



MINUTES OF A MEETING

held on
Wednesday 11 June 2008
at
The Guildhall, High Street, Newport

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Lee Jakeman – Town Clerk

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Dan Ashley and for late arrival from Cllr Adrian Meredith.

33/08-09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

34/08-09 SUSPENSION OF MEETING

There being no members of the public present wishing to raise questions, the meeting continued.

35/08-09 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

36/08-09 MINUTES

The Minutes of meeting held on 14 May 2008 were approved as a true record.

37/08-09 MATTERS ARISING

Item 332/07-08 refers (Graffiti on the Club House at Shuker Field. Cllr Phil Norton updated members on the subject. T&W had agreed to fund the costs of anti-graffiti paint and advised that residents should be consulted regarding the coppicing of trees before painting the building. Item closed.

38/08-09 APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

The one vacancy on each of the sub-committees was re-offered to members.

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

a. Community Safety Committee

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

(Town Clerk's Note : Cllr Sian Walker now filled the vacancy)

b. Leisure & Environmental Services Committee

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

c. Planning & Economic Development Committee

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

FINANCE

39/08-09 Finance Statement

The Finance Statement for April and May 2008 **attached** at **appendix 'B'** and the payments therein, were approved/ratified.

40/08-09 Members' Allowances

The following members confirmed their intention to claim the annual councillor's allowance:

Cllr Brenda Flowers
Cllr Glyn Gratton
Cllr Tim Nelson
Cllr Phil Norton

Cllrs Meredith and Ashley to confirm their intention, or not, at the next meeting in July.

Cllrs Adam Stanton and Roy Scammell will receive their respective allowances as Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

41/08-09 Thank You Letters

Members noted thank you letters for grants awarded as follows:

Newport & District Chamber of Commerce
Citizens Advice Bureau outreach centre – Newport

42/08-09 Grant Applications

Members considered applications for grants detailed at appendix 'C' and **RESLOVED:**

a. **To award section 137 Grants as follows:**

		CDA*
Axis Counselling	£200	n
Listen & Care	£100	n
Ironbridge Gorge Brass Band Festival	£100	n

*CDA + Crime & Disorder Act
n = neutral impact
+ = positive impact

b. **To invite S.T.A.B.L.E to resubmit their application to include more detail.**

RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION

43/08-09 Resumption of Town Council Committee Meetings

It was **RESOLVED** to resume all scheduled committee meetings with immediate effect and to re-arrange the **Leisure and Environmental Committee Meeting (originally scheduled for 28 May 2008) to a date in July.**

44/08-09 Plastic Bag Free Newport

Cllr Tim Nelson provided an update on the subject. Two meetings had been held and representatives from a variety of groups, including schools, local businesses and the Town Council, had attended. The message was about sustainability and the activities in hand include, creating a re-usable bag and deciding on a logo. A competition to choose a logo is being run and the winning entry will be chosen at the Newport Carnival.

It is intended to set up a meeting for traders to attend and raise awareness of the campaign and obtain a commitment to support it.

The Town Council welcomed the update and were fully supportive of the initiative.

45/08-09 Newport Community Achievement Awards

Cllr Adam Stanton provided an outline presentation on the subject. It is intended to recognise the contributions of valued members of the community by awarding Community Achievement Awards. Four categories were proposed: Young Person of the Year; Citizen of the Year, Team of the Year and a Lifetime Achievement Award. Details would need to be worked out and costs considered.

46/08-09 Dissemination of Routine Communications

The Town Clerk briefed Members of a new system of making routine correspondence (primarily, newsletters and fact sheets) available to Members without the need to photocopy each item for each Member.

A 'read' folder is to be held in the Guildhall and a monthly list of the correspondence produced. Members will have the opportunity to view the 'read' folder when visiting the Guildhall. Members will also be provided with a monthly list of correspondence at Town Council meetings in order that they can specifically request copies of correspondence that they desire.

LEISURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

47/08-09 War Memorial

It was **RESOLVED** to allocate funding of up to £100 for the inclusion of (1203) Gunner Arthur Cecil Haseley's details on the Town War Memorial.

TOWN PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

48/08-09 Planning & Economic Development Committee Meeting - Minutes

Members noted the Minutes of a meeting held on 14 May 2008.

49/08-09 Stafford Street

Members discussed the recently erected boarding long Stafford Street. It was agreed that the boarding looked unsightly but may be an improvement on an untidy area of the Town. It was unclear on the status of any proposed development and that further investigation should be made to identify ownership and encourage a more subtle way of enclosing the site.

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

50/08-09 SALC draft business plan

Members noted a draft business plan (2008-2012) **attached at appendix 'D'** produced by SALC.

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL (TWC) AREA MATTERS

51/08-09 Land adjacent to the Cemetery

A holding reply had been received from Cllr Andrew Eade directing, Alan Fox, Asset and Property Manager to respond.

52/08-09 Farmers Market

Cllr Roy Scammell briefed members. He is hopeful that there is support for 6 stalls initially. A number of locations had been considered but nothing decided as of yet.

Cllr Eric Carter advised that the Market Company have some space at the indoor market on a Saturday if people preferred that option.

53/08-09 Draft Updated Parish Charter

Members consider a draft **attached at appendix 'E'** provided by T&W and were content for the Clerk to provide comment.

54/08/09 Newport Play and Youth Facilities

Members noted correspondence **attached at appendix 'F'** from Telford & Wrekin Community Services and **RESOLVED to invite David Ottley, Sport and Recreation Manager within Community Services, to attend the next meeting of the Town Council.**

NATIONAL/REGIONAL MATTERS

55/08-09 Polyclinics and Newport Surgeries

Members noted correspondence received from a member of the public objecting to the introduction of polyclinics and any consideration of closure of the surgeries in Newport. While it may be appropriate for the initiative in certain areas it was not considered suitable for Newport.

The Members were supportive of the position and **RESOLVED to write to MP Mark Pritchard and support the position of non-closure.**

COMMUNITY SAFETY

56/08-09 Street signage – The Maltings (Off Forton Road)

Cllr Tony Forrester raised concerns from a local resident regarding the signage to the Maltings and proposed that clearer signage be made to ensure residents are not unnecessarily required to provide directions.

During the discussion it became apparent that there may be 2 places within Newport called the Maltings.

It was **RESOLVED that enquires be made to Telford and Wrekin Council to confirm the naming of roads.**

57/08-09 CCTV

The Town Clerk briefed Members on a meeting held recently regarding CCTV. The Town Clerk was informed by our local police that there was consideration being given to linking up a number of towns across the region to a central point and requested that Newport be considered in this process.

Newport's CCTV is considered to be of a very high standard – with high quality cameras with much more capability than is currently being used - and connecting it to a manned site would enhance its effectiveness significantly, allowing police personnel to be available on the frontline.

As a result members of the Community Safety Committee and local police met at the Guildhall on Tuesday 3 Jun 2008, to receive a presentation on CCTV technology and capability.

The presentation had provoked a thoughtful discussion between members who were present and it was recommended that the borough council be contacted by the Town Clerk to gain a more detailed understanding of the project, reporting back his findings.

Cllr Tim Nelson raised objections to widening the availability to monitor CCTV and commented that we are one of the most watched countries in the world.

Members **RESOLVED** to **write to Telford & Wrekin Borough Council to gain a fuller understanding of the proposals for Oakengates and Wellington to then consider if it would be financially and logistically viable for Newport to become involved with the project.**

EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

58/08-09 It was **RESOLVED** that in view of the special nature of the business about to be transacted (that is to consider staffing issues) it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

Signed

Dated