



MINUTES OF A MEETING

held on
Wednesday 14 May 2008
at
The Guildhall, High Street, Newport

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Jayne Parnham – Acting Town Clerk

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs Adrian Meredith and Bob Unwin.

1/08-09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Eric Carter declared an interest in Telford and Wrekin issues involving the Rural Post Office and matters of the High Street.

2/08-09 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR

Cllr Adam Stanton was duly elected to serve as Town Mayor for the Municipal Year 2008/09 and following a Declaration of Acceptance of Office chaired the remainder of the meeting.

3/08-09 ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR

Cllr Roy Scammell was duly elected as Deputy Town Mayor for the Municipal Year 2008/09 and made a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

4/08-09 APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Accepting that the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor are by their appointments ex-officio members of all Standing Committees:

a. **Community Safety Committee**

**Cllr Brenda Flowers
Cllr Tony Forrester
Cllr Tim Nelson
Cllr Phil Norton**

b. **Leisure & Environmental Services Committee**

**Cllr Glyn Gratton
Cllr Tim Nelson
Cllr Phil Norton
Cllr Tony Forrester**

c. **Planning & Economic Development Committee**

**Cllr Daniel Ashley
Cllr Glyn Gratton
Cllr Brenda Flowers
Cllr Siân Walker**

Members choose to leave 1 vacancy on each committee, to be offered to Cllr Adrian Meredith or Cllr Bob Unwin, to be finalised at the June meeting.

5/08-09

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO OUTSIDE BODIES

As this issue was addressed in January 2008, Members choose not to conduct any changes, but as vacancies exist on the Regeneration Partnership and also the four year term for trustees of the Newport Town's Almshouses it was **RESOLVED to nominate Cllr Tim Nelson as the representative to serve for municipal years 2008/09 on the Regeneration Partnership and Cllr Brenda Flowers as a Trustee for the Town's Alms Houses for a four year term.**

6/08-09

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. A copy of the Mayor's engagements is **attached at Appendix 'A'**
- b. Members received a Thank-you note from the former Town Clerk Dee Halliday.

- c. Cllr Roy Scammell announced the success of the Burton Borough Band at recent competitions and expressed the wholehearted congratulations of the Town Council on their achievement, Acting Town Clerk was asked to write with Council's congratulations

7/08-09 MINUTES

The Minute of meetings held on 9 April and 23 April 2008 were approved as a true record.

8/08-09 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Glyn Gratton confirmed to members that he had received references for Mr Lee Jakeman and that the start date for the new Town Clerk will be 19 May 2008.

FINANCE

9/08-09 Finance Report

Pages 6 and 7 - Accounts to be paid out of meeting for April 2008 and Accounts to be paid at the Meeting – **attached** at **Appendix 'B'** were approved / ratified.

10/08-09 Thank You Letters

Thank you letters have been received from:

1. **PCAS general grant**
2. **Annual Grants**

**The Loyal Newport Volunteers
Newport Youth Café
The Parish Church of St. Andrew Church Aston**

11/08-09 Refurbishment of Mayor & Deputy Mayor's Chain of Office

The Acting Town Clerk advised Members that the Chains of Office were in need of refurbishment. Members **RESOLVED to use £588 from balances for the refurbishment.**

TOWN PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

12/08-09 a. Planning & Economic Development Committee Meeting – Minutes

Members noted the Minutes of a meeting held on 9 April 2008.

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

12/08-09 NALC Report of the Chief Executive

Members noted the Report **attached** at **Appendix 'C'** and chose to make no comment.

13/08-09 Local Council Review

Members noted receipt of the publication.

14/08-09 SALC Clerk Clippings – Spring 2008

Members noted receipt of the publication.

15/08-09 Rural Post Office Closures

Members noted the letter **attached** at **Appendix 'D'** from Church Aston Parish Council to Mark Prichard MP, and received an update from Cllrs Carter and Stanton in continuing to support retention of local Post Offices.

16/08-09 West Midlands Regional Assembly & West Midlands Local Government Association - Speaking Out – April 2008

Members noted receipt of the newsletter.

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL (TWC) AREA MATTERS

17/08-09 Newport High Street Local Safety Scheme

Members noted the report **attached** at **Appendix 'E'** and received an update from Cllrs Carter and Stanton as Borough Councillors.

18/08-09 Shredded Paper

Members welcomed the initiative of Telford and Wrekin Council to provide a facility to dispose of shredded paper in the kerb side recycling boxes as described in the e-mail **attached at Appendix 'F'**.

19/08-09 Land adjacent to the Cemetery

Members noted the letter from T&WC **attached at Appendix 'G'**.

Members were informed by Cllr Eric Carter that we would soon receive from Mr Alan Fox of Telford & Wrekin Council a letter, regarding this land which will also address the issue of the Green Lung.

20/08-09 Farmers Market

Cllr Roy Scammell briefed members on his effort to reinstate the Farmers Market in Newport. He has a meeting with Gordon Little of Telford & Wrekin Council and will update the Town Council at the June meeting.

21/08-09 Environmental Protection Act 1990, Section 99

Members noted the consultation document **attached at Appendix 'H'**.

22/08-09 Norbroom Park MUGA

1. Members welcomed a response from Cllr Andrew Eade **attached at Appenidx 'J'** to the issue of additional play facilities.
2. Members discussed a report and viewed photos received from a member of the public regarding an incident of litter being left at the MUGA. PC Dave Parry is aware of the situation and will monitor and check this issue.

23/08-09 Graffiti Issue – Club House Shuker Fields

Members received a reply from T&WC **attached at Appendix 'K' in** which T&WC have agreed to supply paint, and PC Dave Parry has agreed to organise the Youth Café Group to carry out the work.

24/08-09 Ethical Standards Bulletin – Spring 2008

Members noted the bulletin **attached at Appendix 'L'**

25/08-09 New Code of Conduct Complaints Process

Members were informed of the new process for considering allegations of Breaches of the Code of Conduct which came in to force on 8th May 2008. Forms issued by Telford & Wrekin Council have now been received, and are **attached** at **Appendix 'M'**.

RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION

26/08-09 Plastic Bag Free Newport

Cllr Adam Stanton gave a verbal report on a meeting of Plastic Bag Free Newport 2008 held on 29th April 2008. The Committee are to launch a competition aimed at Local School children to create a Logo, and also launch a Newport Bag for Life.

27/08-09 ASHTAV News - 2008 Issue No. 1

Members noted receipt of the Newsletter.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

28/08-09 PACT Meeting

Members received a written report from Graham Hobson – **attached** at **Appendix 'N'**.

LEISURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

29/08-09 Parish Pump News - Spring 2008

Members noted the receipt of the Newsletter.

30/08-09 Heart of England in Bloom

Members received a request from the Heart of England in Bloom Committee **attached** at **Appendix 'P'** requesting the Town Council place a bench near their maintained flower border at Cheney Hill. Members **RESOLVED to provide £800 from balances**.

31/08-09 War Memorial, St. Nicholas Churchyard

Members were briefed on a letter and supporting evidence from Shropshire War Memorials Association regarding 1023 Gunner Arthur Cecil Haseley, whose name is to be added to the War Memorial **attached** at **Appendix 'Q'** and agreed to consider costings at the June meeting.

32/08-09 Shropshire Wildlife Trust Corporate Members Newsletter

Members noted receipt of the Newsletter.

Signed

Dated