



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 10 June 2009
at
The Guildhall, High Street, Newport

PRESENT: Cllrs: Scammell – Town Mayor
Ashley – Deputy Town Mayor
Carter
Meredith
Nelson
Stanton

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Jakeman – Town Clerk
Mrs Parnham Deputy Town Clerk/RFO

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs: Forrester, Gratton, Norton, Unwin and Walker

28/09-10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

29/09-10 SUSPENSION OF MEETING

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

30/09-10 ANNOUNCEMENTS

A copy of the Town Mayor's engagements for May is **attached at Appendix 'A'**

31/09-10 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2009 were approved as a true record.

32/09-10 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a. Finance Report – (Item 10/09-10 refers). Amount held in current account. The Clerk advised members that the Town Council operated a feeder account (which pays interest) linked to a current account from which funds are transferred as required to make payments.

b. New Works Street Lighting – (item 13/09-10 refers).
The Clerk informed members that action had been taken to progress the approved works.

FINANCE

33/09-10 Finance Report

a. Cllr Stanton asked for an explanation as to the difference between the retirement/gratuity fund and the bonus fund on page 3 of the finance statement. As the matter related to staff the Clerk asked that the matter item be moved to the confidential session.

b. The Finance Report for May 2009 **attached** at **Appendix 'B'** was approved and the payments therein ratified.

34/09-10 Thank You Letters

Members noted thank you letters in response to recently approved grants from:

Newport Detachment of Shropshire Army Cadet Force
Light Company of Loyal volunteers
Chamber of Commerce (Old Tyme Market)
Crucial Crew
Newport Youth Café

35/09-10 Grant Applications

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

a. To award Section 137 Grants as follows:

		CDA*
Newport Cottage Care	£1500	n
Saturday Club	£400	n
Severn Hospice	£300	n
Newport Carnival	£160	+

b. To award a Section 19 Grant as follows:

Oakengates Youth Summer School	£200	+
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c. To Award Youth Grants as follows:

Church Aston Scout Group	£200	+
Wrekin Division Young Leaders	£300	+

*CDA Crime and Disorder Act

n = neutral impact

+ = positive impact

36/09-10 Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) - Membership Fees

Members **RESOLVED** to:
Approve payment of the annual membership fee to the SLCC for the Town Clerk (£187).

37/09-10 Purchase of Reference Book

Members **RESOLVED** to:
Approve the purchase of Local Council Administration eighth edition by Charles Arnold-Baker (£53.60)

38/09-10 Purchase of Additional Christmas Lighting

Members were briefed regarding a draft proposal to access the Borough Towns Initiative Community Chest to significantly upgrade and enhance the Christmas light display and were content that the application be submitted through the Newport Regeneration Partnership.

Members were informed of an opportunity to purchase Christmas lighting displays at a discounted price and **RESOLVED to: Authorise expenditure of up to £800 to purchase additional column displays for the Christmas lighting display.**

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL (TWC) AREA MATTERS

39/09-10 Regeneration Partnership

Members noted correspondence received by the Clerk (from Telford & Wrekin Council) regarding the 'bus build-out' and associated traffic calming measures following a request for some clarification regarding time scales raised at the previous meeting of the Town Council. Designs are being worked up to take on board feedback from public consultation, which will include the removal of the majority of build-outs – with the new scheme aiming to support a 20 MPH zone but using designs that are more sympathetic to a conservation area (picking up the recommendations of the 2008 scrutiny review of the Newport High Street Traffic Management Scheme). We will of course be circulating information more widely before any works happen on the ground. The aim at the moment is to come back to the Partnership [Regeneration] and the Council in July which will be co-ordinated through Steve McWalters, who is looking after the overall programme of projects.

40/09-10 Ethical Standards Bulletin

Members noted the Spring Bulletin produced by Telford & Wrekin – copy **attached** at **Appendix 'D'**.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Nil.

LEISURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

41/09-10 Leisure & Environmental Services Committee - Minutes

Members noted the unsigned Minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2009.

42/09-10 Stafford Street Car Park Toilet

Members **RESOLVED** to:
Accept the recommendation of the Leisure and Environmental Service Committee and approved the signing of the surrender of the Lease.

43/09-10 Allotment Provision

Members considered the need for additional land to be used as allotments. The Clerk advised that he had written to Telford & Wrekin to raise the issue and seek some guidance on possible ways forward (following the Leisure & Environmental Services Committee meeting in May). Co-incidentally the Clerk had received, this week, a questionnaire from Telford & Wrekin regarding allotment provision Borough-wide, as they are looking at the possibility of increasing allotment provision. The results of the questionnaire are likely to provide some useful statistical information to help provide direction on taking the item forward.

44/09-10 Sk8 Park

Cllr Roy Scammell advise members that on Saturday 6 June he had attended the official opening of the Sk8 park and was encouraged by the creation of a facility for and requested by the young people of Newport.

Cllr Carter advised that the recent resurfacing of the access road to Norbroom Park had caused some concerns amongst residents and that these were currently being addressed. Telford & Wrekin are planning to hold a meeting to discuss concerns with the public on the subject.

RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATION

45/09-10 Routine Correspondence

Members noted the list of routine correspondence received during May 2009 – List **attached** at **Appendix 'E'**

46/09-10 Newport Town Council Casual Vacancy

Members were informed that Telford & Wrekin Electoral Services had advised that at least 10 residents of Newport East had requested that an election be held to fill the vacancy created by the recent resignation of Brenda Flowers. Details of the timetable of events will be issued shortly.

Members **RESOLVED** that:
The Clerk write to Mrs Flowers and thank her for her lengthy and valuable service to the Town Council.

47/09-10 Standing Committees

Cllr Carter volunteered and was accepted to serve on the Leisure & Environmental Service committee. There are still 2 vacancies on the Community Safety Committee and members considered that a vacancy should remain for the new member of the Council (following the forthcoming election).

Town Clerk's Note:
Cllr Phil Norton was approved as a member of the Planning & Economic Development Committee at a Special Town Council Meeting held on 3 June 2009.

TOWN PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

48/09-10 Planning & Economic Development Committee Meeting-Minutes

Members noted the unsigned Minutes of a meeting held on 13 May 2009.

49/09-10 Central Telford Area Action Plan

Members noted the correspondence received.

50/09-10 SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION / NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (SALC / NALC)

Members noted the courses available and were asked to notify the Clerk should they wish to attend.

51/09-10 EU MATTERS

Nil

52/09-10 NATIONAL / REGIONAL MATTERS

Nil

53/09-10 EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

It was RESOLVED that in view of the special nature of the business about to be transacted (to confirm the Minutes of a confidential meeting and item 33/09-10a) it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

Signed

Dated