

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Newent Town Council held on Monday 11th October 2021 at Newent Community School, Watery Lane, Newent at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillors Mrs C Howley, Mrs M Duffield, Mrs K Selwyn
Mrs J Gooch, Mrs S Marcovecchio, Mrs G Moseley, Mrs W Odhiambo, Mrs R Wadley, Ms C Birkan and Mr E Heathfield

Also present – The Clerk and 5 Members of the public and District Councillor Vesma

Public Participation Session

Public Member 1

A member of the Public commented that they were disappointed with Item 49.7.3 from the meeting held on Monday 27th September.

He felt the item was not discussed sufficiently regarding Flood Planning. He has asked if the item can be added to the next Council Meeting agenda and for groups to be notified of any updates, especially around the Watery Lane flood issues.

The Mayor responded by stating that the Council will correspond directly with him.

District Councillor Vesma

District Councillor Vilnis Vesma, District Councillor for Newent and Taynton Ward, commented on the Active Travel Infrastructure Task Group meeting held on 5th October 2021, which he attended on behalf of Newent Town Council. Cllr Vesma explained that the Task Group comprised representatives from the Forest of Dean District Council, town and parish councils, Gloucestershire County Council (as the highways authority) and other stakeholders.

A senior transport planner from GCC had attended the meeting and the following salient points emerged: .

- I. "Active Travel" (usually meaning cycling and walking) is most relevant in urban contexts. In rural areas however it can be part of a strategy encompassing public and shared transport.
- II. The County's emphasis is on links to Gloucester. Routes from Highnam and Maisemore were definite priorities. Newent's position was uncertain but Cllr Vesma had argued that electric bikes made a Newent-to-Gloucester corridor feasible.
- III. The Newent-Gloucester route being promoted by Newent Cycling Group passes Hartpury College and University (also represented on the Task Group) and would give their staff and students an active travel link to Newent as well as Gloucester.

50.0 To note apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Councillors Mrs K Draper, Mr R Beard and Mr A Ralph

50.1 Declarations and Interest on items on the agenda:

There were none.

50.2 To sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 27th September 2021

There was an amendment to the minutes held on Monday 27th September, Page 965, Item 49.7.3. The amendment is 'Newent Town Council had requested 100 but have been offered 75'.

Following the amendment, the Council agreed that the Minutes were a true and accurate summary of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

50.3 Clerk's update and matters arising from previous minutes

There were none.

50.4 Finance

50.4.1 To approve the accounts to be paid.

A Financial report was circulated to the Members prior to the meeting.

The Council unanimously approved the accounts.

50.4.2 To note the Conclusion of the Annual Audit for the Year Ended 31st March 2021

The Council noted the conclusion of the Annual Audit.

The Council thanked the previous Clerk for the work on ensuring the Annual Audit was compliant.

50.4.3 To note that the Annual Conclusion of Audit has been published.

The Council noted publication of the Annual Conclusion of Audit.

51.0 To consider responses required to correspondence/consultations received

51.1 To note the draft edition of the Councils newsletter

The Council noted the newsletter and that it had been published.

51.2 To agree that the Clerk will produce a report for further consideration in respect of forming a Committee based structure.

The Council unanimously agreed that the Clerk will produce a report for further consideration in respect of forming a Committee based structure.

60.0 Planning Applications to be considered

P1553/21/FUL Orchard Road, Newent

Proposed conversion of part of disused horticultural building into dwelling.

The Council unanimously agreed to make No Objection to this application.

**P1529/21/FUL Top Barn, Great Bouldon Farm, Great Bouldon, Newent
Conversion of rural building to form single dwelling (part retrospective)**

The Council unanimously agreed to make No Objection to this application.

**P1577/21/FUL Land adjacent 48 Orchard Road, Newent
Erection of proposed agricultural/horticultural building**

The Council unanimously agreed to make No Objection to this application.

**61.0 Date of the next meeting - Monday 25th October 2021 at 7pm in the
Newent School.**

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 7.24 pm.