations at the Lake

Cllr Mrs Howley confirmed that the Tesco's funding of £1,000 had been received.

Resolved: One multi-coloured bench will be installed by the children's play area and one green bench will be installed on the left-hand side of the lake, replacing the current bench, as per the photos circulated. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Blick, Seconded Cllr Wood, 8 in favour, 1 abstention.

58.8.4 Office accommodation update

Cllr Mrs Davies gave an update on the office accommodation plans and suggested that the two location options are taken to public consultation before spending any further money on obtaining costings, due to the expensive process. Some Councillors felt that costings were required before the public consultation. **Resolved:** A public consultation held, once the details have been agreed by Council. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Davies, Seconded Cllr Wood, All in favour.

58.9 To appoint a boundary review working group

Cllrs Heathfield, Mrs Moseley, Mrs Howley and Mrs Wadley agreed to prepare a response for the Council to consider.

58.10 Concerns regarding street lighting

Cllr Beard has been approached by residents who have raised serious concerns regarding the installation of LED street lights, as there are areas that are now unlit. The Police were not consulted on the changes and there may be safety implications. **Resolved:** A letter is sent to Gloucestershire County Council raising concerns and requesting a full lighting adequacy survey is undertaken. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Wood, All in favour.

58.11 To consider adopting the General Power of Competence

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

58.12 To receive committee and representative reports

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

58.13 Notice and information

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.