

NEWPORT (Shropshire) TOWN COUNCIL

The Guildhall, High St, Newport, Shropshire, TF10 7TX

Tel: 01952 814338 Fax: 01952 825353

MINUTES OF A MEETING

held on

Wednesday 8 April 2009

at

The Guildhall, High Street, Newport

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Jakeman – Town Clerk

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from:

Cllr Ashley - Vacation

Cllr Meredith - Absence

256/08-09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Gratton declared a personal interest in item 10b as he possessed an A-board in the High Street.

SUSPENSION OF MEETING

257/08-09

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 was resumed.

258/08-09 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

(2) The Town Clerk advised Councillors that Scope UK would be making house to house collections in this area, from 6th to 26th of April 2009.

(3) Members were given a list of the Meeting Dates for the Municipal Year 2009 / 2010.

259/08-09 MINUTES

The Minutes of meeting held on 11 March 2009 were approved as a true record.

260/08-09 MATTERS ARISING

Item 240/08-09 (Town Council Grant Applications) refers. The application form has been amended accordingly.

Item 247/08-09 (Central Newport Public Realm Guide) refers. There had indeed been an omission in the Design Guide.

Item 251/08-09 (Regeneration Partnership). The Town Council representatives on the Regeneration Partnership wished to update members on events and it was agreed that the subject should be added to the agenda under item 14d.

FINANCE

261/08-09 Finance Statement

There had been a delay in producing the finance statement however it would be distributed to members at the earliest opportunity and submitted for ratification at the next meeting. The Cheque list **attached at Appendix 'B'** and the payments therein, were approved and ratified other than:

- Chq No. 453 and 454 until the tax position regarding payment of the allowances was confirmed.

- Chq 460 not required for payment until November 2009.

262/08-09 Newport Show Sponsorship

Members considered an application for sponsorship for the Newport Show and **RESOLVED: to sponsor the event for a total of £150.**

263/08-09 Thank You Letters

Members noted a thank you letter in respect of grant funding from:

(1) Hope UK

264/08-09 Direct Debits

Members **RESOLVED to approve the expenditure relating to Direct Debit expenditure as per the list attached at Appendix 'C'.**

Members asked that clarification be sought from Telford & Wrekin for the justification of the level of rates imposed for the Public Toilets.

LEISURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

265/08-09 Leisure & Environmental Services Committee – Minutes

Members noted the unsigned Minutes of the Leisure & Environmental Services Committee held on 25th March 2009.

266/08-09 Easy Access Allotment

Members welcomed the possibility of being able to provide another Easy Access Allotment and **RESOLVED to provide an additional £800 from balances for the project.**

267/08-09 Cemetery Road Surface

It was considered evident that the resurfacing of the Cemetery Roads would be an expense that would be unable to be taken from in year balances and that any upgrade would need careful consideration and long-term financial planning. As a result members **RESOLVED to: Investigate possibilities themselves and consider the possibilities during the annual cemetery inspection in May and discuss initially ways forward at the next Leisure and Environmental Services Meeting.**

RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION

268/08-09 Routine Correspondence

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

269/08-09 Heritage Open Day

Members **RESOLVED to open the Guildhall on Saturday 13 September 2009 in conjunction with the heritage open days.**

The Town Clerk advised that the History society were keen to be involved and had begun preparations to hold a 'Local History Day' event in the Guildhall on the same date.

TOWN PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

270/08-09 Town Planning & Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes

Members noted the unsigned Minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2009.

271/08-09 Advertising Boards in the High Street

Cllr Roy Scammell briefed members and provided précis of his comments **Attached** at **Appendix 'E'**

Members **RESOLVED** to request that an appropriate officer from Telford & Wrekin visit the Town to provide guidance on the matter.

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

272/08-09 SALC Annual Subscriptions

Member concurred with the Town Clerk that the Annual Subscription was a valuable and worth while subscription and noted the correspondence received.

EU MATTERS

nil

NATIONAL/REGIONAL MATTERS

nil

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL (TWC) AREA MATTERS

273/08-09 First Point Telford

Members noted correspondence- **Attached** at **Appendix 'F'** advertising the services at The Library in Telford Town Centre, and welcomed this positive initiative provided by the Multi Agencies.

274/08-09 Telford & Wrekin Equality and Diversity Policy

Members noted the policy **Attached** at **Appendix 'G'**

275/08-09 Telford & Wrekin Council Private Sector Housing Strategy 2009-2011

Members consider the draft document and chose to make no comment.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

nil

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

276/08-09 Members **RESOLVED** that in view of the special nature of the business about to be transacted (personnel matters) it be in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

Signed

Dated