



MINUTES OF A MEETING

held on
Wednesday 13 September 2006
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
George Franks
Glyn Holland
Adrian Meredith
Bob Unwin

IN ATTENDANCE: D. L. Halliday – Town Clerk

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Martyn Edwards and Cllr Sally Wiggin.

109/06-07 SUSPENSION OF MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** to suspend the meeting to take questions from members of the public. A précis of points is attached at Appendix 'A'.

110/06-07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr John Evans declared an interest in the future of Sapphire House as an employee of ABRO and abstained from discussions on this item.

Cllr Irene Evans declared an interest in the item relating to Sapphire House having a relative employed at ABRO and abstained from discussions.

Cllr Glyn Gratton declared an interest in grant applications for the Heart of England in Bloom and the Chamber of Commerce and abstained from discussions on these items.

Cllr David Adams declared an interest in the grant application for the Chamber of Commerce and abstained from discussions on this item.

Cllr Brenda Flowers declared an interest in the Age Concern grant application and abstained from discussions on this item.

111/06-07 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. A list of the Town Mayor's engagements is **attached** at **Appendix 'B'**.
- b. The Town Clerk informed members of a thank you card from Cllr Eva Allan on her resignation as an MLA governor at Newport Infant School.

112/06-07 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2006 were approved as a true record.

FINANCE

113/06-07 Finance Report

The Finance Reports for July 2006 and August 2006, **attached** at **Appendix 'C'**, and the payments therein were approved / ratified.

114/06-07 Letters of Thanks

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

Samaritans
Newport P's & Q's
St. Andrew's Church
Newport & District Agricultural Society
Vitalise
Cancer Research UK
AXIS Counselling
Relate
Telford Crime Prevention Panel
The Musical Theatre Academy
2nd Church Aston Scout Group
Newport Toy Library
Macmillan Cancer Relief
Friends of St. Nicholas Church
No Panic
Church Aston Thursday Club
Newport Baptist Church

115/06-07 Grant Applications

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

a. Section 137

| | £ | CDA* |
|-----------------------------------|--------|------|
| HEIB Newport | 673.54 | n |
| Age Concern Newport Lunch Club | 100.00 | n |
| Hope House | 250.00 | n |
| Marie Curie Cancer Care | 300.00 | n |

To make no award to the 2007 Street Fayre

b. Youth Grants

| | | |
|--------------------|--------|---|
| Telford Drive | 150.00 | + |
| Telford Sea Cadets | 155.00 | + |

c. Section 19

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|---|
| Wrekin Ladies Hockey Club | 100.00 | n |
| Sharon Ann Freestyle Academy | 500.00 | + |

d. not to make a grant to the Borough Mayor's charity in keeping with precedence.

*CDA Crime & Disorder Act

+ positive

n neutral

NATIONAL / REGIONAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS

116/06-07 Town & Parish Standard: 07 – July 2006

Members noted the newsletter of The Standards Board for England circulated within the Local Council Review. This particular issue contains guidance on Declaring Interests.

117/06-07 WMRA Speaking Out – Summer 2006

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.

118/06-07 MoD Defence Logistics Organisation (DLO)

Members considered correspondence from the DLO relating to the proposed closure of Sapphire House **attached** at **Appendix 'E'**.

It was **RESOLVED** that the **Town Clerk** write in support of **retention of the facility in Shropshire**. **Cllr George Franks** requested it be recorded he **abstained from voting**.

TELFORD & WREKIN BOROUGH COUNCIL (T&WBC) MATTERS

119/06-07 The Birmingham City Region

Members noted two letters responding to the Town Council's concerns over the proposed City Region, received from The Department for Communities & Local Government and Cllr Keith Austin, Leader of T&WBC, **attached** at **Appendix 'F'**.

Members noted that the two replies were somewhat contradictory which did nothing to allay their original concerns. They will continue to closely monitor the situation.

120/06-07 High Street 20 mph Zone

Members considered an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order for the High Street, **attached** at **Appendix 'G'** and a proposition from Cllrs Adams and Meredith **attached** at **Appendix 'H'** relating to the order.

On a recorded vote the proposition failed:

FOR: Cllr David Adams
Cllr Adrian Meredith

AGAINST: Cllr Irene Evans
Cllr John Evans
Cllr Brenda Flowers
Cllr Glyn Gratton
Cllr Glyn Holland
Cllr Janette Treagust
Cllr Bob Unwin

It was alternatively **RESOLVED** that the **Town Council** demands that the **Borough Council** remove the bus stop build-out at the **Natwest Bank**, thus removing the need for the **Experimental Traffic Orders**.

It remains the majority view of the Town Council to support the principle of the 20 mph zone. A proposition from Cllr Adrian Meredith detailed at **Appendix 'J'** was deferred to the next meeting awaiting a response from the Borough Council regarding the bus stop build-out.

121/06-07 Local Play Strategy

Members noted a letter **attached** at **Appendix 'K'**.

122/06-07 Fly Tipping

Members noted correspondence from the Environmental Enforcement Department **attached** at **Appendix 'L'**.

123/06-07 British Red Cross Home from Hospital Service

Members noted details of an Information Conference to be held on 30 September 2006 at Meeting Point House, **attached** at **Appendix 'M'**.

124/06-07 Youth Grant Funding

Members noted information on accessing new funding for working with young people **attached** at **Appendix 'N'**. The Prince's Trust will also award grants of £700 - £2000 for projects involving young people aged 14-25. The Town Clerk holds details.

125/06-07 Telford & Wrekin CVS Information Conference

Members noted the details of an Information Conference to be held on 30 September 2006 at Meeting Point House, **attached** at **Appendix 'P'**.

126/06-07 Ethical Standards Bulletin – Summer 2006

Members noted receipt of the Summer Bulletin.

127/06-07 Home Start Telford & Wrekin

Members noted that the AGM will be held at 7.00 p.m. on 20 September 2006 at The Salvation Army, Lion Street, Oakengates. A copy of the Annual Report for 2005/06 is held in the Council offices.

128/06-07 Telford & Wrekin CVS Newslines – Issue 4 2006

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.

129/06-07 Footpaths on Chetwynd Road and Forton Road

Members considered an e-mail **attached** at **Appendix 'Q'**. They shared the concerns expressed. Cllr Gratton updated members following discussions with the project engineer, the location of the Puffin crossing on Forton Road is still to be determined pending the outcome of certain legal checks.

With regard to the extension of the 30 mph zone on Chetwynd Road, no objections having been received an Order has now been made and works should be completed by the end of September.

The Town Clerk was directed to write to the Borough Council requesting that pavements be laid where there are currently none and that this be enacted speedily.

RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION

130/06-07 The Newport & East Shropshire Canals Museum

Members considered a letter **attached** at **Appendix 'R'** and nominated Cllr Irene Evans to act as the council representative on a steering group to examine the possibility of establishing a Town and Canals Museum.

131/06-07 Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2007

Members noted details of the Awards and how nominations can be made, **attached** at **Appendix 'S'**.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

132/06-07 Police Service Restructuring

Members welcomed a letter from the West Mercia Constabulary and Police Authority **attached** at **Appendix 'T'**.

133/06-07 Central Networks Safer Environments Project Funding

Members noted the details of the grant funding initiative **attached** at **Appendix 'U'**.

134/06-07 NT3P Meeting

Members noted the Minutes of a meeting held on 29 June 2006 and the details of the next meeting to be held at 7.00 p.m. on 28 September 2006 in Committee Room 2 at the Civic Offices.

LEISURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (L&ES)

135/06-07 Stafford Street Public Toilets

Owing to a shortage of meeting time Cllr Brenda Flowers agreed that this item be deferred to a subsequent meeting.

136/06-7 Newport SK8 Park

The Town Clerk had not received any update as yet on the results of Tender procedures.

137/06-7 CPRE Shropshire Landscapes – Summer 2006

Members noted receipt of the newsletters.

138/06-07 SPFA The Playing Field – Summer 2006

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.

139/06-07 The Green Apple Environment Awards

Members were informed that the Town Mayor will attend the awards ceremony on 3 November 2006 to collect the Environment Award for the Cemetery Worm Farm. An award has also been won for work around the Canal by the Heart of England in Bloom Group.

140/06-07 Shropshire Path Times – July 2006

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.

141/06-07 CPRE Fieldwork – September 2006

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.

TOWN PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

142/06-07 Planning & Economic Development Committee Meeting – Minutes

Members noted the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2006.

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

143/06-07 SALC Parish Pump – July 2006

Members acknowledged receipt of the newsletter.

144/06-07 Local Council Review – July 2006/September 2006

Members acknowledged receipt of the newsletter.

145/06-07 SALC AGM

Members noted that the AGM will take place on Saturday 18 November 2006 at The Lord Hill Hotel in Shrewsbury from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Any member may attend but only two will have voting rights. The cost for the lunch is £10.50 per person. A copy of the Agenda and Menu is **attached at Appendix ‘V’**. It was **RESOLVED to send no representatives to the meeting.**

146/06-07 Wrekin Area Committee (WAC) Meeting

Members noted that the next meeting of the WAC will take place at 7.00 p.m. on 14 September 2006 at Meeting Point House. The Minutes of the previous meeting on 3 July 2006 were circulated to members.

147/06-07 EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

It was **RESOLVED** that in view of the business about to be conducted, that is consideration of staffing issues, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

Signed

Dated

**Appendix 'A' to Minutes
of a Town Council Mtg. held
13 September 2006**

PUBLIC SESSION

13 SEPTEMBER 2006

The following notes are a précis of comments made by members of the public at the Town Council meeting held on 13 September 2006.

- a. **Michael Jeggo** – since the introduction of the 20 mph zone, the town centre appears unfriendly. Local traffic is avoiding using the High Street and adding vehicles to adjacent residential roads. Comments overheard from Edmond residents indicated a preference for finding alternatives to shopping in Newport.
- b. **Graham Hobson** – has conducted own research on problems and remains opposed to the bus stop build-out by the Nat west Bank and urges the Town Council to seek its removal.
- c. **Mrs Freer** – at certain times of the day the bus stops block traffic through flow. The build-outs are mistakes which need to be addressed.
- d. **Bishop Hendry representative** – buses are blocking access to parking for clients. Bus drivers are not helpful and can appear verbally abusive. The Police have been asked to assist – The bus stop build-out should be removed.
- e. **Ray Corbett** – all the previous comments supported. The new yellow lining is creating difficult egress from Belman's Yard. Car parking spaces are vital to the Town.
- f. **Mrs Johnson** – the pinch points by the Church and Canal Bridge are dangerous. Large flower towers are also obscuring vehicle sight-lines particularly for Water Lane.

Can a waste bin be placed alongside John Whitehead commemorative bench.