

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Newent Town Council Meeting held on Monday 9th December 2019 at the Market House, Newent at 7.30 pm

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

Also present – The Clerk and 3 members of the public and District Councillor Mrs Gooch

Public Participation Session: None.

15.1 Apologies – Cllrs Mrs Odhiambo and Mrs Wadley

(Cllr Ms Birkan joined the meeting at this juncture)

15.2 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Mrs Howley declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application P1809/19/TPO.

15.3 Presentation regarding Homesharing Service in Gloucestershire

The Homeshare Manager was welcomed to the meeting.

The service in Gloucestershire has been running for just under 1 year. An overview of the service was given. Homesharing brings together older people who have spare rooms, with people who need affordable accommodation and who are happy to chat and lend a hand. Homesharing can be a great option for someone who misses having other people in their home and would welcome some low-level practical support around the house, 10 hours per week. In return, the householder is able to offer someone not just a place to live, but a real home. Together, householders and homesharers share home life, time, skills and experience. Age UK Gloucestershire's Homesharing project carefully matches people, oversees the arrangements and provides professional on-going support. There have been 6 matches in Gloucestershire with 4 currently in place. Leaflets were circulated and anyone interested can contact the HomeShare Manager for an informal chat.

Councillors were given the opportunity to raise questions, which included; How is the service funded? It is predominately funded by the Gloucestershire Clinical Commission, however, there is a charge of £150.00 per month split between the householder and sharer. Does the service work better in rural locations or cities? Typically, it tends to work better in cities and towns, it takes time to find the right sharer. Have there been any safeguarding issues? No. One sharer did end up doing personal care, which is not allowed. Are sharers required to pay utility bills and do

they have to be unemployed? Some people are asked to make a contribution towards bills, but it is the decision of the homeowner. Students, workers and retired people are sharers.

The Homeshare Manager was thanked for attending the meeting.

(1 member of the public left the meeting at this juncture)

15.4 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25th November 2019

Resolved: The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25th November 2019 were approved. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, 9 in favour, 1 abstention.

15.5 Clerk's Update and Matters Arising

Councillor Vacancy – An election has been called, which will take place on 23rd January 2020. The Council needs to decide if poll cards are to be issued? The cost for poll cards is approximately £1,300.00. **Resolved:** Issuing of poll cards is agreed at a cost of £1300.00. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Heathfield 9 in favour, 1 abstention.

Office Accommodation – Instruction has been given for the independent valuation of 1 & 2 Court Lane.

All correspondence has been sent

15.6 Finance

15.6.1 To approve accounts to be paid

Payments made since last meeting	Chq No.	£
HMRC	BACS	2035.90
GCC	BACS	2858.96
Payments to be considered	Chq No.	£
LWP Blandford & Son	15286	240.00
Screwfix	15287	38.91
Grundon Waste Management	15288	156.70
Ermin Plant	15289	80.38
Viking	15290	196.84
BT Payphones	15391	1.00
EE	15392	32.60
Vision Office Technical Services	15393	64.98
British Telecommunications	15394	14984.54
Glos Market Towns Forum	15295	250.00
Peninsula	15296	173.42
Speak-IT Solutions	15297	335.99
GD Parker	15298	98.03
Direct Autos	15299	24.00
D Morley	15300	30.00

Ross on Wye Mens Shed	15301	100.00
GMT Solutions	15302	93.12
Highleadon Service Station	15303	287.53
K Noble	15304	119.97

Resolved: The above expenditure is approved, to a value of £22,202.87. **Record of Voting:** Proposed by Cllr Mrs Marcovecchio, Seconded Cllr Howley, 9 in favour, 1 abstention.

15.7 To consider response required to correspondence/consultations received

15.7.1 Forest of Dean District Council – Application for street trading consent for a coffee trailer at Malswick House

A number of queries were raised and the following questions need answering before a response can be made. Where exactly will the trailer be sited? Does it involve a car wash? The form states it is a coffee trailer but beverages are not marked as being sold.

15.7.2 Historic England – Cemetery Lodge and associated boundary wall and railings: Invitation to comment on consultation report

A discussion took place and some councillors were concerned that a listing would prevent necessary changes. Other councillors were in favour of a listing. **Resolved:** The Council would support Grade II listing for the outside of the building but not inside the building.

Record of Voting: Proposed Cllr Ms Birkan, Seconded Cllr Beard, 9 in favour, 1 against.

15.8 Planning

15.8.1 Planning applications to be considered

P1809/19/TPO – 50 Johnstone Road, Newent

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

Works to Oak tree T3 of TP014 to crown reduce back to previous pruning points to 16m height and 6m radial crown spread, remove epicormic growth and ivy from stem, and remove significant dead wood. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Beard, 8 in favour, 1 abstention.

P1669/19/FUL & P1465/19/FUL – Newtown Farm Cottage, Tewkesbury Road, Newent

Erection of cold store extension off existing agricultural building (revised plans). **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, All in favour.

P1768/19/FUL – Ferndene, Strawberry Hill, Newent

Erection of two Polytunnel structures and hardstanding with associated works. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Beard, 9 in favour, 1 abstention.

P1799/19/FUL – Land at Rymes Farm, Malswick, Newent

Variation of condition 02 (operational lifetime) and removal of condition 13 (drainage) relating to planning permission P0806/16/FUL. **Resolved:** No objection. The Council would request that the community benefit fund be proportionally extended to 15 years. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Beard, All in favour.

P0110/19/Discon – 1 The Stables, Southend Lane, Newent
Discharge of conditions 09 (foul water drainage scheme), 10 (surface water drainage scheme) and 14 (bird and bat box details) relating to planning permission P0415/19/FUL. **Resolved:** No objection. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Mrs Draper, All in favour.

NOTICE OF APPEAL

P1153/19/FUL Appeal by Mr M Panting – 14 Glebe Road, Newent

Erection of a 2 bed (attached) dwelling with associated works (demolition/removal of existing chalet and ancillary outbuildings). (Revised scheme). Planning Inspectorate ref: APP/P1615/W/19/3240013

15.8.2 To note planning decisions

PERMITTED/CONSENT

P1494/19/FUL – Scarr House, The Scarr, Newent

Installation of 12 no. 330w solar panels on mounting trays including associated generators and isolators

15.9 Estate Management

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

The Council was asked to consider a report on repairs to the wooden bridge at the Lake and revetments required. **Resolved:** The bridge repairs are agreed at a cost of £550.00 + VAT. The revetments are agreed at a cost of £3000.00 + VAT. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Howley, Seconded Cllr Beard, All in favour.

15.9.2 To consider vehicle lease contract report

The circulated report was considered. The Council should look into electric vehicles when the next contract is considered. **Resolved:** The Council agrees to enter into a 3 year lease contract with Company A for a Ford Transit 350 Tipper at a cost of £1,891.91 initial payment and 35 x £315.82 monthly payments thereafter (subject to road tax additional charges). The Council approves expenditure of £900.00 + VAT to repair the current vehicle and a further £800.00 + VAT for works to the new vehicle. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Mrs Moseley, 8 in favour, 2 abstentions.

15.10 To agree recording of council meetings procedure

A lengthy discussion took place. Some Councillors thought the recordings should be kept for public access to meeting discussions, although residents are welcome to attend meetings. Consideration was given regarding charges for copies. **Resolved:** The procedures are approved with the removal of item 8. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duncan, Seconded Cllr Beard, 9 in favour, 1 against.

15.11 To consider subscribing to the QNAP management system service

Resolved: The Council agrees to subscribe to the QNAP management service at a cost of £20.00 + VAT per month, as part of the IT support service. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Davies, Seconded Cllr Mrs Howley, All in favour.

15.12 To approve newsletter

The item regarding the Tree Charter Day will be amended. **Resolved:** The newsletter is approved subject to amendments to be made by Cllr Mrs Moseley. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Davies, All in favour.

15.13 To receive committee and representative reports

Cllrs Mrs Howley & Mrs Marcovecchio	Tree Charter Day
Cllr Mrs Duncan	Defibrillator to be installed on 16 th December
Cllr Ms Birkan	Meeting with the Police
Cllr Heathfield	Youth Advisory Group new member
Cllr Mrs Moseley	NDP minutes

15.14 Notices and information

Cllr Mrs Davies thanked all those who supported the Carol Service and a special mention was made about the fantastic performance by the Dolphin Club.

Cllr Ms Birkan raised a query regarding an email about the Market Square. The Working Group is dealing with this and feedback will be given to Council in due course.

The Mayor declared the meeting closed 8.45 pm.