

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Newent Town Council Meeting held on Monday 24th June 2019 at the Market House, Newent at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillors Mrs J Davies (Mayor), Mrs C Howley, E Heathfield, Mrs S Marcovecchio, Mrs K Draper, Mrs M Duncan, A Jones, Mrs G Moseley, Ms C Birkan, Mrs W Odhiambo, R Beard, Mrs R Wadley

Also present – The Clerk and 2 members of the public

The Mayor congratulated the District Councillors who were elected and commiserated with those who did not get elected.

Public Participation Session: No items raised.

04.1 Apologies – Cllr Ralph.

04.2 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Mrs Howley declared a pecuniary interest in planning application P0073/19/Discon by virtue of owning a neighbouring property.

04.3 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th June 2019

Under notices and information, it should refer to Cllr Heathfield being invited to a Taurus not Tourist craft open day.

Resolved: The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 10th June 2019 were approved, subject to the above amendment. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded Cllr Heathfield, 10 in favour, 1 abstention.

04.4 Clerk's Update and Matters Arising

Repositioning the mobile CCTV camera – Two Rivers have confirmed they will cover the cost of moving the camera. There are some issues with siting the camera, which need to be addressed before the camera is moved. Cllr Beard requested details of the locations of where the camera was moving from and to.

The Cemetery Lodge Consultation – Having liaised with the Library, the proposed event will take place on Friday 5th July 4 pm–7 pm and Saturday 6th July in the Market Square 10 am–Midday. The questionnaire will also be available in the Library and on the Council's website from 5th–12th July. A press release will be issued. Cllr Mrs Wadley requested a copy of the questionnaire by email, so it can be circulated in Cliffords Mesne.

(Cllr Ms Birkan joined the meeting at this juncture).

Update from previous meetings;

Pigeon control – The service will commence 8th July. The local pigeon club has been notified. Councillors were asked to notify the Clerk if they are aware of any local residents who keep pigeons.

Bunting – The bunting will be erected on Thursday and letters have been sent to the businesses in the town.

Facebook – The Council’s Facebook page is now live.

Reception opening hours – The office reception is now open an extra 30 minutes on Tuesdays-Thursdays.

04.5 Finance

04.5.1 To approve accounts to be paid

Payments made since last meeting	Payment method	£
Wages	BACS	7749.17
Barclaycard Transactions:		£
Fasthost Internet		6.00
Fasthost Internet		13.19
Direct Debit/Standing Order/BACS payments May:	Payment method	£
Lex Autolease	DD	603.44
Lloyds Bank	DD	5.00
Payments to be considered	Chq No.	£
Mainstream Digital Ltd	15127	6.10
Buildbase	15128	5.70
Archer Signs	15129	118.74
Grundon Waste Management	15130	126.70
HB Digital Printing	15131	36.00
Ladder and Fencing Industries	15132	114.00
Water Plus	15133	163.09
Viking	15134	150.32
Shaw & Sons	15135	66.18

Resolved: The above expenditure is approved, to a value of £9,163.63. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

04.5.2 To review budget update report

No issues were raised. **Resolved:** The report was adopted.

Record of Voting: Proposed Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

04.6 To consider response required to correspondence/consultations received

04.6.1 Gloucestershire Association of Town and Parish Councils – Nominations requested for vacancies on the Executive Committee

Resolved: Cllr Beard is nominated. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Davies, Seconded Cllrs Mrs Howley, All in favour.

04.6.2 Forest of Dean District Council – Consultation on application for new premises licence for the International Centre of Birds of Prey, Bouldson House, Great Bouldson, Newent

Resolved: No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper, Seconded Cllrs Mrs Marcovecchio, All in favour.

04.6.3 Gloucestershire County Council – Proposed diversion of footpath GNE 96 and extinguishment of part of footpath GNE 208 at The Moat, Newent

A letter from a resident was circulated to councillors for consideration.

Comments were made that the diversion should be accessible at all times, as currently it is not always clear. If any residents have any issues regarding access, they should contact Public Rights of Way at Gloucestershire County Council. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Moseley, Seconded Cllr Beard, All in favour.

04.7 Planning

04.7.1 Planning applications to be considered

P0071/19/Discon – Tom Roberts Adventure Centre, Yates Farm, Malswick, Newent

Discharge of Conditions 03 (External facing materials), 04 (Paved areas), 05 (External lighting), 06 (Surface water drainage), 09 (Biodiversity Enhancements) of planning permission P1783/18/FUL.

Resolved: No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Jones, All in favour.

P0836/19/FUL – 35 Ford House Road, The Scarr, Newent

Conversion of agricultural storage building to form single dwelling.

Resolved: No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, All in favour.

P0830/19/FUL – Newent Recreation Ground, Watery Lane, Newent
Erection of a community building with associated parking and works.
Removal of temporary cafeteria building and shipping containers –
No comment, for noting only.

P0659/19/FUL – Spring Bank, Malswick, Newent

Erection of an office building with associated parking and works.
Demolition of existing office building. **Resolved:** No objection.
Record of Voting: Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Mrs
Howley, All in favour.

P0884/19/FUL – Rosella, Cliffords Mesne

Erection of a two storey extension and first floor extension with
associated works. **Resolved:** No objection. The Council would like
to comment that the property opens onto a bridle path and this will
create another 5 bedroom house in the village. **Record of Voting:**
Proposed Cllr Mrs Wadley, Seconded Cllr Beard, 11 in favour, 1
abstention.

P0073/19/Discon – Glebe Chapel, Glebe Close, Newent
Discharge of condition 11 (roofing and external facing materials)
relating to planning permission P1746/17/FUL

(Cllr Mrs Howley left the meeting whilst this application was considered)

Resolved: No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs
Duncan, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, All in favour.

P0859/19/LBC – The Poplars and The Fledgelings, High Street,
Newent

Listed Building Consent for the installation of steps and railings to
the entrance of Fledgelings Unit 1 and installation of gates to the
yard serving Units 1 and 4 of Poplars Cottage including the
installation of x 2 fireplace in Unit 3 of The Poplars. **Resolved:** No
objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan,
Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, All in favour.

04.7.2 To note planning decisions

PERMITTED/CONSENT

P0497/19/FUL – 1 Knights Crescent, Newent

Erection of a single storey extension for the benefit of a disabled
person

P0777/19/TCA – Porch House, 35 Church Street, Newent

20% reduction of x 1 Willow Tree at 35 Porch House

REFUSED

P1799/18/FUL – Horsley Grove, Cliffords Mesne

Conversion of agricultural building into residential dwelling. Sub-division of existing residential dwelling to create two separate units (resubmission)

APPEAL DECISION

Appeal Ref: APP/P1615/W/19/3222251 Kings Arms Inn, Ross Road, Newent

Appeal made against decision of Forest of Dean District Council. The application Ref P1056/18/FUL dated 5 July 2019 was refused by notice dated 1 November 2018. The development proposed is change of use of land to provide motorhome overnight parking area including the erection of a barrier and fence around perimeter (retrospective). Appeal dismissed.

04.8 Estate Management

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

The 2019 tree inspection had been completed and recommendations circulated to the Council. **Resolved:** The recommended tree works are undertaken as proposed. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

An oak tree at the lake had been identified as having a proliferation of fungal brackets and a report was circulated to the Council with three options for consideration. Councillors made various comments including; that it should be felled as it is by a footpath, the Council's insurers should be asked to advise, the tree inspector believes the tree has sufficient safety factors to remain so the tree should be monitored in the first instance. **Resolved:** The Council accepts the advice given and approves the option to monitor the movement of the root plate with tree motion sensors at a cost of approximately £500.00. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded Cllr Mrs Moseley, 11 in favour, 1 against.

04.8.2 Request to purchase the Newent History Society's book 'We will Remember Them' for display in the Market House

Resolved: The book is purchased at a cost of £12.00. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded Cllr Jones, All in favour.

04.8.3 Request for wildflower seeds or flowers to be planted around a memorial tree at the Lake

Cllr Heathfield spoke on this item after a resident had made a request directly to him. The flowers/seeds would be planted for a birthday remembrance.

A long discussion took place and several councillors raised concerns including; needing to know the source of the wildflowers, it would set a precedence, the Council already have a large wildflower area close to the tree, there is a lot of maintenance required to ensure wildflowers grow from seed and cannot just be scattered. It was suggested that the Council could consider another area that could be planted as a wildflower meadow. Cllr Heathfield made a proposal for the wildflower seeds to be planted around the memorial tree, this was not seconded therefore the request was not approved.

04.8.4 Request to purchase bird boxes for erecting in the Arboretum

Cllr Mrs Howley gave some background regarding the bird boxes that were erected in the Lake area. The boxes made out of reclaimed wood did not last and had to be replaced with boxes made from cedar. After taking advice, it was reported that the Arboretum could support up to 30 bird boxes. The price for each box would be £19.50, but these do include the metal plate on the entrance hole. Several Councillors spoke in favour of the proposal although some concerns were raised regarding the cost and different sized bird boxes being needed.

Cllr Mrs Howley agreed to look at other suppliers and for different shaped bird boxes and will bring a report back to Council.

04.8.5 Participation in the Heritage Open Days event in September

The National Heritage Open Days events will be held between 13th – 22nd September. The Market House Stewards have kindly agreed to participate in the event by opening the Market House on 17th-22nd. It cannot be opened on the other days due to it being used by the Onion Fayre Committee.

04.9 Proposal to form a working group to investigate how best to promote the setting up of Residents Associations in Newent

Cllr Mrs Moseley stated that there are no residents' associations in Newent and having been approached by 3 people, plus attending the Planning Committee regarding the development by Southend Lane where only one resident attended, Cllr Mrs Moseley felt the Council could encourage residents to set up associations.

There would be no cost to the Council apart from councillor and staff time and some photocopying. Some councillors spoke in favour of the proposal and that it encouraged community engagement, whilst other comments were raised stating that the Neighbourhood Watch groups worked well. Cllr Beard requested the move to next business.

04.10 To receive committee and representative reports

Cllr Mrs Draper	Christmas Lights Committee meeting. The event will take place on 23 rd November 2019.
Cllr Mrs Duncan	Health Centre Fund meeting. The Health Centre will donate £500.00 towards the defibrillator.
Cllr Mrs Odhiambo	Forest Economic Partnership meeting

04.11 Notices and information

Cllr Mrs Davies informed the Council that the Allotment Association are holding a BBQ on 13th July at 12.30 pm and all councillors are welcome to attend.

Cllr Mrs Howley reminded councillors that the Dolphin Club walk around the Lake would be taking place the following evening at 7 pm.

Cllrs Mrs Marcovecchio and Mrs Draper had completed an allotment inspection and issues had been reported to the Clerk.

The Mayor declared the meeting closed 8.59 pm.