



Newport (Shropshire) Town Council



MINUTES OF A MEETING

held on
Wednesday 14 March 2007
at
The Guildhall, High Street, Newport

PRESENT: Cllrs: Glyn Gratton – Town Mayor
David Adams
Irene Evans
John Evans
Brenda Flowers
George Franks
Glyn Holland
Adrian Meredith

IN ATTENDANCE: D. L. Halliday – Town Clerk

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs: Martyn Edwards, Janette Tregust, Bob Unwin and Sally Wiggan.

323/06-07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr David Adams declared a non-prejudicial interest as a Trustee in all matters relating to the Shrewsbury and Newport Canal Trust.

324/06-07 SUSPENSION OF MEETING

There being no members of the public wishing to raise issues with the Council, the meeting continued without suspension.

325/06-07 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. A list of the Town Mayor's engagements is **attached** at **Appendix 'A'**.
- b. The Town Clerk informed members she was now in receipt of all the outstanding claims for new Definitive Rights of Way for Newport from Mr Bob King who is retiring. He believes provision will be made in the budget for 2007/08 to progress

these and other claims. For the record a full copy of these claims is **attached** at **Appendix 'B'**.

- c. The Telford Samaritans AGM is to be held on 17 April 2007 at 115 King Street, Wellington at 7.30 p.m.
- d. The Telford & Wrekin Partnership website has been re-designed and can be viewed at:
www.telfordpartnership.org.uk
- e. **CPRE Fieldwork – March 2007**

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.
- f. Cllr Brenda Flowers informed the meeting that following investigations it had been determined that there were no Pay Points in Newport to replace removal of certain functions from the Post Office. The nearest was located in Donnington. The Town Clerk was directed to write to Mark Pritchard MP informing him of this and copy the letter to the Newport Chamber of Commerce in an attempt to interest a local business in establishing a Pay Point in the town.
- g. The Town Clerk referred to an article in the Shropshire Star of 13 March 2007, **attached** at **Appendix 'C'**, detailing money being made available to the District Centres and Newport by Telford & Wrekin Council on the understanding it was matched like for like. This announcement is inappropriate in that Parishes and Town Council have already set their budgets for 2007. Likewise it appears that local Borough Councillors were not aware of this initiative. The Town Clerk was directed to write to the Chief Executive drawing to his attention the council's concerns about this announcement in the Press prior to its official notification to parishes.
- h. Cllr David Adams presented a photograph of La Place de Newport in Dragé named after visits to Dragé by Newport residents.

325/06-07 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2007 were approved as a true record.

327/06-07 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a. Street Lighting – New Works (Minute 299/06-07)

The Town Clerk updated members on a meeting she had had with Dan Hitchens regarding provision of street lighting maps before quotes can be given.

The Town Clerk has insisted that these maps should be provided by e-on Central Networks and in cases of new works a site visit must be arranged in order to determine the best way forward for new projects.

FINANCE

328/06-07 Finance Report

The Finance Report for February 2007, **attached at Appendix 'D'** and the payments therein, were approved/ratified.

329/06-07 Thank You Letters

Members noted that letters of thanks for grants awarded have been received from:

Church Aston Thursday Club
Crucial Crew 2007
Beaumaris Singers
Llangollen Eisteddfod

330/06-07 Financial Regulations

Members **RESOLVED to approve the changes to the Council's Financial Regulations following the transfer of the RFO's appointment from the Town Clerk to the Deputy Town Clerk, attached at Appendix 'E'.**

331/06-07 Funding Consultants to challenge Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy

Members considered a report prepared by the Town Clerk and **attached at Appendix 'F'** and **RESOLVED to contribute £650.00 towards the costs of employing Halcrow Group Limited to conduct an examination of the LDF Core Strategy prior to the Examination Hearings.**

RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION

332/06-07 Purchase of Allotment Land

Members considered the offer from Telford & Wrekin Council to sell both leased allotment sites at Boughey Road and Meadow View Road for a total cost of £11500.

It was **RESOLVED to approve this purchase, directing the Town Clerk to initiate all legal action, and vesting in her delegated powers as Proper Officer to the Council to see the purchase through to final completion. The cost and legal charges will be met from the Capital Projects Fund.**

333/06-07 Open Evening – Shropshire Archives

Members were notified of an Open Evening to be held at Castle Gates on 29 March 2007 from 5.00 p.m. – 7.30 p.m.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

334/06-07 Community Safety Committee Meeting – Minutes

Members noted the Minutes of a meeting held on 28 February 2007. A corrected copy will be brought forward in the Minutes book deleting at CSC/12/06-07 reference to Mr Nick Gibbons and inserting Mr Nick Kitchen.

335/06-07 Enforcement of Parking Regulations

Members noted a letter sent to the Chief Executive TWC **attached at Appendix 'G'**.

336/06-07 Relaxation of Parking Restrictions

TWC have been asked to consider relaxing parking restrictions in New Street, opposite the Bus Stop Build-out and also outside Boots.

337/06-07 High Street Footpath Refurbishment

Members noted correspondence relating to the refurbishment of the north/east side to the High Street, due to commence on 19 March 2007 and continuing to 27 April 2007 as detailed at **Appendix 'H'**.

338/06-07 Rising Bollard Audley Avenue

Following the Committee Meeting, Mr Reg Potter had raised issues relating to cyclists using Audley Avenue and a possible conflict with buses exiting from the Industrial Estate to Burton Borough School using the rising bollard. A solution has been proposed which is detailed at **Appendix 'J'**.

339/06-07 Norbroom Court – Street Signing

Members noted that the request to number the street signs leading into Norbroom Court is being considered by TWC.

LEISURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (L&ES)

340/06-07 Countryside Voice – Spring 2007

Members noted receipt of the CPRE Magazine.

341/06-07 CPRE Homes & Gardens 2007

Members noted the listings for all homes and gardens open to the public in 2007.

342/06-07 Community Sports Hall

Cllr Irene Evans presented a report on the use of the Community facilities at Burton Borough Sports hall, **attached at Appendix 'K'**.

TOWN PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

342/06-07 Planning & Economic Development Committee Meeting – Minutes

Members noted the Minutes of a meeting held on 14 February 2007.

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

343/06-07 Local Council Review (LCR) March 2007

Members acknowledged receipt of their copies of LCR.

The Town Clerk informed members that with effect April 2007 all copies will be sent to the Guildhall in order that there is no confusion with addresses following the May elections.

NATIONAL & REGIONAL GOVERNMENT

344/06-07 Town and Parish Standard:09

Members acknowledged receipt of the newsletter circulated within the LCR.

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL (TWC) MATTERS

345/06-07 LDF Core Strategy – Public Examination

The Town Clerk briefed members on the format for the Independent Examination of the Core Strategy as detailed at **Appendix ‘L’**.

346/06-07 LDF Core Strategy – The Shrewsbury & Newport Canals Trust Submission

Members received a copy of the covering letter **attached at Appendix ‘M’** to the Trust’s submission which is held in the Guildhall.

347/06-07 Vision 2026 & Community Strategy

Members noted receipt of the two strategy documents.

348/06-07 EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

It was **RESOLVED** that in view of the business about to be conducted, that is staffing issues and determination of tenders for the Christmas Lighting Contract, it is advisable in the public interest, that the press and public be excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.

Signed

Dated