

## NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Newent Town Council Meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at the Market House, Newent at 7.30 pm.

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

Also present – The Assistant Clerk and four members of the public

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Public Participation Session: No items raised

93.0 Apologies – Cllr Blick and the Town Clerk

93.1 Declaration of Interests – Cllrs Beard and Mrs Howley declared interests in the Finance/Sundry payments

93.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019

**Resolved:** The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were approved following a minor amendment on Page 560 925.1 and an amendment on Page 564 92.9. third para – amend the proposition was not seconded to Cllr Heathfield withdrew his proposition and Cllr Mrs Davies put forward an alternative proposition:- the Facebook page be set up - *insert “in due course”* as and when time is permitted.....**Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Wood, All in favour.

93.4 Clerk's Update and Matters Arising

The Assistant Clerk advised a notification had been received from Newent Initiative Trust that unfortunately the Band concerts for various reasons had to be cancelled. The only one that would operate would be the June Open Air Pentecost Service on 9<sup>th</sup> June.

Minute 92.7.3 Planning application P1990/18/Out – S106 Application

Cllr Mrs Duncan reminded Members that Section 106 monies was not available from the District Council should this application be approved for recreational provision however the applicant Kodiak had pledged £10,000 to the Town Council for this purpose. Cllr Mrs Duncan expressed her willingness to attend the Planning meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> April to speak for the need of Section 106 monies and to expand on the wider remit for their use in terms of the environment and youth as well as recreational provision.

**Resolved:** Cllr Mrs Duncan be represented by the Town Council at the District Council Planning meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019 to seek Section 106 monies from this application for the benefit of the town. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper, Seconded Cllr Jones, 10 in favour, 2 abstentions.

## 93.5 Finance

### 93.5.1 To approve accounts to be paid

Cllrs Beard and Mrs Howley declared interests in these matters and left the room whilst it was under discussion and approval.

Payments made since last meeting		£
Salaries		7435.55
Barclaycard transactions		
Fasthost Internet		6.00
Fasthost Internet		13.19
Payments to be considered	Chq No.	£
Green Farm Seeds	15022	120.60
Broxap Ltd	15023	498.00
Country Corner	15024	33.00
Chris Hyett	15024	124.91
Safpro	15026	277.54
Network Connections	15027	1260.00
Ermin Plant	15028	202.75
Christine Howley	15029	16.90
Roger Beard	15030	16.90
Perpetua Press	15031	112.32
Spirex Aquatec Ltd	15032	561.60
Country Corner	15033	296.27

**Resolved:** The above expenditure is approved, to a value of £10,976.33 **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Mrs Marcovecchio, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, All in favour

### 93.5.2 Becoming VAT registered

Members were notified that Local authorities are required to register for VAT if they make any taxable supplies, whatever the value of those supplies is. The Council has been advised by HMRC that it should register and therefore from 1st April 2019 the Council will become VAT registered. There are some services the Council provides that will be exempt from VAT which include allotments and cemetery charges. However, VAT will be applicable to fishing permits, hiring of amenities and sponsorship of events etc. This will also affect how the Council claims VAT back and this is being addressed by the Clerk.

## 93.6 To consider response required to correspondence/consultations receive

### 93.6.1 Made Without Gluten – Request to site mobile catering van in Library car park up to two days per week.

Members were furnished with a background paper from the applicants detailing their business and the source of their completely gluten free product. Their request was to site their vehicle from early evening to approx. 9.00 pm up to two days per week in the Council owned car park to the rear of the Library.

Members were in general agreement to the proposal, however it was felt that the bus lane of the District Council owned Lewall Street car park was a preferential site due to it being more visible and accessible (site behind library somewhat hidden with no lighting after dark) and had CCTV coverage. **Resolved:** the applicants be permitted (subject to submission of licence, insurance, risk assessment) to utilise the Town Council car park for a three month period for up to two days per week, early evening to 9.00 pm on days other than Monday and Tuesday when the Tudor Fish Shop sell gluten free food, but that permission be sought in the longer term to utilise the Council's favoured site in the District Council Lewall Street car park for which the Town Council will submit written support. **Record of voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Draper, Seconded Cllr Heathfield, 11 in favour, 1 against.

### 92.6.2 Freedom-Leisure – Request to utilise the Lake area for an Easter Xplorer on Friday 12 April

**Resolved:** No Objection **Record of Voting** Proposed Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded Cllr Vesma, All in favour.

## 93.7 Planning

### 93.7.1 Planning applications to be considered

P0334/19/FUL – The Red Lion, 2 Broad Street, Newent

Re-opening of previous entrance to rear gardens and repositioning of fire escape. **Resolved:** Object – not a re-opening of a previous entrance, this constitutes a new entrance. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Wood, 11 in favour, 1 against

P0337/19/FUL – 35 The Tythings, Newent

Erection of a two storey rear extension with associated works. Demolition of existing conservatory. **Resolved:** No Objection

**Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Beard  
All in favour

P1926/18/FUL – Land to the Southwest of Meadow Grove, Newent

Variation and Discharge of Condition 07 (Tree Survey, Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Arboricultural Method Statement), Discharge of Conditions 05 (Drainage Strategy), 04 (SUDS Maintenance Plan), 06 (Bat Boxes), 08 (Hard and Soft Landscaping), 09 (Fence Details) and 10 (External Lighting) of planning permission P1099/16/FUL. **Resolved:** No Objection **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Vesma, All in favour

P0336/19/FUL – 33 The Tythings, Newent

Erection of a two storey rear extension and car port. Demolition of existing conservatory and garage. **Resolved:** No Objection **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Beard, All in favour

P0369/19/P03PA – Unit 2B Bellstone, Redmarley Road, Newent

Prior approval for conversion of B1(c) light industrial to C3 residential. **Resolved:** No Objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour

#### 93.7.2 To note planning decisions

##### PERMITTED

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/14/2228822 (P09691/14/OUT)

P1193/18/FUL 8 Broad Street, Newent

Conversion of former bank (Grade 11 listed) to 5 self contained flats

P1194/18/LBC 8 Broad Street, Newent

Listed Building Consent for the conversion of former bank (Grade 11 listed) to 5 self-contained flats

#### 93.8 Estate Management

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

**Resolved:** The Estate Supervisor's report was approved including a tree re-inspection of 28 trees in the sum of £840 plus vat. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded Cllr Jones, All in favour.

93.9 To agree town promotional leaflet proof and expenditure required – Cllr Mrs Howley

Cllr Mrs Howley updated Members on the progression of the formation of the leaflet. She advised she would like to print 2500 leaflets the net cost to the Council for this being £170.00 after advertising income has been taken into account. It was suggested that amendment be made to the chosen font and that the picture be changed from the Shambles on the front cover – in order to not confuse the former Shambles Museum still available on Search Engines, to the Tudor Fish and Chip shop

**Resolved:** 2500 leaflets be printed taking into account the amendments raised **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Wadley, 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

93.10 To review quotations and make a decision for insurance cover

Quotations were received for insurance cover

Company A                    £4661.39 or for a 3 year agreement £4872.63

Company B                    £7500.00

**Resolved:** Company A be accepted for a 3 year agreement. **Record of Voting:** Proposed, Cllr Wood, Seconded Cllr Beard, 10 in favour, 1 against.

93.11 To approve the brief for the Lakeside gateway feature design competition - Cllr Vesma

Cllr Vesma produced a brief for the Lakeside gateway feature design competition open to students at Newent Community school, for Members' consideration. Comment was made that measurements needed to be given and that judging should be made by inclusion of local residents.

**Resolved:** that Cllr Vesma to approach the School to ascertain their timetable to fit with submission of entries, and that local residents be included the judging panel. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Davies, 11 in favour, 1 abstention.

93.12 To receive committee and representative reports

There were no committee or representative reports

93.13 Notices and Information

1. An update was given on the progress of the insurance claim on the damaged bus shelter next to the Library. Members expressed urgency in its removal given its unsightly appearance in the town.

2. A reminder was given that the Annual Parish Meeting was to take place on Thursday 4 April.
3. The District Council has recently advised the Forest towns had been offered £3500 to be spent on town centres, the funding to be spend by the financial year-end of 31 March. Cllr Mrs Davies advised she had accepted the funding on the Council's behalf suggesting it be spent on flowers for the town centre and renewing some of the broken tubs and re-siting others. Also to pressure wash the pavements. It was suggested by another Member that the District Council's Street cleaning contract be checked to ensure this was not covered within the cleansing remit before embarking upon this.
4. A BMX track had been dug out in the wooded area at the far end of the Lake. Substantial amounts of soil had been moved, a tree cut down and ivy and foliage used to camoflague the area. Permission had not be sought. The Police had been informed. **Resolved** the area be reinstated by Council staff, **Record of voting** Proposed Cllr Wood, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, 8 in favour, 1 against, 3 abstentions.
5. Cllr Heathfield made the following statement:- "I understand that I have upset the Mayor and a number of Councillors over the post I put up regarding my personal feelings over the Town Council's decision to put the facebook page back and I am sorry for this. However, as a Town Councillor for the residents of the town I am fully entitled to voice my disappointment over decisions made in a public meeting. I would also like to rebut allegations of "vote gathering" and of using the Town Council and its Office staff as an electioneering platform. The post I wrote was factual but did relay my feelings over the decision made at a full Council meeting with 5 members of the public present, and I was not in breach of either the Code of Conduct or the Media Policy. This is the first time in almost 4 years as a Town Councillor that I have aired my personal views as being different to the Council, which shows just how strongly I feel over this matter."
6. Cllr Beard advised the Council had been awarded £10,000 divided over a two year period to provide live monitored CCTV coverage in the town.
7. Cllr Mrs Marcovecchio reminded Members of the Great British Spring clean in the town on Saturday 6 April – 10.30 -12 noon.
8. Cllr Mrs Howley advised that all of the Bird boxes had now been put up at the Lake.
9. Cllr Mrs Howley advised that building on the Open day event held previously in the town she would be happy to work with the businesses to perhaps hold a Strawberry Fortnight event promoting strawberry teas during this period.

10. Cllr Wood requested that consideration be given to improving the lighting and requesting repairs to walls be undertaken in the alleyway between the Market Square and the Co-op – this to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 9.28 pm.