

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Newent Town Council Meeting held on Monday 12th February 2018 at the Market House, Newent at 7.30 pm.

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

Also present – The Clerk and 5 members of the public, District Councillors J Gooch and J Horne

Public Participation Session: No items raised.

66.0 Apologies – Cllr Wood

66.1 Declaration of Interests

Cllrs Mrs Davies, Mrs Howley, Mrs Moseley and Blick declared an interest in the allotments grass cutting contract.

66.2 Neighbourhood Development Plans

(District Cllr Gooch joined the meeting during the presentation)

Elin Tattersall from Gloucestershire Rural Community Council gave a short presentation on Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP), covering what a plan is and what it does, who should be involved and a brief overview of the 8 stages of the process. Further information was circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting. The key points to note are the plan should be used to positively look at where development can go and must conform with the District and National policy. It cannot be used to stop development. Some grants are available, although they would only cover a proportion of the costs. A planning consultant would be needed to write the policies. The process takes approximately two to three years.

Councillors asked several questions and concerns were raised regarding the cost which could be up to £30,000, the amount of work required and the lack of resource available in the office. Comments were also made that previous town plans had been produced and disregarded by the District Council, however, the NDP would have legal status.

Cllr Gooch confirmed that the District Council's 5 year allocation plan is yet to be ratified. There was no information available on the Community Infrastructure Levy Policy. Cllr Gooch also stated why the NDP is important to towns and parishes. Some Councillors objected to the reference made regarding the Council's vision.

Cllr Mrs Davies thanked Elin for the informative presentation.

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

Cllr Mrs Davies agreed to discuss the following item earlier in the agenda as requested.

66.3 To receive District and County Councillors' quarterly update reports

District Cllr Horne had been involved with two NDPs and stated they were useful and are easier to progress with a small working group.

District Cllr Horne asked for the Council's backing with regards to some planning enforcement issues that are being dealt with in Cliffords Mesne and stated that some residents feel isolated and not listened to by the Town Council. Cllr Mrs Davies confirmed that the Town Council had not been informed of any enforcement action and that Cllr Mrs Wadley was very proactive in Cliffords Mesne.

At a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner, District Cllr Horne had raised issues with regards to the lake and asked for more patrols in the area. The Police precept will be significantly increased.

District Cllr Gooch had submitted a written report which had been circulated to Councillors. Councillors felt it was important for the different Councils to communicate.

Cllr Mrs Davies thanked District Cllrs Horne and Gooch for their reports.

(District Cllrs Horne and Cllr Gooch and 1 member of the public left the meeting at this juncture)

66.4 Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 22nd January 2018

Resolved: The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 22nd January were approved. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Heathfield, 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

66.5 Clerk's Update and Matters Arising

Tree Survey – The survey is commencing on 5th March.

Dog fouling at the Recreation Ground – The camera angle has been altered and signs erected.

Volunteer Water Bailiff – The position has been advertised.

Grit Bins – The grit bins have been purchased and the County Council have replenished the grit stocks. Cllr Beard requested that a bin is also placed at the Bousdon Lane/Culver Street junction and a couple of bags placed at the end of his driveway for use on the pavement. **Resolved:** A further barrel is purchased at a cost of £13.50 and half will be placed at the Bousdon Lane/Culver Street junction and half near to Glebe School. 2 bags will be placed in Culver Street. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Moseley, All in favour.

66.6 Finance

66.6.1 To approve accounts to be paid

A query was raised regarding the repairs to the cemetery gates and the Clerk confirmed this was covered by an insurance claim.

Payments made since last meeting	Chq No	£
Wages		2197.11
Barclaycard Transactions:		£
Fasthost Internet		3.00
Fasthost Internet		13.99
Payments to be considered	Chq No.	£
SLCC	14499	36.00
GAPTC	14500	36.00
Festive Lights	14501	114.84
Buildbase	14502	457.77
A C Davis	14503	3000.00
EE	14504	29.60
G D Parker & Co	14505	19.99
Forest Products	14506	18.10
Abbey Business Group	14507	28.43
GMT Solutions	14508	81.84
Chris Hyett	14509	124.91
Viking	14510	285.04
Grafton Merchanting	14511	23.04
Mainstream Digital	14512	10.24
Enviromesh	14513	466.54
HMRC	14449	1616.75
GCC	14450	1914.29

Resolved: The above expenditure is approved, to a value of £10,476.68. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Blick, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

66.6.2 Internal check report

Cllrs Mrs Marcovecchio and Mrs Moseley had undertaken the check and all was in order.

66.7 To consider response required to correspondence/consultations received

66.7.1 NALC – To consider signing up to the Diversity Pledge

Resolved: The Council signs up to the Diversity Pledge and adds a statement to the website. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Heathfield, Seconded Cllr Vesma, 10 in favour, 2 abstentions.

66.7.2 Gloucestershire County Council – Request for the installation of dog bins

The Clerk explained that a number of complaints had been made to the Public Rights of Way department regarding dog fouling and a request has been made for a dog bin to be installed on the footpath south of Bury Bar House at its junction with Drovers Way and at the southern edge of Newent. The bins cost approximately £200 each and the Town Council would be responsible for emptying them. Concerns were raised regarding the ongoing costs and the commitment and logistics for emptying the bins. **Resolved:** The request is not approved and no dog bins will be purchased. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Vesma, All in favour.

66.7.3 Gloucestershire Police – Initiation to a meet and mingle session on 23rd March

Cllrs Mrs Davies, Mrs Moseley, Mrs Howley and Heathfield would like to attend. Cllr Mrs Draper will attend if the meeting is in the evening.

66.8. Planning

66.8.1 Planning applications to be considered

P0059/18/FUL – 55 The Scarr, Newent

Erection of a two storey rear extension, single storey side extension, front porch, sunroom and additional car port with associated works. Installation of PV array. Demolition of conservatory. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

P0030/18/FUL – Rosella, Cliffords Mesne

Re-siting of oil tank and erection of a greenhouse. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

P1822/17/FUL – Forge Cottage, 3 Ross Road, Newent

Erection of a summer house, replacement of retaining wall and erection of a 2m wall. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Blick, All in favour.

P0012/18/FUL – Ferndene, Strawberry Hill, Newent

Erection of two temporary structures for agricultural/horticultural purposes. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, All in favour.

P1971/17/FUL – Yeden Lodges, 30 Ford House Road, The Scarr, Newent

Change of use of land from agricultural to holiday use. Erection of 6 no. holiday cabins with associated works. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Heathfield, 9 in favour, 3 abstentions.

P1844/17/FUL – 1 The Stables, Southend Lane, Newent

Proposed replacement of two static caravans with 1 dwelling including annexed accommodation. REVISED PLANS. **Resolved:** Objection. The Council supports the appeal report of 2011 which states “the development permitted is the stationing and siting of caravans for residential purposes.” The Council therefore does not feel a permanent residential property is appropriate. Given the shortage of travellers’ sites in the Forest of Dean area, the Council consider it is inappropriate to build permanent dwellings on such sites. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

66.8.2 To note planning decisions

PERMITTED

P0048/18/LD2 – Little Orchard, Culver Street, Newent
Application under Section 192 to establish whether the erection of a greenhouse extension and creation of hardstanding requires planning permission. LDC issued

REFUSAL

P0958/17/FUL – 46 Scarr Road, Newent
Erection of a detached residential annexe building, ancillary to the main dwelling

66.9 Estate Management

(Cllrs Mr Davies, Mrs Howley, Mrs Moseley and Blick left the meeting whilst the next item was discussed)

66.9.1 To consider allotment grass cutting contract and to delegate authority to appoint the contractor

Cllr Beard chaired the meeting for this item.

Cllr Mrs Marcovecchio gave an overview of the previously circulated report and explained that due to the timeframe the decision to appoint the contractor needed to be delegated. **Resolved:** Tenders are sought and Cllrs Wood, Beard and Mrs Marcovecchio are delegated to appoint a contractor. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Vesma, All in favour.

66.10 To approve newsletter

Resolved: The newsletter was approved subject to the agreed changes to the grit bins paragraph and an additional item on the Annual Parish Meeting. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

66.11 May Hill Multi Academy Trust meeting feedback

Cllr Mrs Moseley produced a briefing paper and gave an overview of the main points. It was agreed that this is still in the very early stages of the process and no further discussions are required at this time.

66.12 To receive committee and representative reports

Cllr Mrs Draper	Christmas Lights Committee
Cllr Beard	Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum meeting
Cllr Heathfield	Youth Advisory Group
Cllr Mrs Duncan	Patients Forum
Cllrs Mrs Marcovecchio and Mrs Wadley	Valegro meeting
Cllr Vesma	Supporting Historic High Streets seminar
Cllr Thomas	Wye Valley and Tourism meeting An item on the Library Tourism Centre will be added to the next agenda
Town Clerk	General Data Protection Regulations training

66.13 Notice and information

None.

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 8.58 pm.