



**MINUTES OF THE NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024, room G4, NEWENT COMMUNITY SCHOOL, NEWENT,  
7.30 pm**

**Councillors Present:**

Cllr Sara Hulbert (Chairman)  
Cllr Gill Moseley  
Cllr Juli Escritt  
Cllr Trevor Beckwith  
Cllr Allan Hedley  
Cllr Joshua Robertson  
Cllr Kay Selwyn  
Cllr Samuel Letchford  
Cllr Eddie Wood

**Also Present:**

Town Clerk and 20 members of the public

**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**

Four Members of the Public spoke against the Onion in the Wood Event planned for September 2024.

**1. To note apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Linda Morris, and Cllr Julia Gooch.

**2. Declarations of interest on items on the agenda.**

Cllr Joshua Robertson declared an interest on item 8 on the Agenda

**3. To approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

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

[https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/\\_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.1%20PURCHASE%20DAYBOOK%20New%20Build.PDF](https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.1%20PURCHASE%20DAYBOOK%20New%20Build.PDF)

##### 4.2 To note the RFO Report

The RFO report was noted

Payment list item available below

[https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/\\_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.1%20%20Purchase%20Daybook%20for%20January%208th%20Meeting.PDF](https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.1%20%20Purchase%20Daybook%20for%20January%208th%20Meeting.PDF)

##### 4.3 To note Bank Reconciliation of 30.11.2023

The Bank Reconciliation for 30.11.2023 was noted

Bank Reconciliation document available below

[https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/\\_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.3%20Bank%20Reconciliation%20-%20current.PDF](https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.3%20Bank%20Reconciliation%20-%20current.PDF)

#### 4.4 To note Cashbook of 30.11.2023

The cashbook of 30.11.2023 was noted

Cashbook available below

[https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/\\_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.4%20Receipts%20and%20Payments.PDF](https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.4%20Receipts%20and%20Payments.PDF)

#### 4.5 To note Earmarked Reserves of 30.11.2023

The Earmarked Reserves for 30.11.2023 were noted

Earmark Reserves available below

[https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/\\_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.5%20Earmarked%20Reserves%20for%20Jan%2008th%20Meeting.PDF](https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.5%20Earmarked%20Reserves%20for%20Jan%2008th%20Meeting.PDF)

#### 4.6 Income & Expenditure Report of 30.11.2023

The income and expenditure Report for 30.11.2023 was noted

Income and Expenditure report available below

[https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/\\_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.6%20Detailed%20Income%20%26%20Expenditure%20by%20Budget%20Heading%20for%20Jan%2008th%20Meeting.PDF](https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.6%20Detailed%20Income%20%26%20Expenditure%20by%20Budget%20Heading%20for%20Jan%2008th%20Meeting.PDF)

4.7 To receive and approve recommendations from the finance and staffing committee for the Budget 2024/2025

Draft budget available below

[https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/\\_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.7%20DRAFT%20budget%202024.25.pdf](https://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk/_webedit/uploaded-files/All%20Files/Agendas%20%26%20Minutes/2024%20Meeting%20Papers/January%202024/Full%20Council%2008.01.24/item%204.7%20DRAFT%20budget%202024.25.pdf)

Councillors went through the draft budget by each line and discussed the work that the council will be aiming to undertake in the next financial year and the cost resulting from the works.

Further discussions occurred regarding the draft budget including Buses for us requested funding for 2024/25

The Council approved the budget for 2024/2025 with the following amendments.

Original draft amount

Line 220, 4400 professional and consult fees	£7000.00
Busses 4 Us	£10,000.00

Amended amount

Line 220, 4400 professional and consult fees	£7000.00
Busses 4 Us	£8,000.00

**5. To Approve the Proposed Safer Streets Project at the Library car park and Lake and any further expenditure.**

The Council by unanimous decision deferred the item until the next meeting

**6 To review Newent Town Council's Community Emergency Response Plan and agree any amendments**

The Council by unanimous decision deferred the item until the next meeting

- 7. To discuss and approve the options available to fund Newent Recreation Ground Trusts identified deficit and a contingency to enable the New Community Building to be completed.**

The Council by unanimous decision agreed to provide financial assistance in the way of a payment for the amount of £23,625.98 to the Recreation Ground Trust, to enable them to meet their Contractual obligations, upon approval from the Chair of Newent Recreation Ground trust that the snagging list has been addressed.

- 8. To consider the request from Newent Initiative Trust to contribute toward the provision of warm spaces in Newent until the end of March 2024**

The Council by unanimous decision deferred the item until the next meeting

- 9 . Wi-Fi contracts**

9.1 To approve new Wi-fi contract at Newent Library to facilitate CCTV monitoring

The Council by unanimous decision deferred the item until the next meeting

9.2 To approve new Wi-fi contract at Newent Town Council Offices

The Council by unanimous decision deferred the item until the next meeting

- 10. Date of Next Meeting:**

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 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 9.06pm.

Signed:.....

Dated .....