

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Newent Town Council Meeting held on Monday 14th January 2019 at the Market House, Newent at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillors E Wood (Deputy Mayor), Mrs R Wadley, E Heathfield, Mrs C Howley, V Vesma, Mrs S Marcovecchio, Mrs K Draper, R Beard, Mrs M Duncan, D Blick, A Jones. Mrs G Moseley joined part way through the meeting

Also present – The Clerk and 3 members of the public

Cllr Wood chaired the meeting in the absence of the Mayor.

Public Participation Session: No items raised.

88.0 Apologies – Cllr Mrs Davies.

88.1 Declaration of Interests

A dispensation had been granted by the Forest of Dean District Council's Monitoring Officer to allow all Councillors to participate in the setting of the budget and precept.

88.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 10th December 2018

Item 87.13 relating to the Forest of Dean Youth Council, Cllr Heathfield had said the YAG would like to learn more about the group with a view to working with the District Council in the future.

Resolved: The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 10th December 2018 were approved, subject to 'been' being included on the top line of P532. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Mrs Draper, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

88.3 Clerk's Update and Matters Arising

No items were raised.

88.4 Finance

88.4.1 To approve accounts to be paid

Payments made since last meeting		£
Salaries		5833.17
Calfordseaden	14942	3686.98
GMT Solutions	14943	717.60
Barclaycard Transactions		

Fasthost Internet	6.00
Fasthost Internet	13.19

Payments to be considered	Chq No.	£
Newent Community School	14944	25.20
Tony Shaw Driving	14945	75.00
Chris Hyett	14946	249.82
Peninsula	14947	173.42
Waterplus	14948	14.12
Isis Services	14949	24.00
Parkers & Co	14950	9.98
EE	14951	30.73
Buildbase	14952	27.00
Fresh-Air Fitness	14953	57.60
GMT Solutions	14954	124.32
Abbey Business	14955	17.15
Mainstream Digital	14956	5.22
Grundon Waste Management	14957	131.57
Viking	14958	108.06
Direct Autos	14959	144.00
Highleadon Filling Station	14960	176.11
A-Plan Insurance	14961	960.99
MKM	14962	235.94
Perpetua Press	14963	82.80
Ermin Plant	14964	795.62
Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association	14965	45.00
D Morley	14966	14.70
Gloucestershire County Council	BACS	2221.29
HMRC	BACS	1854.97

Resolved: The above expenditure is approved, to a value of £13,456.97. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Blick, Seconded Cllr Beard, All in favour.

88.4.2 To review budget update report

Cllr Beard stated that it looked like the Council will come in on budget at the end of the financial year and congratulated the Clerk.

The report was reviewed and noted.

88.5 To consider the draft budget for 2019/2020 and setting of Precept for 2019/2020

A draft budget proposal had been circulated, which had been prepared by the working group. A number of additional projects requiring funding were also circulated for consideration.

All Councillors were given the opportunity to comment and a very lengthy discussion took place.

(Cllr Mrs Moseley joined the meeting at this juncture)

Cllr Vesma had made funding requests for; Lake project preparatory studies, a gateway feature for the Lake, youth orientated projects and bandstand improvement projects and gave a supportive case for each request. Several supportive comments were made on the projects including the lake being integral to developing the town, funding of youth projects being important, the bandstand does require improvements. Some concerns were raised regarding the amount of money required, whether the projects could be delivered this year and if they were a priority for the Council. There will also be an election in May so new Councillors may be elected.

There are a number of organisations in the town providing good youth provision and there will be funding available from the Gloucestershire County Council Deed of Variation monies this year for groups to apply for.

The office accommodation was recommended by the working group as a priority project to be progressed, which was supported by several councillors.

At the end of the discussion, each additional project funding request was considered and voted on separately, as to whether they should be included in the budget;

Lake project preparatory studies - £6,400.00. **Record of Voting:** 5 in favour, 7 against.

Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) - £2,000.00. **Record of Voting:** All in favour.

Traffic control - £7,500.00. **Record of Voting:** 9 in favour, 1 against, 2 abstentions.

Purchase of container for council storage - £3,000.00. **Record of Voting:** 10 in favour, 2 against.

Gateway feature at the Lake - £2,500.00. **Record of Voting:** 7 in favour, 4 against, 1 abstention.

Youth orientated projects - £10,000.00. **Record of Voting:** 4 in favour, 5 against, 3 abstentions.

Bandstand improves - £18,500.00. **Record of Voting:** 4 in favour, 6 against, 2 abstentions.

Resolved: Funding requests, as stated, above for the NDP, traffic control, purchase of a storage container and gateway feature were approved.

Resolved: The budget for 2019/20 of £294,827.00 is approved and the precept request for 2019/20 is £275,530.00. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, 10 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention.

88.6 To consider response required to correspondence/consultations received

88.6.1 To consider advertising in the Welcome to Gloucestershire publication

A discussion took place to the merits of advertising in this publication and what could be advertised including walks, accommodation dog friendly eateries. The discussion led on to Councillors expressing the need for the town to have a Business Club. **Resolved:** The Council will advertise in the next publication of Welcome to Gloucestershire. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, 11 in favour, 1 against. **Resolved:** A full page advert was agreed at a cost of £725.00 + VAT from next year's town promotions budget. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Wood, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

Cllrs Mrs Howley, Jones, Mrs Wadley and the Clerk will prepare an advert proof for consideration at the next meeting.

88.6.2 Keep Britain Tidy – To consider participating in the Great British Spring Clean 22nd March – 23rd April 2019

The Council agreed to participate in the event, as there were several areas in the town that require litter picking. The event will be arranged for a Saturday, providing the equipment is available.

88.6.3 Gloucestershire County Council – Budget consultation

No comments were raised.

88.6.4 Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Tourism – Consideration of membership renewal

Cllr Mrs Wadley who represents the Council at the meetings, stated the meeting she had attended was very useful and recommended renewing the membership. It was agreed that the Council needs to make better use of the membership. **Resolved:** The membership is renewed at a cost of £120.00 + VAT. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Wadley, Seconded Cllr Vesma, All in favour.

88.7 Planning

88.7.1 Planning applications to be considered

P1892/18/LD1 – 35 Ford House Road, The Scarr, Newent

Application under Section 191 to establish whether use of parcel of land as residential curtilage is lawful. **Resolved:** No objection.

Record of Voting: Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, All in favour.

P1906/18/TPO – Newent Lake, Lakeside, Newent

Fell x 1 Alder tree covered by A6 of G41 TPO54 – (Council's application – for information).

P0131/18/Discon – Land North of Ross Road, Newent

Discharge of condition 17 (noise assessment) and 19 (lighting strategy) of planning appeal decision APP/P1615/A/2228822 (P09691/14/OUT). **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Blick, All in favour.

P0134/18/Discon – 33 Ford House Road, The Scarr, Newent

Discharge of Conditions 09 (construction method statement) and 12 (surface water drainage scheme) of planning permission P0243/18/COU. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Heathfield, All in favour.

P1374/18/FUL – Conigree Court, Conigree Road, Newent

Erection of general purpose farm building, portal frame building to house free standing horse stables and replacement smaller/lower portal frame building to replace existing unsafe farm building to provide storage and horse shower. Construction of riding manege and lunge ring. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Beard, All in favour.

P1990/18/OUT – Land off Bradfords Lane, Newent

Outline planning permission for up to 50 dwellings, new planting and landscaping, informal open space, car parking, vehicular access point from Bradfords Lane and associated ancillary works. All matters to be reserved with the exception of the main vehicular site access. (Resubmission). **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Wadley, 6 in favour, 4 against, 2 abstentions. **Resolved:** The following conditions must apply:

- The area shown for potential bungalows is guaranteed, as there is a need for more bungalows in the town.
- The development has a maximum of 50 dwellings erected. Some of the paperwork refers to 60 houses, which Newent Town Council would not support.
- 40% of the properties would be guaranteed affordable housing.

Record of Voting: 9 in favour, 3 abstentions.

P1999/18/FUL – Cedarwood, Cliffords Mesne
Erection of a single storey extension and replacement of roof covering from existing Cedar shingles to metal sheeting with associated works. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Wadley, Seconded Cllr Mrs Duncan, All in favour.

88.7.2 To note planning decisions

PERMITTED

P1805/18/Nonmat – Land North of Ross Road, Newent
Non-material amendment to outline planning permission ref. P0969/14/OUT to amend details approved under planning condition 22 (affordable housing details) to insert a mortgagee exclusion clause

P1761/18/GPDE – 13 The Tythings, Newent
Erection of a single storey rear extension (General Permitted Development Extension)

P1722/18/TPO – 10 Lakeside, Newent
Re-pollard x 1 Lime tree covered by G5 of G41 TPO54 at 10 Lakeside back to previous points

P0121/18/Discon – Black Dog Inn, Church Street, Newent
Discharge of condition 19 (roofing and external facing materials) of planning permission P0831/18/FUL

P1664/18/FUL – 46 Scarr Road, Newent
Conversion of a redundant agricultural building to a detached dwelling with associated works.

P1867/18/FUL – 16 Winfield, Newent
Erection of a single storey side extension and provision of pitched roof to existing front porch

P1542/18/FUL – Sheppard House, Onslow Road, Newent
Erection of 6ft perimeter fence and installation of gate access with associated works

88.7.3 Planning application P1330/18/OUT – Rejection of Section 106 application

The Clerk informed the Council that the submission for funding to replace the play equipment at the Lake was challenged by the developer and it was deemed that Newent already has adequate youth/adult recreation provision. All applications for youth/adult recreation were rejected and only the Library will receive monies.

Resolved: A letter is sent to Gloucestershire County Council asking why monies had not been applied for. The Clerk is to contact GAPTC for legal advice. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Moseley, Seconded Cllr Draper, All in favour.

88.8 Estate Management

88.8.1 To approve further expenditure for preliminary reports for the Community & Recreation Ground facility

Resolved: Expenditure of £5,000.00 is approved for preliminary reports to be completed. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, 10 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention.

88.9 To consider sending letters to Gloucestershire County Council and Severn Trent regarding closure of B4215

Many issues were raised regarding the lack of consultation and information provided. Cllr Mrs Moseley gave feedback from the public meeting which she had attended. It was agreed that the Town Council now have a good line of communication with Severn Trent and will wait to hear about the alternative plans. **Resolved:** A letter is sent to the Leader of Gloucestershire County Council asking why the County Councillor had not been in correspondence with the Town Council and why the proposal had not been brought to the attention of the Town Council and why were concerns not raised. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

88.10 To review the Strategic Plan

Cllr Heathfield gave an update on 1c the Youth Advisory Group.

Cllr Heathfield stated that 1d, the Facebook Page should be a priority now the Administration Assistant had been appointed. The Clerk confirmed that a backlog of work is currently the priority in the office and the Facebook page will be launched in due course, but hopefully before the end of March.

88.11 To approve the newsletter

(Cllr Mrs Duncan left the meeting at this juncture)

Due to the negative information circulated about the postponement of the road closure public meeting, it was agreed that the article would be focused on the Council's response and Cllr Mrs Moseley would edit the circulated draft statement as required. A copy will also be published on the website.

(Cllr Mrs Duncan re-joined the meeting at this juncture)

88.13 To receive committee and representative reports

Cllr Mrs Moseley

NDP Steering Group meeting

Cllr Mrs Moseley

Our Shared Forest meeting

All other reports and notices were deferred until the next meeting.

The Deputy Mayor declared the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.