

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Newent Town Council Meeting held on Monday 22nd January 2018 at the Market House, Newent at 7.30 pm.

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

Also present – The Clerk and 4 members of the public

Public Participation Session: No items raised.+

65.0 Apologies – Cllr Mrs Howley

65.1 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Heathfield declared an interest in the item regarding the Youth Advisory Group's report for supporting the Valegro Project and had requested a dispensation, which had been granted by the Proper Officer.

65.2 Freedom Leisure Introduction

This item was deferred until later in the meeting due to the late arrival of the representatives.

65.3 Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 8th January 2018

Resolved: The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 8th January were approved. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Wood, Seconded Cllr Beard, 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

65.4 Clerk's Update and Matters Arising

From meeting held on 18th December

Market House repairs – Repairs to the Market House legs will start week commencing 12th March and take up to 5 weeks. The contractor has agreed to stand by the quotation price from June 2017 (£18,075). No on-site works are taking place on Thursdays, therefore the market stall can still attend. A query was raised regarding who was managing the works and the Clerk confirmed Arnold Bartosch had been appointed as per the specification agreed at Council.

A discussion took place regarding Neighbourhood Development Plans and it was agreed to add this to the next agenda and invite District Cllr Gooch to attend. The Clerk has contacted GRCC to enquire if they would be able to attend the meeting to give a presentation.

65.5 Finance

65.5.1 To approve accounts to be paid

Payments made since last meeting	Chq No	£
Wages		4067.76
Barclaycard Transactions:		£
Fasthost Internet		3.00
Kaspersky		29.99
Amazon		100.98
Payments to be considered	Chq No.	£
Mainstream Digital	14487	72.86
Abbey Business Group	14488	14.52
MT Training Services	14489	390.00
Perpetua Press	14490	578.04
Hewelsfield & Brockweir Parish Council	14491	160.00
Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Tourism	14492	144.00
Grundon Waste Management Ltd	14493	105.91
Buildbase	14494	14.40
C F Corporate	14495	168.00
Glebe Chapel	14496	450.00
Diversified Communications	14497	186.00
Historic Towns & Villages Forum	14498	130.00

Resolved: The above expenditure is approved, to a value of £6,615.46. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Wood, All in favour.

65.5.2 To review budget update report

No issues were raised and the report was noted.

65.5.3 To approve removal of 'sweep system' from bank account

The Clerk explained that the sweep system did not work for on-line banking, as the system did not recognise the second account. If on-line payments are going to be progressed the sweep would have to be removed. **Resolved:** The sweep system is removed from the bank account. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Blick, Seconded Cllr Heathfield, All in favour.

65.6 To consider response required to correspondence/consultations received

65.6.1 Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Tourism – Market trail, press contacts and promotions

Cllr Thomas will be attending a meeting on 29th January and details of the meeting had been circulated.

Councillors suggestions for promotional items will be taken forward to the meeting and it was agreed that the Real Town App should also be included. Cllr Thomas will liaise with some of the businesses to gather information on events.

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

65.6.2 Gloucestershire Police – To agree dates for monthly meetings

Inspector Hodgetts would like to arrange monthly informal briefing meetings with the Council to discuss any issues or concerns. It was agreed that the meetings should take place on first Monday of each month at 2 pm and will be held in the council office.

65.2 Freedom Leisure Introduction (Deferred item)

Mr Spencer, Area Manager, and Ms Moreland, Active Communities Officer, from Freedom Leisure attended the meeting and gave a short presentation on what has been achieved since the start of the Freedom Leisure contract in 2015.

Cllr Blick enquired if Freedom Leisure are going to arrange activities during the school holidays. Mr Spencer confirmed this is being looked into and some activities are being held in the February half term, but more could be added in the future.

Cllr Mrs Davies congratulated Mr Spencer and Ms Moreland on the progress made with the leisure centre and services provided and thanked them both for attending the meeting. A copy of the presentation will be emailed to the Councillors and any questions will be answered.

(Mr Spencer and Ms Moreland left the meeting at this juncture)

65.7. Planning

65.7.1 Planning applications to be considered

P0001/18/FUL - 6 Birches Lane, Newent

Conversion and extension of existing outbuilding for use as holiday/annexe. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Blick, All in favour.

P1987/17/FUL - Plot 2 Horsley Grove, Cliffords Mesne

Conversion of agricultural building into residential dwelling. Sub-division of existing residential dwelling to create two separate units. **Resolved:** No objection, subject to the protection of the public access on the bridle path. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Beard, 10 in favour, 1 abstention.

P1869/17/TPO - 1 Kings Shoot, Court Road, Newent

Works to Copper Beech T1 of TPO191 to reduce the south/southeast side of the tree to provide a 2m clearance between the tree and buildings, and remove deadwood. **Resolved:** The Council would prefer Option 2 offered to Naturefirst by Planning Officer via email on 21.12.17 and requests more information. The Council is concerned that without further information it is unable to judge the impact of the suggested works. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Beard, 10 in favour, 1 abstention.

P1857/17/FUL - Green Farm, Cliffords Mesne

Proposed extension to agricultural building. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Blick, All in favour.

DFTPO234 Land off Bradfords Lane, Newent – Tree Preservation Order 2018

Comment on the making of Tree Preservation Order – prior to decision whether to confirm. **Resolved:** The Council supports the order. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Wood, All in favour.

65.7.2 To note planning decisions

PERMITTED

P1851/17/FUL - 51 Lakeside, Newent
Extension of existing garage

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

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

65.8 Estate Management

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

The previously circulated report was discussed. The Clerk updated the Council regarding a break-in at the Chapel.

Chapel Door – **Resolved:** Repairs are carried out to the Chapel door to include a reinforced inner door, subject to planning

permission and insurance advice. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Wood, All in favour.

Fish stock in Lake - **Resolved:** The fish stocks will not be reduced this year. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Davies, Seconded Cllr Wood, All in favour.

Damaged Arboretum sign - **Resolved:** The sign at the Arboretum is to be reinstalled in a location that will not be affected when the car park is extended, at a cost of £97.00. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Blick, Seconded Cllr Wood, All in favour.

65.8.2 To consider quotations for the tree survey

Quotations had been circulated. Cllr Mrs Draper asked if the Estate Supervisor had a recommendation, the Clerk confirmed the preferred supplier was Company A as the works provided would be more in-depth. **Resolved:** The quotation from Company A of £3,455.00 is approved. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, All in favour.

65.8.3 Newent Rugby Club – Concerns regarding dog fouling on the Recreation Ground

The Rugby Club have raised concerns regarding the increased amount of dog fouling on the pitches. Cllr Mrs Marcovecchio stated there had been an increase in dog fouling throughout the town. **Resolved:** One of the mobile CCTV cameras is angled to cover the pitch and signs are also erected. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Wadley, All in favour.

65.8.4 To consider advertising for a volunteer Water Bailiff

The Staff Committee recommended that an additional volunteer is recruited to make it easier for two people to patrol the Lake. **Resolved:** An advert is placed for an additional Volunteer Water Bailiff. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Marcovecchio, Seconded Cllr Beard, All in favour.

65.9 To appoint Councillors to review the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct

Resolved: Cllrs Mrs Davies, Mrs Howley, Heathfield and Vesma are appointed to review the above documents. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Davies, All in favour.

65.10 To consider Youth Advisory Group's report for supporting the Valegro Project

Cllr Heathfield had circulated a report for consideration. A long discussion took place and some Councillors did not feel the Council had been kept up to date with the project and some were not happy with the proposed location of the statue. Concerns were also raised that very few young people were attending the Youth Advisory Group meetings. Some Councillors expressed support for the project and the benefit to the town. **Resolved:** The Council approves the Youth Advisory Group supporting the Valegro Project. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Heathfield, Seconded Cllr Beard, 10 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention.

65.11 To consider proposal for grit bins

Cllr Thomas gave an overview of the previously circulated report. The Council had received several complaints during the period of snow and although there is no duty for the Town Council to supply grit bins, it was felt it should be addressed. **Resolved:** 6 barrels will be purchased at a cost of £40.50 and used to store grit for use on paths in the town centre as a trial. A lockable grit bin will be placed in the Market Square. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, Seconded Cllr Mrs Duncan, All in favour.

65.12 To consider Estate Management Plan

Resolved: The circulated plan is approved. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper, Seconded Cllr Mrs Wadley, 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

65.13 To review and adopt Risk Assessment

Resolved: The circulated Risk Assessment is adopted. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Blick, All in favour.

65.14 To review and adopt Complaints Procedure

Resolved: The circulated Complaints Procedure is adopted. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper, Seconded Cllr Beard, All in favour.

65.15 To review and adopt the Training Policy/Statement of Intent

Resolved: The circulated Training Policy/Statement of Intent is adopted. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper, Seconded Cllr Blick, All in favour.

65.16 To receive committee and representative reports

Cllr Wood	Rural Crime Awareness seminar
Cllrs Mrs Moseley	Community Safety Partnership
Cllr Mrs Moseley	May Hill Academy Trust meeting at the Community School. This will be added to the next meeting agenda

65.16 Notice and information

None.

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.