

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Newent Town Council held on Monday 8th November 2021 at Newent Community School, Watery Lane, Newent at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillors Mrs C Howley, Mrs M Duffield, Mrs S Marcovecchio, Mrs G Moseley, Mrs J Gooch, Mr A Ralph, Mr Beard, Mr E Heathfield, Mrs K Draper, Mrs K Selwyn, and Ms C Birkan

Also present – The Clerk and 15 Members of the public

Public Participation Session

Public Member 1

A member of the public spoke in favour of the Climate Change Working Group resolution, Item 6.1.

Public Member 2

A member of the public spoke in favour of the Climate Change Working Group resolution, Item 6.1.

Public Member 3

A member of the public spoke in favour of the Climate Change Working Group resolution, Item 6.1.

1.0 To note apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Councillors Mrs R Wadley and Mrs W Odhiambo

2.0 Declarations and Interest on items on the agenda

There were none.

3.0 To approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 25th October 2021

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

4.0. Clerk's update and matters arising from previous minutes

4.1 To note the Clerks Report

A Councillor asked the Clerk a question as to when the Committee Based Structure will be implemented.

The Clerk commented that the draft outline for a Committee Based Structure will be available at the next Council meeting, scheduled for 22nd November.

The Clerk's Report was noted.

5. Finance

5.1 To approve the accounts to be paid.

A Councillor asked the Clerk a question as to whether the payment to Newent Association for the Disabled for £35.00 Parking Fees is made to an individual or to the organisation.

The Clerk confirmed payments are made to the Newent Association for the Disabled, and not to an individual.

The Council unanimously approved the accounts to be paid.

6. To consider and approve the following resolution from the Climate Change Working Group.

6.1 Newent Town Council is declaring its commitment to understand, and progressively reduce its carbon footprint.

“Business as usual’ is not an option in the face of the climate emergency. We acknowledge the impact that day-to-day activities of the Town Council and of the wider community of the parish, have on the natural environment. We recognise the part we all have to play and commit to taking an active role in achieving this reduction by encouraging our Newent community to adopt strategies to mitigate its own impact on climate change.”

The Council by majority decision approved the resolution from the Climate Change Working Group.

7. To consider and approve the following resolutions from the Office Accommodation Working Group.

7.1 That the Council agrees to enter into a lease for a period of three years, subject to an acceptable legal agreement with Glebe Chapel CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation).

An amendment to 7.1 was proposed

That the Council seek a five year lease with a break point clause, in agreement with the Council’s legal representative, within the Landlord and Tenant Act.

Following the amendment to 7.1 The Council unanimously approved the proposal from the Office Accommodation Working Group.

7.2 That the Council’s legal representatives are requested to review the lease arrangements supplied by Glebe Chapel CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation), to give advice and assist in reaching a positive agreement for the Council and its landlord.

The Council unanimously approved the proposal 7.2 from the Office Accommodation Working Group.

7.3 The Council agrees that all the relevant paperwork is actioned and in place by the timescale required by the landlord, this being the end of December 2021, subject to acceptable legal advice by the Council's legal team.

An amendment to 7.3 was proposed.

The Council agrees that all the relevant paperwork is actioned and in place by the timescale required by the landlord and tenant, this being the end of December 2021, subject to acceptable legal advice by the Council's legal team.

Following the amendment to 7.3 The Council unanimously approved the proposal from the Office Accommodation Working Group.

7.4 That the Council agrees for the Clerk to take forward all the relevant requirements necessary to accommodate a smooth relocation to new premises.

The Council unanimously approved the proposal 7.4 from the Office Accommodation Working Group.

7.5 That the Council agrees for the use of funding to be taken from the Office Accommodation earmarked budget.

The Council unanimously approved that a maximum spend of £4,000 (Four Thousand Pounds) will be available for the office relocation.

The Council unanimously approved the proposal 7.5 from the Office Accommodation Working Group.

8. The Emergency Plan Working Group Public Meeting.

8.1 To note the Emergency Plan Working Group Public Meeting.

The Emergency Plan Working Group Public meeting was noted

9. Planning

9.1 Planning applications to be considered

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Planning applications received from the Forest of Dean District Council for consideration by Newent Town Council at its meeting on Monday 08 November 2021.

1. P1785/21/TCA Rose Cottage, Bury Bar Lane, Newent
1 x Cypress – remove due to excessive shading and too close to building/retaining wall

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

2. P1338/20/FUL Land on the North West side of Watery Lane, Newent
Erection of 40 no. two storey dwellings with associated access and hard
and soft landscaping
 - Additional information

A Councillor raised concerns about how maintenance would be managed and how remedial work would be undertaken.

It was agreed by majority decision that the Case Officer for the Forest of Dean District Council would be notified of the following:-

Newent Town Council request that a proper robust maintenance programme is conditioned for ongoing maintenance and inspections of the surface & foul water inspection Chambers and Pipes, Wavin Aquacell prime geocellular attenuation tank and permeable paving.

That records of faults, complaints and repairs are logged by the Housing Association.

9.2 To note planning decisions.

No Planning Decisions have been made for noting at the meeting of 8th November 2021

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 7.59pm