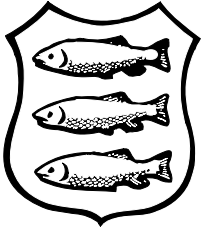


MINUTES OF A MEETING



Newport (Shropshire) Town Council



held on
Wednesday 14 June 2006
at
The Guildhall, High Street, Newport

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

IN ATTENDANCE: D. L. Halliday – Town Clerk

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE have been received from Cllrs. George Franks and Glyn Holland.

30/06-07 SUSPENSION OF MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** to suspend the meeting for up to 30 minutes to take questions from members of the public.

31/06-07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

32/06-07 YOUTH NEEDS SURVEY

Linda McIntyre together with 13 young people presented the findings of a survey of young people to establish what the 13-19 year old age group really wanted. An outline of the presentation and the survey results are **attached** at **Appendix 'A'**.

33/06-07 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. A list of the Town Mayor's engagements is **attached** at **Appendix 'B'**.

- b. Members received copies of
- (1) Youth Opportunities Fund
 - (2) CPRE Chart the character of your local landscape
 - (3) CPRE Whinash Wind turbines – Planning Refusal
 - (4) A response from the Home Office regarding policing for the future.

All are **attached** at **Appendix 'C'**.

- c. Telford & Wrekin Borough Council have notified the Town Council of their wish to remove the Touch-Screen at the Library which has been inoperative for many months. It will only be replaced if a Borough wide system is introduced at all customer support points, including local libraries. Members concurred with the removal.

34/06-07 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2006 were approved as a true record.

FINANCE

35/06-07 Finance Report

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

36/06-07 Thank You Letters

Members noted letters of thanks for grants awarded, received from:

- a. DIAL Shropshire
- b. Home-Start Telford & Wrekin
- c. St. Andrew's Church, Church Aston

37/06-07 Grant Applications

Members considered applications for grants detailed at **Appendix 'E'** and **RESOLVED to award grants as follows:**

a. Section 137	£	CDA*
Newport P's & Q's	50.00	n
Newport Baptist Church	50.00	n
Church Aston Thursday Club	50.00	n
St. Andrew's Church	100.00	n
Telford Crime Prevention Panel	150.00	+
Telford Friends	50.00	n
AXIS	100.00	n
No Panic	100.00	n

Cancer Research UK	50.00	n
Macmillan Shropshire Appeal	300.00	n
Relate Shropshire	200.00	n
Samaritans	250.00	n
Vitalise	50.00	n
Telford Fun (Gay) Day	50.00	n

b. Youth Grants

Newport Toy Library	200.00	n
Telford & Wrekin Borough Council	595.00	+
2 nd Church Aston Scout Group	350.00	+
The Musical Theatre Academy	50.00	+

c. It was decided to award no grants under Section 19.

*CDA – Crime & Disorder Act

+ positive impact

n neutral impact

RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION

38/06-07 Green Apple Award – Press Release

Members noted with interest the official Press Release and local coverage of the recent Green Apple Awards for restoration of the Cemetery Chapel, **attached at Appendix ‘F’**.

39/06-07 Severn Hospice – Telford Appeal

Members were informed of an invitations to attend the “sod-cutting” at the new hospice site as detailed at **Appendix ‘G’**.

40/06-07 Shropshire County NHS PCT – Consultation

Members were informed that the Town Clerk holds a full copy of the Formal Consultation containing proposals for the future of community health services, community hospitals and older people’s mental health services in Shropshire County. The Consultation period closes on 7 August 2006.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

41/06-07 Success Stories for CCTV

The Town Clerk briefed members on an update from West Mercia Constabulary regarding the successful use of the town’s CCTV System.

These included:

- a. Youth prosecuted over theft of a mountain bike, images show offender clearly on stolen bike.
- b. cannabis being used on a car park, male person cautioned for possession.
- c. shop lifters recorded running away from store.
- d. licensing offence breaches
- e. disorder outside nightclub

42/06-07 Travel Watch – Midlands West

The next meeting of the Regional Forum, chaired by Mr Phil Davies is to be held on Monday 26 June 2006 from 10.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m. at County Hall, Worcester.

LEISURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (L&ES)

43/06-07 L&ES Committee Meeting – 24 May 2006

Since the scheduled meeting was not quorate, notes taken during the Cemetery Inspection and later with a representative of the Newport Allotment Association, **attached at Appendix 'H'**, were considered by members.

44/06-07 Cemetery Inspection

- a. Members **RESOLVED to forbid the placing of solar lights on graves on environmental grounds. Notices will be displayed in the Cemetery to this effect.**
- b. Members confirmed that they wished to further the new Garden of Rest and Memorial Wall. Costings will be obtained for the Budget Meeting together with a cost to edge the adjacent roadway leading to the two extensions.
- c. The Town Clerk is to seek advice from the Borough Council with regard to placing Tree Preservation Orders on specified trees within the cemetery.

45/06-07 Cemetery Report

Members noted the Report.

46/06-07 Allotment Report

- a. Members initially **RESOLVED to move annual billing for allotments to September – This was against the advice of the Town Clerk.**

- b. Members then discussed reviewing allotment rental costs and the possibility of offering a differential rate to members of the allotment association with effect April 2007. To enact such changes in the light of the previous resolution would have required billing twice at six-monthly intervals or forestalling any changes to September 2007.

Members **RESOLVED to withdraw the previous decision and leave allotment billing in April.** Suggestions for amendments to rental charges will be brought to the July meeting.

- c. Members concurred with the need to revise current Tenancy Agreements and **RESOLVED in the interim to retrospectively adopt an addition to the current Agreement in respect of gardens remaining untended for 4 weeks as detailed at Appendix 'H' Paragraph 7.**

47/06-07 Meadow View Road – Leased site and Horse Field

It was **RESOLVED to approach the Borough Council requesting to purchase the leased allotment site at Meadow View Road together with the adjacent horse field.**

48/06-07 Public Conveniences

Members noted that in the period under question no major works had been needed.

49/06-07 Burton Borough Community Sports Hall Report

Members noted the Report **attached at Appendix 'J'.**

50/06-07 The Playing Field – Spring 2006

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.

51/06-07 S&News – Spring 2006

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.

52/06-07 CPRE Fieldwork – June 2006

Members noted receipt of the newsletter and an extract from it explaining changes to Government Departments **attached at Appendix 'K'.**

TOWN PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

53/06-07 **Planning & Economic Development Committee Meeting – Minutes**

Members noted the Minutes of a meeting held on 10 May 2006.

54/06-07 **Land for People**

Members noted an information sheet on Community Land Trusts **attached at Appendix 'L'**.

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

55/06-07 **SALC Appointment of Local Council Development Officer**

Members noted the new appointment detailed at **Appendix 'M'**.

56/06-07 **SALC Extraordinary Meeting**

Members noted that a copy of notes taken at the Extraordinary Meeting on 22 April 2006 to look at issues relating to Unitary Authority Status within the County Council boundaries are held in the council offices.

57/06-07 **Wrekin Area Committee (WAC)**

Members noted the revised arrangements for the WAC and its future detailed at **Appendix 'N'**.

58/06-07 **Community Council – Shropshire Charity Trustees' Network**

An information sheet on the Network was circulated to members.

NATIONAL / REGIONAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS

59/06-07 **The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005**

Members considered Section 1 of the Parish Council Guide, **attached at Appendix 'P'**, in particular the question posed at the end of the section and **RESOLVED not to pursue adopting enforcement powers at the present time.**

60/06-07 **West Midlands Regional Assembly – Speaking Out – Spring 2006**

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.

TELFORD & WREKIN BOROUGH COUNCIL (T&WBC) MATTERS

61/06-07 High Street 20 mph zone

Members have received copies of correspondence relating to the High Street. After discussion on several issues relating to the engineering measures, the bus stop outside the Nat West Bank was identified as a major problem.

It was therefore **RESOLVED that whilst Newport Town Council remains supportive of the concept of a 20 mph zone for the High Street area, the scheme is rapidly being brought into disrepute by the situation of buses at the shop outside the Nat West Bank. The Borough Council is asked to take steps to address this issue as a matter of urgency.**

62/06-07 Roving Bridge, Lower Bar, Newport

Members received copies of correspondence from Mr Rodney Pitt relating to the national status of the Roving Bridge and queries regarding the works carried out to the carriageway on the bridge, **attached at Appendix 'Q'**. The Town Clerk had copied all correspondence to the Borough Council who have stated verbally that they believed they were not at fault having carried out works to the road surface only.

Members will await replies to Mr Pitt's letters.

63/06-07 LDF Update

Members noted a letter updating the key stages for production of documents relating to the LDF, **attached at Appendix 'R'**. The amended Statement of Community Involvement and the independent Planning Inspector's report leading to the amendments are both held in the Council Offices.

64/06-07 Canal Restoration Project

The Town Mayor reported he had attended a meeting of the Regeneration Partnership on 13 June 2006 when the LDF had been discussed, and the Canal Restoration project. He invited Cllr Adams to address the meeting, which he did having declared his interest as a Canal Trustee. Cllr David Adams in his capacity as a trustee of the Canal Restoration Project had briefed members of the Partnership on proposals for diverting the historical canal route to create sufficient headroom to tunnel beneath the A41.

Cllr Adams reported that the proposed diversion would be a costly project. Discussion with developers had indicated that they would meet these costs as planning gain for a proposed 200 house development at Plough Farm, Newport. These proposals had also been discussed in conjunction with LDF officers at the Borough Council.

Cllr Adams expressed his full support for this option. Members expressed their concern that such a proposal was even being considered, particularly as the Town Council had adopted a stance of fighting proposed green field development in Newport under the LDF.

The Town Clerk advised members not to address the details of the issue, since no formal plans for comment had been submitted. Should this proposal be brought forward under revisions to the LDF, the Council needs to be seen to consider it without having taken a prior stance.

Members reaffirmed their commitment to continue to fight proposals to develop two identified green field sites in Newport under the LDF.

65/06-07 The City Region

Members noted an article extracted from the June 2006 issue of Insight, **attached at Appendix 'S'**.

66/06-07 Newport Infant School

Members **RESOLVED to seek nominations from Non-Council members to act as the Minor Authority Community Governor at Newport Infant School.**

67/06-07 National Falls Awareness Day – 27 June 2006

Members noted that the Telford & Wrekin PCT, in conjunction with the Borough Council, have organised a Falls Awareness Day, detailed at **Appendix 'T'**.

The co-ordinator of the scheme has suggested that a Newport representative join the Falls Prevention Group, a copy of whose last meeting Minutes is **attached at Appendix 'V'**. Members will sound out any interested parties.

Signed

Dated