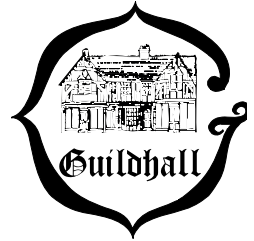


Newport (Shropshire) Town Council



MINUTES OF A MEETING

held on
Wednesday 12 October 2005
at
the Guildhall, High Street, Newport

PRESENT: Cllrs: Glyn Gratton – Town Mayor
Janette Treagust – Deputy Town Mayor
Martyn Edwards
Irene Evans
John Evans
Brenda Flowers
George Franks
Glyn Holland
Adrian Meredith
Bob Unwin
Sally Wiggin

IN ATTENDANCE: D. L. Halliday – Town Clerk
Mr Steve Hollins) Telford & Wrekin
Mr Phil Crossland) Borough Council

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr David Adams.

120/05-06 SUSPENSION OF MEETING

There being no members of the public present, the meeting continued without suspension.

121/05-06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

122/05-06 PARKING ISSUES IN NEWPORT

Members welcomed Mr Steve Hollins and Mr Phil Crossland, car Parking Implementation Team officers. As a result of the Scrutiny Review of Car Parking Charges which recommended the removal of a charging policy for Newport and Wellington, other issues were raised which needed to be addressed. The major point of concern in Newport was the provision of overnight parking spaces for HGV's.

The Stafford Street Car Park, traditionally used as a lorry park, is not suitable for HGV's whose weight and manoeuvring during parking is causing the asphalt surface to be damaged. The noise from refrigeration units also disturbs residents. The view of the Borough Council is that lorries will have to be restricted from using the Car Park, the choice therefore being to discourage all lorries from using Newport as an overnight venue or find an alternative site. The Implementation Team are therefore seeking local views as to the best way ahead.

As it has not been determined why the drivers choose to stay at Newport, it was suggested that the Borough Council contact the Haulage Companies for their views.

The consensus of members' opinions was that lorries should not be discouraged from staying in Newport but that an alternative site be sought, preferably on the Audley Avenue Industrial Site. This would permit drivers to use the town facilities whilst removing the nuisance impact. With regard to other parking issues members asked that the officers take back to the relevant departments the need to review on street parking and the ability to enforce regulations, at present reduced by damaged, lost and illegal signing. The need to provide a Bus Station is still viewed as a priority to remove the congestion of buses parking and waiting on the High Street. Parking at the Swimming Pool need to be increased to prevent congestion on residential roads.

Members thanked Mr Hollins and Mr Crossland for their attendance.

123/05-06 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. A copy of the Town Mayor's engagements is **attached** at **Appendix 'A'**.
- b. Members were notified of a free two day course on "Making Neighbourhoods Better Places to Live" as detailed at **Appendix 'B'**.
- c. Members approved the use of the Guildhall being offered for use as Advice Surgeries for Community Groups and Voluntary Organisation as detailed at **Appendix 'C'**.
- d. Members noted receipt of the Autumn issue of Shropshire Landscapes.

124/05-06 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2005 were approved as a true record.

FINANCE

125/05-06 Finance Report

The Finance Report for September 2005, **attached** at **Appendix 'D'** and the payments therein, were approved / ratified.

126/05-06 Thank You Letters

Members noted letters of thanks for grants awarded received from:

- a. Newport Rainbow Club
- b. Hope House Children's Hospice
- c. Wrekin Ladies Hockey Club
- d. Visible Minorities Development Council

127/05-06 Home Maintenance Advice Leaflets

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the sum of £500 be taken from balances in order to cover the cost of production of Advice Leaflets for every household in Newport, not just those of senior citizens.

128/05-06 Members' Allowances

Members reconsidered the recommendations of the Parish Independent Remuneration Panel in respect of allowances payable to members, **attached** at **Appendix 'E'**.

The notice informing the public of this item is **attached** at **Appendix 'F'** and has been displayed for a minimum of fourteen days.

Following extensive debate it was **RESOLVED** that with effect from 1 April 2006:

- a. all elected Members of the Council be entitled to be paid the Parish Basic Allowance as recommended by the Parish Remunerations Panel, - currently £500 per annum.
- b. the Council continues to make a payment to meet the costs associated with the position of Chairman (Town Mayor) as per Section 15 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972 and that consideration is given to making a payment to the Deputy Town Mayor under the same Act.
- c. Mileage Allowance be paid to Members, when representing the council, for attendance at approved duties outside the parish of Newport.

- d. **Members who wish not to avail themselves of the Allowance should notify the Clerk in writing before 31 October 2005.**
- e. **Administratively the allowance will be paid in two instalments as at 1 June and 1 November with basic rate tax being deducted.**

A notice of these decisions will be displayed to the public, attached at Appendix 'G'.

129/05-06 Grant Applications

It was RESOLVED to award a grant of £100 to the SK8 and Ride Group to cover the costs of a coach and fuel for a visit to several skate parks on 27 October 2005. This grant is adjudged to have a positive impact under the Crime and Disorder Act and will be taken from Section 19 funds.

RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION

130/05-06 Town Council Meetings – Change of Dates

Members RESOLVED to change the following meeting dates.

- a. **Budget Meeting scheduled for 23 November 2005**

since the suggested date of 30 November 2005 at 6.30 p.m. to avoid clash with induction of new Rector was not suitable, the Town Clerk will seek an alternative date to offer members.

- b. **Town Council Meeting scheduled for 8 February 2006**

to be moved to Thursday 9 February 2006 to enable Mark Pritchard MP to attend.

131/05-06 Use of Guildhall by Registrar

The Town Clerk informed members due to changes for the electronic processing of registration of Births and Deaths, the Registrar will now take local sessions by appointment at Newport Library, rather than the Guildhall with effect 1 October 2005.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

132/05-06 Community Safety Committee Meeting – Minutes

Members noted the Minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2005, attached at Appendix 'H'.

133/05-06 CCTV

The Town Clerk informed members that the upgraded system has been installed and commissioned and training of the Police who will have operational control of the system is being undertaken.

Members can view the Operations Centre by arrangement with the Town Clerk. It was **RESOLVED that the original equipment be offered for sale by sealed bid.**

134/05-06 Telford & Wrekin Crime Prevention Panel

Members noted an update **attached at Appendix 'J'** and asked that the request for funding be considered at the next Grant Meeting.

135/05-06 Shropshire Ambulance Service – Summer 2005

Members noted receipt of the Summer Newsletter.

LEISURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

136/05-06 Leisure & Environmental Services Committee Meeting – Minutes

Members noted the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2005 **attached at Appendix 'K'**.

137/05-06 Woodland Burials

Members **RESOLVED to accept an amendment to the rules governing woodland burials attached at Appendix 'L' where changes are indicated in italics.**

138/05-06 Burton Borough Sports Hall

Members noted a report from Cllr Irene Evans **attached at Appendix 'M'**.

139/05-06 NT3P

Members noted a report from Cllr John Evans **attached at Appendix 'N'** and agreed to invite Mr Bob King to the November Town Council meeting to present his report and local map.

140/05-06 S&News – Summer 2005

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.

141/05-06 ASHTAV News – 2005

Members noted receipt of the newsletters.

TOWN PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

142/05-06 Planning & Economic Development Committee Meeting – Minutes

Members noted the Minutes of a meeting held on 14 September 2005.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION / NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (SALC / NALC)

143/05-06 SALC AGM

Cllr Brenda Flowers will represent the Town Council with voting rights at the AGM to be held on Saturday 19 November 2005. Cost of £10.00 for lunch will be met by the Town Council. Travel expenses can be claimed.

NATIONAL & REGIONAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS

144/05-06 The Regional Spatial Strategy for the West Midlands – The Black Country Study

Members noted receipt of the study.

145/05-06 Green Paper on Youth Matters

Members **RESOLVED** to support the aims of the Green Paper whilst stressing it will only succeed if sufficient finance is available. It should be noted that “opportunity cards” will only have value in rural areas if public transport is made available for young people to fully utilise them.

TELFORD & WREKIN BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

146/05-06 Local Development Framework (LDF)

Members considered the implications of the consultation document for the draft LDF as they impact on Newport. Written comments previously submitted by members are **attached** at **Appendix ‘P’**.

After a full debate on the issues it was agreed that the Town Clerk prepare a full response for the Borough and this is **attached** at **Appendix 'Q'**.

Signed

Dated