



MINUTES OF A MEETING

held on
Wednesday 10 December 2008
at
The Guildhall, High Street, Newport

PRESENT: Cllrs: Stanton – Town Mayor
Scammell – Deputy Town Mayor
Ashley
Carter
Flowers
Forrester
Gratton
Nelson
Norton
Walker
Unwin

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Jakeman – Town Clerk,
Mrs Parnham – Deputy Town Clerk

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from: Cllr Meredith (attending Borough Council Plans Board meeting).

156/08-09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

157/08-09 SUSPENSION OF MEETING

It was **RESOLVED to suspend the meeting to take questions from the Public**. There being no members of the public present wishing to ask questions the meeting continued without suspension.

158/08-09 ANNOUNCEMENTS

A list of the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor's engagements is **attached at appendix 'A'**.

159/08-09 MINUTES

The Minutes of meeting held on 12 November 2008 were approved as a true record.

160/08-09 MATTERS ARISING

a. Item **139/08-09** refers. Local GP Services. Members were advised that a response had been received from the Department of Health **copy attached at appendix 'B'**.

Item **140/08-09** refers. Finance Statement. Members were advised that the earmarked funds for the canal picnic area were now listed as a separate item on page 2 of this months finance statement.

Item **142/08-09** refers. Grant Applications. Members were advised that the cheques relating to last months approved grants had been distributed.

Item **144/08-09** refers. Speed Indicator Devices. Members were reminded that the subject had been raised at the latest budget meeting and that the item was now included within the budget proposal for 2009/10.

Item **146/08-09** refers. Christmas Lights Switch-on. Members were reminded that the switch-on ceremony had taken place on Friday 28 November and acknowledged the contribution of all involved.

161/08-09 FINANCE

a. Finance Statement

The Finance Statement for October 2008 **attached at Appendix 'C'** and the payments therein, were approved and ratified.

162/08-09 Local Government Pension Scheme

Following confirmation that the notice of agenda item had been displayed since 13 November 2008, **copy attached at Appendix 'D'**. Members **RESOLVED that Newport Town Council becomes a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme as administered by Shropshire County Council and make statutory contributions on behalf of all employees who elect to join the scheme.**

163/08-08 2009/10 Budget Report

Members considered the Budget Report detailed at **Appendix 'E'** and **RESLOVED:**

a. **That the recommendations as detailed below be accepted:**

- (1) Administration - Page 1/1a
- (2) The Guildhall - Page 2
- (3) No3/3a High Street – Page 3
- (4) Cemetery – Page 4/1 and 4/1a
- (5) Recreation and Amenities (R&A) – Page 4/2
- (6) R&A Allotments – Page 4/2a
- (7) Public Toilets – Page 4/3
- (8) Civic Lighting – Page 4/4
- (9) Community Safety – Page 5
- (10) Section 142 – Page 7
- (11) Debt Burden – Page 8
- (12) Income – Page 9

b. that the recommendations in B2/2008 in relation to charges/fees by the council be accepted as detailed.

(Clerks note: The table of fees for the cemetery is attached at Appendix 'F').

c. that the Finalised Budget statement for 2009/10 be that detailed at Appendix 'G'.

164/08-09 Free Resource – Section 137

It was **RESOLVED** that in pursuance of the powers conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the Town Council approves payments detailed in page 6 of Appendix 'G' and listed at:

**LSN 215 to 219
LSN 223 to 229**

Being a total expenditure of £30,000

165/08-09 2009/10 Expenditure

It was **RESOLVED** that a Precept requiring Telford & Wrekin Council to pay £409,966 to Newport Town Council, to meet its 2009/10 expenditure, be issued.

NATIONAL/REGIONAL MATTERS

- **Nil**

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL (TWC) AREA MATTERS

166/08-09 Proposed Incinerator

Members discussed the incineration in its wider context, considering the requirements to reduce land fill, increase recycling, potential health issues and the demands for energy.

Members **RESOLVED** that **this Council is against the energy from waste incineration of municipal mixed waste due to the as yet unproven effects on public health to those living within close proximity of an incinerator and the adverse impact incineration would have on the principles of reduce, reuse and recycle.**

167/08-09 Licensing Policy Statement Review Consultation -

Members noted an invitation to consultation, copy **attached at Appendix 'H'** on the Statement of Licensing. A full copy is available from the Guildhall.

168/08-09 Scrutiny Work Programme

Members **RESOLVED** to **change the order of the meeting to allow the subject of High Street Parking to be considered before scrutiny.**

COMMUNITY SAFETY

169/08-09 High Street Parking

Members expressed their concern regarding illegal parking, enforcement and road markings in the High Street.

It was **RESOLVED**:

- a. that a site meeting be held with representatives of the Highways Department and the Traffic Warden to confirm that markings were insufficient to allow proper enforcement.
- b. that the subject of illegal parking be forwarded to the Telford and Wrekin Area Parishes Committee as an agenda item to be discussed at their next meeting.
- c. that the subject of illegal parking be put forward as a recommendation for the Scrutiny Work Programme.

170/08-09 Scrutiny Work Programme

Members noted correspondence from Telford & Wrekin, **attached at Appendix 'J'**, asking for items to be considered for the next Scrutiny Work Programme. It was considered that the issues in Newport may well be found in other parishes.

Members **RESOLVED to request that parking issues across the Borough be considered by the Scrutiny work programme workshop.**

LEISURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

- **Nil**

RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION

171/08-09 Routine Correspondence

Members noted the list of routine correspondence received during November 2008 – List **attached at Appendix 'K'**.

172/08-09 Town Crier

Members were advised that Mr Peter Taunton had been formally offered and accepted the position of Town Crier for Newport and that his first official event had been the switching on of the Christmas lights.

173/08-09 Town Emblem

It was considered that to provide a consistent corporate image the Town Council adopt an emblem for use in communications. A number of similar and suitable images were currently in use and examples were provided to members.

Members **RESOLVED to adopt version the example at Appendix 'L' as the new emblem for Newport Town Council**

In order for the image to be used widely it would be necessary for the image to be created in a format suitable for enlarging.

Members **RESOLVED to make available from balances up to £100 to produce a suitable electronic image.**

TOWN PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

174/08-09 Town Planning & Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes

Members noted the unsigned Minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2008.

175/08-09 Proposed Puffin Crossing Wellington Road Newport

Members noted a copy of a letter from Telford & Wrekin Council, **Appendix 'M'**, to households in the vicinity of the proposed puffin crossing and welcomed the proposed provision of the facility.

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

176/08-09 Quality Parishes

Cllr Flowers advised that she had been unable to attend a meeting on the subject. However, she had researched the matter and prepared a folder containing reference documentation. Cllr Flowers asked that members consider the contents of the folder in order that the item could be discussed at the January meeting.

EU MATTERS

Nil

Signed

Dated