



**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Newent Town Council  
held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 Room G4 Newent Community  
School, Watery Lane, Newent, 7pm.**

**Councillors Present:**

Mrs C Howley (Chairman item 1 only)  
Cllr J Escritt  
Cllr J Gooch  
Cllr G Moseley  
Cllr K Selwyn  
Cllr E Wood  
Cllr S Hulbert (Chairman item 2 onwards)

**Also Present:**

Mrs E Bennett, Town Council Administrative Officer  
Mr N Sapsed  
7 Members of the Public

- 1. To elect the Chairman (Mayor) of the Council and to receive the Chairmans (Mayor's) Declaration of Acceptance of Office**  
The Council unanimously agreed to appoint Cllr S Hulbert as its Chairman, she duly signed the acceptance of office and assumed the Chair.  
Proposed: Cllr Gooch, Seconded Cllr Moseley. Voting in favour.

The outgoing Chairman/Mayor read a prepared statement.
- 2. To elect the Vice Chairman (Deputy Mayor) of the Council and to receive the Vice Chairman (Deputy Mayor's) Declaration of Acceptance of Office**  
Proposed to defer until Co-option vacancies filled.  
Proposed: Cllr Moseley, Seconded: Cllr Gooch. 4 in favour. 2 abstentions.
- 3. To note apologies for absence**  
None
- 4. Declarations of Interest on items on the agenda**  
No declarations of interests were made from Councillors on items on the agenda.
- 5. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023**  
The minutes were accepted and signed as a true record.  
Proposed: Cllr Gooch, Seconded Cllr Moseley. Minutes accepted by three Councillors who were present at the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023 meeting.
- 6. Clerk's update and matters arising from previous Minutes.**  
No items to report.
- 7. To agree that Agendas & meeting papers (unless confidential) are emailed to Members and published on the Website and additional measures to strive towards a paperless meeting environment**  
Council discussed the issues and benefits. Proposed to trial at next meeting and review accessibility for Councillors and public.  
Proposed: Cllr Hulbert. 5 in favour, 1 against.



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**8. Finance**

**8.1 To approve the RFO report including authorisations of payments**

The Council approved the list noting payments since the last meeting at £23,807.48.  
Proposed: Cllr Selwyn, Seconded: Cllr Moseley. All in favour.

**8.2 To agree to remove former and appoint new bank signatories x 3.**

Proposed the removal of former Councillors. Proposed to appoint Cllr Moseley, Cllr Hulbert and Cllr Wood as bank signatories.

Proposed: Cllr Selwyn, Seconded: Cllr Moseley. All in favour.

**9. To appoint Members to serve on the Finance and Staffing Committee, and to appoint the Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman**

Proposed to appoint as detailed below and re-evaluate membership after Co-option at June 2023 meeting.

Chairman: Cllr Escritt. Proposed Cllr Gooch, Seconded Cllr Hulbert. Unanimous.

Vice-Chairman: Cllr Wood. Proposed Cllr Gooch, Seconded Cllr Moseley.

Unanimous.

Members: All current Councillors bar Chairman.

**10. To appoint Members to serve on the Planning & Environment Committee, and to appoint the Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman**

Proposed to appoint as detailed below and re-evaluate membership after Co-option at June 2023 meeting.

Chairman: Cllr Moseley. Proposed: Cllr Selwyn, Seconded: Cllr Escritt. Unanimous.

Vice-Chairman: Cllr Selwyn, Proposed: Cllr Escritt, Seconded Cllr Gooch. Unanimous.

Members: All current Councillors.

**11. To agree to suspend the Regeneration Committee until sufficient Members of the Council have been appointed.**

Proposed: Cllr Gooch, Seconded Cllr Moseley to suspend the Regeneration Committee until Co-option at June 2032 meeting. Unanimous.

**12. To appoint representatives from nominations to undertake the following duties:**

a) Snow & Flood Wardens – Cllr Moseley proposed Cllr Selway, Seconded by Cllr Hulbert. Unanimous.

b) Emergency Planning Co-ordinators – Cllr Moseley proposed Cllr Selwyn. Unanimous.

c) Allotment Inspections and Competition Judges – Cllr Wood proposed himself. Seconded Cllr Gooch. Unanimous.



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- d) Quarterly Internal Checks – Proposed Cllr Moseley and Cllr Escritt. Seconded Cllr Hulbert. All in favour.
- e) Dementia Awareness – Cllr Gooch proposed herself, Cllr Hulbert Seconded. Unanimous.
- f) Armed Forces Covenant Lead - Cllr Gooch proposed herself, Cllr Hulbert Seconded. Unanimous.

**13. To appoint Members from nominations on the under mentioned bodies as required**

- a) Cliffords Mesne Village Hall Committee – Cllr Hulbert proposed herself, Seconded Cllr Moseley seconded. All in favour.
- b) Newent Business Club/Liaison - Cllr Gooch and Cllr Escritt proposed themselves. Seconded; Cllr Hulbert. All in favour.
- c) Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Tourism Association – Cllr Gooch proposed herself. Cllr Escritt seconded. All in favour.

Proposed by Cllr Hulbert to appoint members to the following bodies following Co-option at the June 2023 meeting. Unanimous:

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| d) Parish & Town Council Association        | (1 Member)  |
| e) Newent United Charity – appointee        | (1 Member)  |
| f) Freedom Leisure Joint User Group         | (2 Members) |
| g) Newent Allotment Association             | (2 Members) |
| h) Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum       | (2 Members) |
| i) Newent Initiative Trust                  | (3 Members) |
| j) Newent Doctors /Patient Discussion Group | (1 Member)  |
| k) Forest of Dean Health Forum              | (1 Member)  |
| l) Forest Youth Association                 | (1 Member)  |
| m) Forest Economic Partnership              | (1 Member)  |
| n) Dolphin Club Committee                   | (1 Member)  |

In addition it was agreed that the Forest Executive Committee and Flood Association would also be added to the list.

**14. Date of the next Meeting. Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 7pm at Room G4 Newent Community School, Watery Lane, Newent.**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 19.41 PM.**

Signed:.....

Date:.....