

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Newent Town Council Meeting held on Monday 27th 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 5 members of the public

Public Participation Session: A member of the public spoke in favour of the request for distance markers to be installed at the Lake as they would encourage fitness.

A member of the public spoke regarding the parking at the Arboretum and suggested an alternative option for extending the current car park.

Before the start of the meeting, Cllr Mrs Davies thanked everyone who helped with the Christmas Lights event, especially Cllr Mrs Draper and the staff.

62.0 Apologies – None.

62.1 Declaration of Interests - None.

62.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13th November 2017

Resolved: The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13th November were approved. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Blick, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

62.3 Clerk's Update and Matters Arising

All letters have been sent as requested

Property in Church Street update – A land registry search has been undertaken and the owner located. The District Council has written to the owner expressing concerns regarding the building's condition. Unfortunately, as a reply has not been received, the matter has already been passed onto the Enforcement Team to investigate further.

Free parking – Car parking charges will be suspended on 23rd December. Cllr Thomas stated that no signage advising of the suspended charges were erected in the car park on Saturday. The Clerk agreed to raise this with the Parking Team.

Annual Parish Meeting – The Memorial Hall is not available on Monday evenings. **Resolved:** The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Wednesday 11th April in the Memorial Hall. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Moseley, Seconded Cllr Blick, All in favour.

62.4 Finance

62.4.1 To approve accounts to be paid

Payments made since last meeting	Chq No	£
Wages		4235.92
Joseph's Amazing Camels	14393	1530.00
Barclaycard Transactions:		£
Fasthost Internet		3.00
Payments to be considered	Chq No.	£
P B Pain	14394	200.00
Waterplus	14395	11.98
A J Gabb	14396	54.00
Glebe Chapel	14397	450.00
Archer Signs and Panels Ltd	14398	63.90
Grundon Waste Management Ltd	14399	172.06
Society of Local Council Clerks	14400	41.40
Domain Communications	14461	64.91
Buildbase	14462	649.19
J M Woods	14463	110.00
K Noble	14464	166.97
R Goulding	14465	250.00
GCC	14334	1993.87
HMRC	14335	1752.99

Resolved: The above expenditure is approved, to a value of £11,750.19. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Blick, Seconded Cllr Beard, All in favour.

(1 member of the public left the meeting at this juncture)

62.4.2 To review budget update report

Cllr Beard queried the miscellaneous income and the Clerk confirmed that the majority of the income was from grants, Section 106 monies, the Solar Farm and contributions towards the Christmas lights event. Cllr Beard also queried the underspend on some of the cost centres and the Clerk confirmed that some of the monies would be earmarked which was agreed as part of the budgeting process.

The budget report was noted.

62.5 To consider response required to correspondence/consultations received

62.5.1 Request for distance markers to be installed around the Lake

A lengthy discussion took place. Cllr Vesma suggested the markers are installed around some of the other paths as well. Some

concerns were raised regarding the insurance for installation by volunteers, whether the stones will be secure and if the markers would set a precedence for further requests.

Cllr Blick proposed that the markers are installed as requested, under the supervision of the Estate Manager. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Blick, Seconded Cllr Thomas, 4 in favour, 7 against, 2 abstentions. The request was therefore rejected.

62.5.2 Parking at the Arboretum

A discussion took place and the Councillors recognised there is a parking issue at the site, however, some Councillors felt it was a policing matter.

Resolved: The suggested proposal for extending the car park is reviewed and costed for consideration during the budget process.
Record of Voting: Proposed Cllr Mrs Marcovecchio, Seconded Cllr Beard, 11 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention.

62.6. Planning

62.6.1 Planning applications to be considered

P1762/17/FUL – 24 Vauxhall, Newent

Erection of a dwelling including the provision of associated parking and amenity space. Demolition of existing outbuilding. Provision of new porch to existing dwelling and demolition of existing porch.

Resolved: No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Blick, 12 in favour, 1 abstention.

P1790/17/AG – Green Farm, Cliffords Mesne, Newent

Prior notification for the erection of a steel frame lean-to – this application had been withdrawn

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

Replacement of 5 floodlights and 1 new floodlight. Erection of 250 seater spectator stand. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Beard, All in favour.

61.6.2 To note planning decisions

PERMITTED

P1693/17/TCA – Ourome, Graces Pitch, Newent
Removal and replacement of x 1 Holly tree at Ourome

P0084/17/Discon – Fledgelings, High St, Newent

Discharge of conditions 03 (contract for carrying out of works); 10 (architectural details); and 11 (meter boxes and location) of planning permission P0300/16/FUL and P0301/16/LBC (revised description).

P0085/17/Discon – The Poplars, High Street, Newent
Discharge of conditions 03 (contract for carrying out of works); 10 (architectural details); and 11 (meter boxes and location) of planning permission P0294/16/FUL and P0295/16/LBC (revised description).

REFUSED

P1145/17/FUL – Woodgate Cottage, Cliffords Mesne, Newent
Erection of a workshop and store. Demolition of existing barn

62.7 Estate Management

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

Cllr Mrs Duncan requested that costings are sought for installing lighting in the library car park.

The report was noted.

62.7.2 To agree litter picking requirements for the Christmas period

Resolved: Staff would not be required to litter pick on the bank holidays (25th, 26th December and 1st January). Litter picking and bin emptying will be undertaken as usual on other days. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, All in favour.

62.8 To appoint an Independent Internal Auditor for 2017/18

The Clerk explained that the audit system is changing next year. Mr Peter Newman has confirmed he would be available again to undertake the Council's Internal Audit, which he has professionally completed in prior years.

Resolved: Mr Newman is appointed as the Internal Auditor for 2017/18 at cost of £180.00. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Blick, Seconded Cllr Heathfield, All in favour.

62.9 To consider quotations for replacement IT equipment

After a lengthy discussion, Councillors decided that the quotations were not comparable.

Proposed: Cllr Vesma is appointed to review the quotations in further details and make a recommendation to Council. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded Cllr Mrs Marcovecchio, All in favour.

61.10 To receive committee and representative reports

Committee and Representative reports were received as follows:-

Cllr Mrs Draper

Christmas Lights Event

Cllr Mrs Moseley

Community Safety Partnership

Cllr Blick

Questions raised with Cllr Gooch

61.11 Notice and information

Cllr Gooch attended a tourism presentation at the District Council and some information booklets are available for Councillors to borrow.

Cllr Mrs Davies reminded the Council that the Civic Carol Service would be taking place the following evening.

Resolved: That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

61.12 To approve the Licence Agreement for Newent Rugby Clubs use of the Recreation Ground

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.