

13.10 Any Other Business

13.10.1 - Cllr A Parsons felt that Bill Offord's service of 26 years should be recognized. Cllr E Wood said that he had attended a ceremony at Coleford Town Council where councillors who had done 25 years were presented with a plaque. The Clerk was asked to ring Coleford Town Council to get details of the plaque's costs. It was suggested that a print of the Market House with a suitable plaque could be presented to Bill Offord. The Clerk was asked to check if any prints were stored in the Council's Offices and the cost of framing and a plaque. The Clerk was asked to get the original picture back from Craig Walker if he still held it. The matter to be placed on Finance & General Purposes committee agenda

13.10.2 – Bruce Fowler (Chairman of Newent Round Table) had requested that the Mayor of Newent provided a present for him to present to the Mayor of Arnhem and an address from Newent mayor to the Arnhem Mayor. It was suggested that a picture of the Market House would be suitable and the matter to be placed on Finance & General Purposes committee agenda.

13.10.3 – Staffing – Due to the Clerk's illness, Jenny Grassom would be asked to man the office 10am – 12noon and it was agreed that a qualified Clerk would be found for the committee meetings on 23rd May when Margaret Highton, the normal Locum is on holiday if this is necessary.

13.10.43 – The Clerk was asked to invite Roger Yeates and Julia Gooch to Council Meetings as District Councillors.

13.10.5 – It was agreed that St Mary's Mother and Toddler Group could have a bouncy castle by the lake on Thursday 12th May from 10.45am to 1.15pm. Rev Simon Mason was to be asked to provide a Public Liability Insurance certificate and a Risk Assessment

This concluded the business of the meeting and it was declared closed at 9.30pm

Minutes prepared by M Highton

Planning applications received from the Forest of Dean District Council for consideration by Newent Town Council at its meeting on Monday 9 May 2011.

1. DF12430 P0609/11/FUL E Keene, Michael H Keene & Son Ltd, The Moat, Newent
Erection of an agricultural building adjacent to an existing agricultural building for the storage of grain

Comment :

NO objections, however Newent Town Council has growing concerns about the number of Tractor/lorry movements in the vicinity of this property

2. DF5673 P0780/11/FUL Dr M Phillips, Redwood House, High St, Newent
Erection of a detached domestic garage

Comment :

No Objections

It was decided not to appoint representatives to Newent Memorial Hall Committee, Citizen's Advice Bureau, Market House Stewards and Age Concern

It was decided to consider a representative to Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum after membership of GMTF had been considered at the Finance & General Purposes committee meeting.

Planning:

Site Meeting: Central Ward: Cllr D Blick

Outer Wards: Cllr R Pilkington

Planning Applications: Cllr R Pilkington & Cllr S Barker

The Clerk was asked to place the purchase of a laptop and projector for planning applications on the Finance & General Purposes committee agenda.

13.6 Town Centre Improvements:

It was reported that the work on lighting under the Market House is due to commence on Monday 16th May. After a discussion the Clerk was asked to write to Wendy Jackson at Forest of Dean District Council asking three questions 1) What is happening outside the Co-op including the Bus Shelter? 2) What is happening about the seat outside Cost Cutters? and 3) When is Phase 3 due to commence?

13.7 Newent Initiative Trust:

The Band Concert on Sunday was held in Church. 55 people attended and enjoyed a good concert from Gloucester Brass. Various meetings have been held concerning taking over the Newent Community Centre from Gloucestershire County Council which Newent Initiative Trust are fronting. A focus group has been formed consisting of Newent Initiative Trust, Newent Civic Society, Newent Town Council, Newent Round Table and the users. The bid has to be in by June 1st and to be decided by the end of June. There will be a seamless transition of the centre on July 1st. The group are looking for more users. Some s106 monies have been identified. Cllr L Lawton congratulated Cllr R Beard and his team for bringing the project this far.

13.8 Travellers in Southend Lane:

Cllr L Lawton could confirm that the piece of land on the outskirts of Newent that was up for auction was not brought by travellers. Cllr L Lawton reported that the situation is ongoing and Forest of Dean District Council is working towards the date of 31/01/2012 when according to the Planning inspector the travellers had to leave the site. 2 oil tanks had been delivered to the site against planning regulations and the enforcement officer had been advised. There were questions about whether the travellers are on the electoral roll, which they are and whether they pay rates which Cllr L Lawton could not disclose.

13.9 Representative Reports

Cllr D Blick agreed to attend Newent Orchestral Society Concert this Saturday instead of the Mayor. Cllr D Blick advised the Mayor that there were other invitations in the Council offices for the Mayor.

13.2 Police Relocation – Cllr L Lawton, Cllr R Pilkington and Cllr D Blick had meet with Supt Haynes on 26th April to discuss the relocation of the Police in Newent and all councillors had been provided with a copy of the report. A decision will be taken by the Police Authority on 20th May. The list of options includes Community School – unlikely, Newent Town Council offices – where Neil works, Fire Station and Newent Community Centre. The major cost of any Police Presence in a building in Newent is the cost of the secure Landline/Broadband. Cllr R Beard reported that the group consists of Newent Initiative Trust/Newent Town Council/ Civic Society/Users Group who are taking over the Newent Community Centre from Gloucestershire County Council in a seamless transfer has offered in writing rooms at the Community Centre for £3800 per annum. The Clerk was asked to write to the Police Authority stating that Newent Town Council wants to see a police presence in Newent in a building and listing the options available. Also that Newent Town Council are hoping that the Police authority will take the long term view and realise that Newent are planning to develop a community building that can include space for the Police. The Clerk was asked to place Police Relocation on the Finance & General Purposes Committee agenda.

13.3 Co-option to fill vacant seats:

The Clerk was asked to send an advertisement to the New Ad with all prospective councillors attending the meeting on 13th June.

13.4 Election of members to Council Committees:

Finance & General Purpose Committee: Cllr R Pilkington, Cllr D Blick. Cllr L Lawton and Cllr E Wood are on the committee as Mayor and Deputy Mayor respectively. It was agreed that all co-opted councillors would be placed on this committee in due course.

Recreation and Environmental Committee: Cllr B Wellington, Cllr A Parsons, Cllr R Beard, Cllr Mrs K Draper and Cllr S Barker. Cllr L Lawton and Cllr E Wood are on the committee as Mayor and Deputy Mayor respectively.

13.5 Representatives to other organisations:

Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils: Cllr L Lawton

Snow Warden/Flood Warden: Cllr D Blick

Newent United Charity – appointees: Cllr L Lawton, Cllr A Parsons and Bill Offord (who will remain until his term is finished)

Newent Wellness & Leisure Centre: Cllr Mrs K Draper – Clerk to write to Centre advising them of the appointment

Newent Allotment Association: Cllr B Wellington

Newent & North Forest Crime Reduction Partnership: Cllr B Wellington & AN Other

Cliffords Mesne Village Hall Committee: Cllr S Barker

Newent Youth & Community Centre: Cllr D Blick

Newent & District Business Club: Cllr L Lawton

Newent Initiative Trust: Cllr R Beard, Cllr R Pilkington & AN Other

Newent Doctors/Patient Forum: Cllr Mrs K Draper

Newent Area Local Council Forum: AN Other

It was decided that Representatives for Community Emergency Plan and the AN Other positions would be discussed at the 13th June meeting when more councillors had been co-opted.

10. Committee Reports

10.1 Finance and General Purposes Committee – 18 April 2011

Approval of the Minutes of Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting on 18 April 2011 was proposed by Cllr L Lawton and unanimously agreed.

10.2 Recreation and Environment Committee – 18 April 2011

Approval of the Minutes of Recreation and Environment Committee meeting of 18 April 2011 was proposed by Cllr B Wellington and unanimously agreed

Matters Arising:

1.1.2 & 1.13 – These matters have been handed to a sub-committee for consideration.

1.5.1 – Cllr Mrs K Draper reported that the BBQ was well organised and well attended. Cllr A Parsons reported that the event finished at 6pm, one hour before the permitted time.

1.2.1 – Cllr E Wood asked about the grassing cutting at the Arboretum. Cllr R Beard reported that Glebe Contractors had done it again and it was better but not fantastic. Mowtech had done a second cut which was better as he drove slowly. Therefore the Arboretum had had 3 cuts in 3 weeks. A letter had been sent to Mowtech re Arboretum and a second letter re the cemetery when the cut was not good but no written response had been received. Cllr B Wellington felt that as this year all cuts had been documented and inspected that the Council should await a response from Mowtech. Cllr D Blick reported that the top of Old Maids Walk was not cut last year and has not yet received a cut.

11. Finance/Sundry payments

Cllr L Lawton declared an interest and Cllr E Wood chaired this item

Cllr E Wood proposed to accept the Finance/Sundry Payments at a figure of £ 10285.86 and this was agreed by 8 votes to 0 with 1 abstention after it was agreed to put membership of Gloucestershire Market Town Forum on the next Council Agenda.

12. Correspondence

12.1 Two Rivers Housing – A letter had been received from Two Rivers Housing apologising that Newent Town Council had not been invited to the Open Event on 20th April and asking if the Council would like a meeting to describe the plans. Cllr R Beard and Cllr R Pilkington did attend the Open Event. Although Cllr R Pilkington supports the offices coming here he was concerned about the change of B1/B2 land to other uses. It was agreed that the council will wait to receive the planning application. Cllr L Lawton asked all councillors to think what they would like on the site. The Clerk was asked to write back to Two Rivers Housing and thank them for their comments and that the Council is looking forward to being part of the consultation.

13. Business

13.1 Planning Applications – see attached.

NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of annual meeting of Newent Town Council held on Monday 9th May 2011 at the Market House Newent at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr D Blick (Mayor), Cllr R Pilkington, Cllr B Wellington, Cllr D Blick, Cllr R Beard, Cllr Mrs K Draper, Cllr A Parsons, Cllr L Lawton and Cllr S Barker.

Apologies: None

1. Declaration of Acceptance of Office: All Councillors had signed their declaration of Acceptance before the meeting.
2. Election of Mayor – Cllr R Pilkington proposed and Cllr Mrs K Draper seconded Cllr L Lawton for Mayor. Cllr B Wellington proposed and Cllr A Parsons seconded Cllr D Blick for Mayor. The members agreed to a secret ballot that resulted in Cllr L Lawton 5 votes and Cllr D Blick 4 votes. Cllr L Lawton was elected Mayor for the forthcoming year.
3. Declaration of Acceptance of Office – Cllr L Lawton signed the declaration of acceptance. Cllr L Lawton chaired the rest of the meeting. Cllr L Lawton said he hoped to serve the community in the next 12 months as Mayor.
4. Election of Deputy Mayor – Cllr Mrs K Draper proposed and Cllr R Beard seconded Cllr E Wood for Deputy Mayor. Cllr D Blick proposed and Cllr B Wellington seconded Cllr A Parsons for Deputy Mayor. The members agreed to a secret ballot. The result of the ballot was Cllr E Wood 6 votes and Cllr A Parsons 3 votes so Cllr E Wood was elected Deputy Mayor.
5. Declaration of Acceptance of Office – Cllr E Wood signed the declaration of acceptance of office. Cllr L Lawton thanked Cllr D Blick for his efforts over the last 12 months as Mayor and hoped he would continue to serve the community as he had done for some many years. Cllr L Lawton thanked Cllr B Wellington for his work over the past 12 months. Cllr L Lawton thanked Cllr A Parsons for his efforts over the last 12 months as Deputy Mayor. Cllr L Lawton hoped he could call on all their services and help in the future.
6. Cllr L Lawton as Mayor welcomed Cllr S Barker to Newent Town Council as a new Council member and informed Cllr S Barker that he could ask for help from the councillors or Clerk at any time.
7. Approval of minutes of Council meeting – 11 April 2011
Approval of the minutes of the Council meeting of 11 April 2011 was unanimously agreed
8. Matters Arising
There was none.
9. Approval of Minutes of Council Meeting – 18 April 2011 (Planning)
Approval of the Council Meeting of 26 April 2010 was unanimously agreed