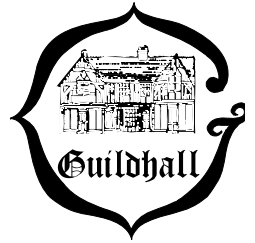


Newport (Shropshire) Town Council



MINUTES OF A MEETING

held on

Wednesday 10 January 2007

at

The Guildhall, High Street, Newport

PRESENT: Cllrs: Glyn Gratton – Town Mayor
Janette Treagust – Deputy Town Mayor
David Adams
Irene Evans
John Evans
Brenda Flowers
Glyn Holland
Adrian Meredith
Bob Unwin
Sally Wiggin

IN ATTENDANCE: D. L. Halliday – Town Clerk

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs Martyn Edwards and George Franks.

255/06-07 SUSPENSION OF MEETING

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

256/06-07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

257/06-07 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. A list of the Town Mayor's engagements is **attached** at **Appendix 'A'**.
- b. The Town Clerk informed members of the receipt of the ASHTAV newsletter and the inclusion of a photograph of Newport's island sheep in the Wildlife Trust newsletter, **attached** at **Appendix 'B'**.

258/06-07 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2006 were approved as a true record.

FINANCE

259/06-07 Finance Report

The revised Finance Report for December 2006, **attached** at **Appendix 'C'**, and the payments therein, were approved / ratified.

260/06-07 Thank You Letters

Letters of thanks for grants awarded have been received from:

Rainbow Club
Newport & District Swimming Club
East Shropshire Talking Newspaper
Newport Youth Café (Annual Grant)

LEISURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

261/06-07 The Playing Field – Autumn 2006

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.

TOWN PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

262/06-07 Audley Avenue Recreation Ground

Members noted a response from Telford & Wrekin Council's Chief Executive and an initial explanatory reply to his queries, both **attached** at **Appendix 'D'**. Members await a full response to the Freedom of Information enquiry.

263/06-07 Fishers Lock

Members considered a letter **attached** at **Appendix 'E'** which detailed the confusion and potential dangers of the split location known as Fishers Lock. Members directed the Town Clerk to draw these concerns to the attention of the Borough Council, requesting numbered street signs for the three access points into Fishers Lock.

264/06-07 Planning & Economic Development Committee Meeting – Minutes

Members noted the Minutes of a meeting held on 13 December 2006, previously circulated.

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

265/06-07 NALC Annual Report & Accounts 2005-06

Members noted receipt of the Report.

266/06-07 Local Council Review – January 2007

Members noted receipt of the Review, previously circulated.

267/06-07 Parish Pump – December 2006

Members noted receipt of the Newsletter, previously circulated.

268/06-07 Wrekin Area Committee Meeting

Members noted receipt of the revised Agenda for the meeting which now includes attendance by the Chief Executive, Telford & Wrekin Council.

NATIONAL / REGIONAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS

269/06-07 WMRA Speaking Out – Autumn 2006

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.

270/06-07 West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (WMRSS) Phase Two Revisions

The Town Clerk informed members that she had received a copy of the revised WMRSS which amends Spatial Options for Housing, Employment, Waste and Transport & Accessibility. There is a consultation period to March 2007. Relevant material will be copied to members for consideration at the February Town Council meeting. An article detailing CPRE's concerns about the proposed new housing levels is **attached at Appendix 'F'**.

271/06-07 Local Development Framework (LDF) – Telecommunications Development

Members considered the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) **attached at Appendix 'G'**. The Town Clerk was directed to request that as part of the "Mast Register" a map of the rural area deployment of Telecommunications Development be included.

272/06-07 Scrutiny Commission – Review of Community Support Officers (CSO’s)

Members considered the proposed review detailed at **Appendix ‘H’** and directed the Town Clerk to detail the support for the CSO’s based in Newport under West Mercia Constabulary employment.

273/06-07 Newport High Street Pavements

Members considered a response from Cllr Keith Austin to questions raised regarding the relaying of High Street pavements, **attached** at **Appendix ‘J’**. The response quite clearly refutes the impression previously given by a member that the pavements were to be completely re-laid. Instead repairs to the very worst areas of the northern pavement only are to be carried out.

Members expressed their dissatisfaction with this short term measure.

274/06-07 Forton Road Puffin Crossing

Members considered a letter from Cllr Meredith, **attached** at **Appendix ‘K’**. The Town Council having not seen any plans, nor having received a start date, has found it difficult to comment on any revised proposals. The Town Clerk also reported that following a meeting with a CSO on the same day as this Town Council Meeting, it appears that not all residents have had their queries answered or been informed of the situation to date. The Town Clerk was directed to seek clarification regarding plans and dates for work to commence.

275/06-07 Forton Road Weight Restriction

Members considered a proposal to introduce a 7.5T weight restriction along Forton Road. They welcomed this initiative but suggested that it form the basis for a wider scheme incorporating Chetwynd End, Lower Bar, High Street and Upper Bar. The restriction would not apply to deliveries. The Town Clerk will pass these comments to Mr Steve Scanlon, the officer handling the proposal.

276/06-07 Attendance by Chief Executive at February Town Council Meeting

The Town Clerk informed members that Mr Steve Wellings has confirmed that he will attend the meeting of the Town Council on 14 February 2006. In order to allow ample time on the Agenda for any issues to be addressed it was **RESOLVED for this meeting only that the Public Session be cancelled.**

277/06-07 Stafford Street Car Park – Bus Stops

Members considered further amended plans for the Car Park Bus Stops as detailed at **Appendix 'L'**. Whilst there was still some concern about placing pedestrians in potential conflict with vehicles and loss of additional car parking spaces it was **RESOLVED to support the revised proposals which includes an additional bus bay, subject to additional lighting being installed and a revised dropped kerb near the new disabled parking bays.**

RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION

278/06-07 Newport Cottage Care Centre – Town Council Representative

Because Cllr Flowers has experienced difficulty in attending recent meetings of the Management Committee, she has requested an alternative representative be nominated and Cllr George Franks was duly appointed.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

279/06-07 West Mercia Policy Authority – 2007 and beyond

Members considered a summary of the draft priorities for policing in West Mercia for 2007 and beyond, **attached at Appendix 'M'**.

Signed

Dated