



MINUTES OF A MEETING

held on

Wednesday 14 November 2007

at

The Guildhall, High Street, Newport

PRESENT: Cllrs: Glyn Gratton – Town Mayor
Adam Stanton – Deputy Town
Daniel Ashley
Brenda Flowers
Tony Forrester
Adrian Meredith
Tim Nelson
Phil Norton
Roy Scammell
Sian Walker

IN ATTENDANCE: D. L. Halliday – Town Clerk

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs Carter and Unwin.

167/07-08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Brenda Flowers declared an interest in the grant application by the Rainbow Club and withdrew from the meeting during its consideration.

168/07-08 SUSPENSION OF MEETING

No members of the public wishing to raise questions, the meeting continued without suspension.

169/07-08 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. A list of the Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's engagements is **attached at Appendix 'A'**.
- b. The Town Clerk briefed members on the new non-audible system installed on traffic lights for use by the visually impaired.

170/07-08 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2007 were approved as a true record.

FINANCE

171/07-08 Finance Statement

The Finance Statement for October 2007 **attached** at **Appendix 'B'** and the payments therein, were approved/ratified.

172/07-08 Town Council Newsletter – Costings

Members considered a short report **attached** at **Appendix 'C'**.

It was **RESOLVED** to include sufficient funding within the **Budget 2008/09** to produce two newsletters per annum initially of double sided A3 size. The Town Clerk is to investigate the best costing options.

173/07-08 Budget Spend Report

Members noted the Budget Spend Report for the period to 30 September 2007 **attached** at **Appendix 'D'**. The Town Clerk informed members that the overspend on 3/3A High Street arose from the need to complete repairs to the door frontage due to rotting timbers. As a Listed Building this work had to follow certain guidelines for materials etc. specified by the Conservation Officer.

174/07-08 Grant Applications

Members considered applications for grants detailed at **Appendix 'E'** and **RESOLVED**:

a. To award Section 137 Grant as follows:

		CDA*
Newport Rainbow Club	250.00	n
Beaumaris Singers	200.00	n
Shropshire & Mid Wales Kidney Patient Association	350.00	n

b. To award Section 19 Grants as follows:

Nova United Junior FC	500.00	+
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c. To itemise a grant of £250 to the Old Tyme Market for 2008 in the 2008/09 Budget.

*CDA = Crime & Disorder Act

n = neutral impact

+ = positive impact

COMMUNITY SAFETY

175/07-08 Damaged Safety Railings

Members considered a response to the issue of damaged safety railings at Station Road/Granville Avenue, **attached at Appendix 'F'**.

Disappointed by the decision to remove the safety railings, they directed the Town Clerk to seek a permanent and improved safety feature by relocating the pedestrian crossing further from the junction and replacing and extending the safety railings. Alternatively a No Left Turn for Station Road could be considered for HGV's

176/07-08 Norbroom Park – Misuse by Vehicles

The Town Clerk reported that following information received at the October Planning Meeting, she had notified Telford & Wrekin Council of the need to replace the entrance bollard/barrier on 12 October 2007.

177/07-08 External Audit 2006/07

Members noted receipt of the Certificate and Opinion of the External Auditor to the Town Council's Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2007, **attached at Appendix 'G'**. Members extended their thanks to Mrs Parnham as RFO.

178/07-08 National Salary awards 2007-08

Members were informed that the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services has finally reached agreement on rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2007. Hence staff salaries payable in November will include the backdated rise.

LEISURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (L&ES)

179/07-08 Newport Canal – Forton Bridge to Newport Town Wharf

Members considered the Initial Development Appraisal, **attached at Appendix 'H'**. Following extensive discussion it was **RESOLVED to invite the Canals Trust to brief councillors at a special meeting to be held early in 2008 at which the public may be present. The Town Clerk will seek a suitable date.**

180/07-08 Parish Pump News – Autumn 2007

Members noted receipt of the Newsletter.

181/07-08 CPRE Landscape – Autumn 2007

Members noted receipt of the Newsletter.

182/07-08 The Playing Field – Autumn 2007

Members noted receipt of the Newsletter. Copies of the latest RoSPA advice and an article on BMX tracks by Derek Owen of Telford and Wrekin Council are **attached** at **Appendix ‘J’**.

183/07-08 Countryside Voice – Autumn 2007

Members noted receipt of the CPRE Newsletter.

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

184/07-08 Planning & Economic Development Committee Meeting – Minutes

Members noted the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2007.

185/07-08 Local Development Framework (LDF) Shop Fronts and Signage in Conservation Areas

Members welcomed the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Design Guidance on Shop Fronts and Signage in Conservation areas, a master copy of which is held in the Guildhall. The detailed guidelines and examples should aid sympathetic refurbishment in the future.

186/07-08 Farmers Market

Cllr Glyn Gratton introduced the subject following concerns expressed to him regarding the disruption in St. Mary Street for what was in essence a market of only ten stalls, few of which had any link with farming. The impact on visitors to the town hoping to enjoy a good shopping experience was negative.

Whilst members support the principles of good farmers markets the current example is creating a variety of problems in terms of loss of car parking spaces, disruption to the other tenants both of businesses and residential units in St. Mary Street and the limited variety on offer at the stalls.

The Town Clerk informed members that she was aware that alternative locations were being investigated but had no firm information to give to the meeting at this stage.

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

187/07-08 National Council – Report of the Chief Executive

Members considered the Report **attached** at **Appendix ‘K’**. The issue of the “power of well being” was discussed and the

constraints of compliance noted, particularly the removal of Section 137 powers.

188/07-08 NALC Legal Briefing – Parish Polls

Members welcomed the updated Legal Advice from NALC on Parish Polls **attached at Appendix ‘L’** which supports the stance taken by the Town Council in October when refusing to hold a poll on the EU Constitution / Treaty Referendum.

189/07-08 Local Council Review – November 2007

Members acknowledged receipt of their copies of the newsletter.

190/07-08 SALC Annual Report 2006-07

Members noted the Report **attached at Appendix ‘M’**.

NATIONAL / REGIONAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS

191/07-08 Speaking Out – September 2007

Members noted the WMRA Newsletter.

192/07-08 Sub-National Review

Members noted two extracts from “Speaking Out” concerning the way Regional Governance is to be organised in the future, resulting in the cessation of the Regional Assemblies in March 2010 **attached at Appendix ‘N’**

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL (TWC) AND AREA MATTERS

193/07-08 Enforcement of Parking Restrictions

Members welcomed the support given by other Parish and Town Councils to their request that TWC review their role in the enforcement of parking restrictions as shown by copy correspondence **attached at Appendix ‘P’**.

194/07-08 Granville Landfill Site

Members considered a report following the recent meeting at Lilleshall and Donnington Parish Council, **attached at Appendix ‘Q’**. They support measures to discourage landfill and increase recycling and believe the Borough Council need to be more proactive and imaginative in developing good practice.

195/07-08 Affordable Housing

A full response to questions raised concerning affordable housing had not been received at the time of this meeting and the subject was therefore deferred.

196/07-08 Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2007

Members noted the Consultation Review detailed at **Appendix 'R'** which proposes no changes for Newport.

197/07-08 Voluntary and Community Forum Meeting

Members considered notes from the meeting held on 19 September 2007 **attached** at **Appendix 'S'**.

198/07-08 Shrewsbury & Telford Hospital NHS Trust

Members considered a news release from the Trust **attached** at **Appendix 'T'**. Since a Public Meeting has been scheduled in Newport for 26 November 2007 they chose to make no comments at this stage.

199/07-08 Telford & Wrekin CVS – Newline October/November 2007

Members noted receipt of the Newsletter **attached** at **Appendix 'U'**.

200/07-08 Local Accessibility Partnership Newsletter- October 2007

Members noted receipt of the newsletter at **Appendix 'V'**.

201/07-08 Section 38 Agreement – Roe Deer Green, Newport

Members noted the adoption of the roads/footways within the new estate.

202/07-08 Telford & Wrekin CAB AGM

Members noted a report prepared by Cllr Flowers **attached** at **Appendix 'W'**. The Annual Report and Accounts for 2006/07 were also noted.

RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION

203/07-08 Data Protection Checklist

Members noted receipt of a checklist to help compliance with the Data Protection Act.

204/07-08 ASHTAV News 2007 – Issue No. 3

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.

Signed

Dated