

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 30th January 2017 at the Church Rooms, St Mary's Church, Newent at 7.30 pm.

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

Also present – The Clerk and 9 members of the public

Public Participation Session: No items raised.

40.0 Apologies – None.

40.1 Declaration of Interests – None.

40.2 To consider entering into a long term lease with Newent Rugby Club for the non-exclusive use of the Recreation Ground and Changing Rooms, Watery Lane

The Chairman of Newent Rugby Club gave a short overview of the proposal. The reason the extended lease had been requested, is to be able to secure funding from the RFU. The three key areas the club feel should be noted are; the proposal is in keeping with the original purpose of the Trust, the Club contributes to the wellbeing of adults and children and there is a significant economic benefit to the town.

The Mayor thanked Mr Moore.

The Council's working group then gave an overview of the consultation that took place in November. 191 questionnaires were completed which was disappointing as there are over 5,000 residents in Newent. There was clear support for the proposal, although a number of negative comments were also received.

Each Councillor was given the opportunity to comment on the proposal.

Resolved: In principle, a long term contractual agreement be entered into with Newent Rugby Football Club for the use of the changing rooms and pitches at Watery Lane. It will be non-exclusive, with terms and conditions laid down by Newent Town Council, which will include break points. Any contract will be subject to legal advice obtained by the Town Council and recognise that both the Charities Commission and Fields in Trust are to be consulted. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Marcovecchio, 10 in favour, 3 against.

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 7.48 pm.