



MINUTES OF A MEETING

held on
Wednesday 11 February 2009
at
The Guildhall, High Street, Newport

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Jakeman – Town Clerk
Mrs Parnham – Responsible Financial Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from:

Cllr Stanton– Work related training course
Cllr Meredith (attending Borough Council Training Course),
Cllr Unwin - (representing Town Council at Burton Borough Sports Board meeting)

193/08-09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Nelson declared an interest in the grant application submitted by Newport Junior School (of which he is a Governor) to be considered under item 9e.

194/08-09 SUSPENSION OF MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** to suspend the meeting to take questions from the Public.

Questions raised are **attached at Appendix 'A'**

195/08-09 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

196/08-09 MINUTES

The Minutes of meeting held on 14 January 2009 were approved as a true record.

197/08-09 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

(Cllr Unwin Arrives)

198/08-09 TO WELCOME MRS CAROLINE OAKES TO BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE PROPOSED UPDATES TO THE CHARTER FOR WORKING TOGETHER

It soon became apparent that the draft version of the Charter issued to Members was not the most recent version. Discussion was halted and it was agreed that the topic would be raised again once the Members had an opportunity to view the latest draft version.

199/08-09 TO WELCOME MR STEVE MCWALTERS, TO ADDRESS THE MEETING REGARDING THE PROPOSED MOVE OF THE PUBLIC TOILET BLOCK IN STAFFORD STREET CAR PARK

Mr McWalters provided an overview of the previously circulated briefing note **attached at Appendix 'C'**.

Following the briefing members **RESOLVED** to:

Bring forward agenda item 10a

200/08-09 Public Toilets Stafford Street

Members **Resolved** to:

Enter into the undertakings in paragraphs 1.2.1, 1.2.2 and 1.2.3 of the briefing note supplied by Mr McWalters.

(1.2 Councillors are asked enter into an undertaking to:

1.2.1 Surrender the Lease of the WC block, Telford and Wrekin Council (TWC) and Newport (Shropshire) Town Council dated 11/4/02. ,

1.2.2 Simultaneously to enter into a new lease or licence of the existing WC block with the TWC on identical terms to the current lease, apart from the term which is to be terminated upon satisfactory completion of the replacement WC block.

(This will occur when the freehold of the WC block and the bus pull in lay-by is transferred to McCarthy Stone Services? (MCS).

1.2.3. To lease the replacement WC block upon satisfactory completion on identical terms to the lease of the existing WC block, subject to 6 months notice to determine by either party.

The above being subject to receipt of a satisfactory report on the financial status on MCS.)

FINANCE

201/08-09 Finance Statement

The Finance Statement for January 2009 **attached** at **Appendix 'D'** and the payments therein, were approved and ratified.

202/08-09 External Audit

Members noted receipt of the Certificate of Opinion of the External Auditor to the Town Council Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2008, **attached** at **Appendix 'E'**.

203/08-09 Risk Assessment

Members considered the Risk Assessment and Management and Internal Control Procedures laid down by the Town Council at **Appendix 'F'** and **Resolved to:**

Approve them without amendment.

204/08-09 Thank You Letters

Members noted a thank you letter from the Chamber of Commerce for the annual grant awarded for the 'Old Tyme Market'

205/08-09 Grant Applications

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

a. Section 137 Grants:

Not to award a Grant to Hope UK as there was insufficient detail. (The Clerk was asked to obtain more information to identify to what specific use the funding would be used to confirm that any grant is proportional and of direct benefit to any or all inhabitants of Newport).

b. To award Section 19 Grants:

Newport RUFC (Junior Section)	£312	CDA* p
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c. To award Youth Grants:

Burton Borough	£750	p
Crucial Crew	£250	p

* CDA Crime and Disorder Act (n=neutral, p=positive)

d. Not to award a grant to Newport Junior C of E School.

(The Clerk was asked to obtain more information to identify to what specific use the funding would be used to confirm that any grant is proportional and of direct benefit to any or all inhabitants of Newport).

TOWN PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**206/08-09 Street Naming Land at St Peter's and St Pauls School
Salters Lane Newport**

Members **RESOLVED** to suggest to Telford & Wrekin that the street/ road be named St Peter's to maintain a connection with the site's previous use.

**207/08-09 Extension of Burton Borough School from 11 – 16 years to
11 - 18 years.**

Members noted the correspondence **attached at Appendix 'H'** and raised no objections.

208/08-09 Mere Park – Proposed Park and Ride

Members requested the Clerk to contact the owner of the Mere Park retail centre, Mr David Brierely, be invited to a future Town Council meeting to provide an overview of the site and plans for the future.

**209/08-09 Town Planning & Economic Development Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Members noted the unsigned Minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2009.

210/08-09 Farmers Market

Cllr Scammell briefed members on his efforts regarding the establishment of a farmers market within the area of the High Street. A number of obstacles had been encountered.

Whilst these obstacles are not insurmountable, when coupled with the potential regeneration of the Town, he considered inappropriate to continue working on the matter until a robust and sustainable structure could be guaranteed. Cllr Scammell advised that he would keep a personal eye on developments and if and when an opportune moment arose he would then wish to become actively involved.

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

211/08-09 Quality Status

With no other volunteers coming forward, Cllrs Flowers and Walker were confirmed as members of the working group to consider Quality Status.

212/08-09

Training Courses

An overview of SALC training courses was tabled and members were asked to inform the Clerk of any that they would wish to be considered for.

213/08-09 Wrekin Area Committee (of SALC) Planning Seminar

Members noted the opportunity for them to attend a planning seminar to be held on 19 March 2009 in the VIP suite of the Civic Offices, Telford, commencing 6.00pm.

Members were requested to inform the Clerk if they would wish to attend.

214/08-09 EU MATTERS

Nil

215/08-09 NATIONAL/REGIONAL MATTERS

Nil

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL (TWC) AREA MATTERS

216/08-09 Charter For Working Together

The matter was not discussed – item 198/08-09 refers.

217/08-09 Regeneration Partnership

Cllrs Nelson and Gratton provided members with an update (as Town Council Representatives on the Newport Regeneration Partnership).

Consultation is due to begin at the end of February around 4 project areas; the Canal, the High Street, Central Square and Victoria Park.

Members were provided with a copy of the 'Central Newport Public Realm Design Guide'. The design guide (adopted by the regeneration partnership) is intended to be a tool to assist with and inform on future developments to the public realm. Members are requested to consider the guide. A proposal to adopt the guide will be made at the March 2009 meeting of the Town Council.

218/08-09 COMMUNITY SAFETY

Nil

LEISURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

219/08-09 Leisure & environmental Service Committee Meeting Minutes

Members noted the unsigned Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 January 2009.

220/08-09 Norbroom Park and Canal Access Road

Members **RESLOVED** to:

Contribute from Balances up to £3000 to enable the access road beside Norbroom Park to be resurfaced.

221/08-09 Christmas Lights Working Group

Members noted an invite to become a member of the working group.

222/08-09 Big lottery National Play Builder Programme

Members considered the briefing and **RESOLVED** to **inform Telford & Wrekin that Victoria Park and Shukers Field should be considered as priorities.**

223/08-09 Vehicular Access to the Cemetery

The subject had been raised in the L&ES committee meeting due to the effects on the cemetery roads.

Members considered it inappropriate to restrict vehicular access to the Cemetery and considered that attention should be focussed on ensuring a suitable surface. Furthermore, members considered the item should be moved forward by the L&ES committee.

RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION

224/08-09 Routine Correspondence

Members noted the list of routine correspondence received during January 2009 – List **attached** at **Appendix 'J'**.

225/08-09 Worthy Citizens Awards

Members considered the brief provided – **attached** at **Appendix 'K'** and **RESOLVED to accept the recommendations and format described.**

226/08-09 Annual Town Meeting

Members noted that the Annual Town Meeting will be held at Cosy Hall on Wednesday 1 April 2009 from 7pm.

Signed

Dated