



## **Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee of Newent Town Council held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024, Room G4, Newent Community School, Newent, 7.00 pm**

### **Councillors Present:**

Cllr Gill Moseley (Chairman)  
Cllr Julia Gooch  
Cllr Samuel Letchford  
Cllr Kay Selwyn  
Cllr Juli Escritt  
Cllr Alan Hedley  
Cllr David Sass  
Cllr Eddie Wood  
Cllr Joshua Robertson  
Cllr Sara Hulbert

**Also Present:** Town Clerk and 2 members of the public

### **Public Participation.**

No Members of the Public wished to participate

#### **1. To note apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Linda Morris.

#### **2. Declarations of Interest on items on the agenda.**

There were none

#### **3. To approve the Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024**

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

## 1. **Newent Neighbourhood Development Plan (NNDP) Steering Group.**

4.1 To receive a report from the Acting Chair of the Newent Neighbourhood Development Plan (NNDP) Steering Group

The report was noted

4.2 To note the Minutes of the Newent Neighbourhood Development plan Steering Group meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024 and the draft minutes of the Newent Neighbourhood Development plan Steering Group meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

The minutes of the Newent Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024 and the Draft minutes of the Newent Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group held on 20<sup>th</sup> March were noted

[NNDP Draft minutes 20/03/2024](#) [NNDP Minutes 21/02/2024](#)

## 5. **Planning Applications received from Forest of Dean District Council for consideration by Newent Town Council at its meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

Cllr Kay Selwyn left the meeting at this juncture

### 5.1 **Matters Requiring a Decision**

REVISED APPLICATION

P2061/21/FUL Land at Moat Farm Newent Gloucestershire  
Ground mounted photovoltaic solar farm with an electrical generating capacity of up to 49.9MW together with associated equipment, infrastructure and ancillary works.

<https://publicaccess.fdean.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=R4456QHIFIC00>

The Committee agreed to strongly object to this application on the following grounds

- a) Conflicting evidence exists in different reports about the impact of the solar panels of up to three metres in height on the rural character of the area. The map showing the zone with theoretical visibility displays a significant area surrounding the site where it is difficult to imagine that the solar array will not have an adverse effect.
- b) Footpaths across the site and walkers will experience the marked change from open countryside to a high walled fenced corridor. We note that the CPRE does not support this application
- c) Several residential properties lie adjacent to the site and in spite of revised plans for the panels and the proposed planting schemes it will take time for vegetation to obscure some views and then to all intents and purposes box in at least one dwelling while nobody has a right to have you we feel the new development should not be intrusive

- d) the need for extending the application site to another farm some distance away in order to access the grid as to the poor fit of the intended use and the site itself
- e) we would like to express concerns about the future arrangements of disposal of PV panels once their useful life is finished
- f) while we support the introduction of renewable energy installations we feel most strongly that the site of the application is not acceptable

Cllr Kay Selwyn returned to the meeting

**5.2 To note Planning Decisions received from the Forest of Dean District Council**

CONSENT

P0019/24/DISCON Land Near Highleadon Highleadon Gloucestershire  
Discharge of Condition 06 (materials and finishes) relating to planning permission P0265/22/FUL.

P0082/24/FUL 7 Cleeve Rise Newent GL18 1BZ  
Erection of a single storey rear extension

The Planning decisions were noted

**6. Street Trading Consent Variation Consultation**

The Committee welcomed the application

**6. Date of Next Meeting:**

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 at 7pm Room G4, Newent Community School, Newent.

The meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

Signed:.....

Dated .....