



**MINUTES OF THE NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024, room G4, NEWENT COMMUNITY SCHOOL, NEWENT,  
7.30 pm**

**Councillors Present:**

Cllr Sara Hulbert (Chair)

Cllr Alan Hedley

Cllr David Sass

Cllr Kay Selwyn

**Also Present:**

Town Clerk and 3 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**

Speaker 1

A member of the public spoke about item 5 Poll Cards And wished to thank those members of the public who wrote in to the Forest of Dean District Council to call for the By-Election

A further comment regarding item 7.3 Tree Preservation Order was made suggesting that the council consider a parish policy looking at all trees within the parish

And a finale comment was made regarding access issues to the Market House

**1. To note apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from, Cllr Gill Moseley, Cllr Juli Escritt, Cllr Samuel Letchford, Cllr Julia Gooch, and Cllr Joshua Robertson

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

Cllr Kay Selwyn declared an interest on item 4 on the agenda

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

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

#### **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 to remove the payment to Cllr Kay Selwyn due to an interest and thus remaining quorate for the agenda item

Following the amendment the Council then by unanimous decision approved the accounts to be paid

Payment list item available below

[Payment List March](#)

##### 4.2 To note the Bank Reconciliation

The Bank reconciliation was noted.

[Bank Rec March](#)

##### 4.3 To note the Cashbook of 31/01/2024

The Cash Book 31/1/2024 was noted

[Cash Book March](#)

##### 4.4 To note Earmark Reserves 31/01/2024

The Earmark Reserves 31/1/2024 were noted

[Earmarked Reserves March](#)

##### 4.5 To note Income & Expenditure Report of 31/01/2024

The Income & Expenditure Report was noted

[Income & Expenditure Report March](#)

##### 4.6 To note all investment account balances and return Investment account balances and returns were noted

**5. To approve expenditure for election poll cards for the potential by-election for the North East Ward**

**[Poll Card Report](#)**

A discussion took place regarding the advantages disadvantage's and financial implications of producing Poll Cards for the by-election.

The Council resolved by unanimous decision to not print poll cards for the by-election but to advertise on all Social Media outlets websites and any other free advertising outlets available to publicise the by-election.

**6. To receive a donation from the Newent Civic Society and agree to the terms enclosed in the agreement**

The Council resolved by Unanimous decision to accept the donation but not the terms attached because they go against the Council's adopted Financial Regulations Members instructed the Clerk to write to the Civic Society explaining the reasoning behind the decision

**7. Work Report**

**7.1 To note the Estate Supervisors Work Report**

The Estate Supervisors Work Report was noted

**[Estate Supervisors Work Report](#)**

**7.2 To approve the expenditure for the purchase of stone to re-surface the paths around the Lake**

The Council by unanimous decision approved the expenditure of no more than £600 + Vat from budget heading 330-4760 lake management/maintenance to purchase 20 tonne of 6mm mm to dust for the lake paths

**7.3 To agree to the request form a resident to support the addition of a TPO on a YewTree located on a residential property along Watery Lane Newent**

The Council resolved by unanimous decision to support the residents request to add a Tree Preservation Order to the Yew tree at Eastmead watery Lane Newent

**8. Cemetery Fees**

8.1 To review and agree on the cemetery fees for 2024/25

The Council agreed to a 10% increase to cemetery fees from April 2024

**9. Hire Charges**

9.1 To review and agree on the market house rental charges Hire Charges for 2024/2025

The council agreed to remove the hire charge for the Market House to free of charge to Local Community Groups but utilising the heating within the building will be £5.00 per hour

All other charges to remain the same for 2024/25

9.2 To review and agree on the lake hire rental charges for 2024/25

The Council agreed to hold the fees as they are for 2024/25

**10. To review and agree on the Fishing Permit Fees for 2024/25**

The Council agreed to defer the item until the working group tasked with looking at the fishing rules and closed seasons bring a recommendation to full Council.

**11. Date of Next Meeting:**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 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 8.19 pm.

Signed:..... Dated .....