MINUTES OF THE NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12th February 2024, room G4, NEWENT COMMUNITY SCHOOL, NEWENT, 7.30 pm

Councillors Present:

Cllr Eddie Wood (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Gill Moseley
Cllr Juli Escritt
Cllr Allan Hedley
Cllr David Sass

Also Present:

Town Clerk and 3 members of the public

The Newent and District Rotary Club were in attendance and gave a report on the proposed event they wish to put on at the Lake in the summer of 2024, and requested that Newent Town Council be involved in delivering the event. Permissions to hold the event will be brought to full Council on 26th February 2024.

PUBLIC TIME

Public Participation, up to a 10 minute period of time will be set aside before the start of the meeting for public questions

A Member of the public spoke on agenda item 7, in favour of removing the closed fishing season at Newent Lake.

1. To note apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Linda Morris, Cllr Julia Gooch, Cllr Trevor Beckwith, Cllr Joshua Robertson, Cllr Kay Selwyn, Cllr Sara Hulbert and Cllr Samuel Letchford.

2. Declarations of interest on items on the agenda.

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 22nd January 2024

The Council resolved that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meetings and were duly signed by the Vice Chairman.

4. Finance

4.1 To approve the accounts to be paid

A list of payments was sent to the members prior to the meeting. The Council, by unanimous decision, approved the accounts to be paid.

Payment list item available below

Payment List

4.2 To approve expenditure for the purchase of an iPad

The Council, by unanimous decision, approved the expenditure of a maximum of £700 + VAT

5. To agree whether to support the renewal of the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) at Newent Lake and Newent Recreation Ground

The Council, by unanimous decision, agreed to renew the Public Protection Order at Newent Lake and Newent Recreation Ground.

To consider Newent Town Council partnering with Newent Business Club and Buses4Us in arranging events and publicity for this year's Daffodil Days

6.1 To agree to participate in the Daffodil Days 2024 and agree any expenditure

The Council resolved to participate in the Daffodil Days 2024 and agreed the expenditure of up to a maximum of £500 as a contingency towards the event, for the purposes of publicity within Newent or the promotion of Newent. All orders are to be placed through the office.

6.2 To agree to utilise three of the Newent Town Councils free parking days for the Daffodil Day's events in March

The Council agreed, by unanimous decision, to utilise one day of the allocated free parking for the event.

6.3 To appoint a representative from nominations to participate and work with the co-ordination of the Daffodil Days 2024

The Council agreed that the Clerk would write out to members who were not present at the meeting and explore if anyone would like to put their name forward.

7. To Review agree and adopt fishing rules for the season 2024/25

Cllr Allan Hedley declared an interest at this point and pronounced that he would not be participating in the agenda item.

A discussion took place of the benefits of removing the closed season from the Fishing Rules, but members felt they weren't competent with their knowledge on the subject; so by unanimous decision, resolved to consult with the local anglers, fishing bailiffs and the Estates Supervisor and invite them to join a working group meeting to review the closed season rules at the Lake and bring a proposal back to Full Council at a later date.

8. Work Report

8.1 To receive the Estate Supervisors Work report

Members were informed of the latest un-authorised entry into the Cemetery Lodge building, and the Estate Supervisors report was noted.

8.2 To approve the expenditure for the hire of a wood chipper to carry out works at Newent Arboretum

The Council, by unanimous decision, approved the expenditure of no more than £350.00 + VAT from budget heading 300-4355 arboretum maintenance, for hire of a chipper to carry out works on trees recommended in the tree report and removal of a windblown tree.

8.3 To approve the expenditure for the hire of a wood chipper to carry out the crown lifting of trees at Newent Lake

The Council, by unanimous decision, approved the expenditure of £700 + VAT from budget heading 330-4760 lake management/maintenance, for hire of chipper to enable us to crown lift the trees at the Lake.

8.4 To approve works to trees at the lake as recommended in the tree report by Treework Environmental Practice

The Council, by unanimous decision, approved the expenditure of £350 + VAT from budget heading 330-4760 lake management/ maintenance, for hire of chipper to carry out some of the works recommended in the tree report.

8.5 To approve the expenditure to carry out a detailed investigation (sonic tomography) on lime tree at the Lake

The Council, by unanimous decision, approved the expenditure of no more than £650.00 + VAT from budget heading 330-4760 lake management/maintenance, to carry out a detailed investigation (sonic tomography) on lime tree at the Lake.

9. The Great British Spring Clean

9.1 To agree to co-ordinate a Great British Spring Clean event in Newent

The Council, by unanimous decision, agreed to co-ordinate a Great British Spring Clean event in Newent.

9.2 To agree a date for the great British Spring Ckean event in Newent

The Council, by unanimous decision, agreed to co-ordinate a Great British Spring Clean event in Newent on 16th March 2024.

9.3 To appoint a representative to lead on the event

The Council, by unanimous decision, agreed that one of the office staff would take the lead on the event.

10. Newent Market House open days summer 2024

10.1 To agree that a banner can be placed on the Market House from Easter to September to promote the Market House Museum opening times

The Council resolved that permission would not be given to hang a banner on the Market House, but one can be placed in other areas around the town.

10.2 To approve the expenditure to purchase a banner promoting opening times for the Market House Museum

The Council approved the expenditure to purchase a banner, 2 metres x 1 metre promoting opening times for the Market House, from Perpetua Press in Newent from budget heading 4405 advertising.

11. Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 25th February 2024 at 7:30 pm or soonest after the previous meeting. To be held at G4 Newent Community School, Newent.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.56 pm.

Signed:	Dated