



**MINUTES OF THE NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING Held on
Monday 24th June 2024 at Newent Community Pavilion, Watery Lane, Newent,
GL18 1QA at 7.30 pm**

Councillors Present:

Cllr Sara Hulbert (Chair)
Cllr Gill Moseley
Cllr Clare Stone
Cllr Julia Gooch
Cllr Joshua Robertson

Also Present:

Town Clerk and 3 members of the public

PUBLIC TIME

Public Participation, up to a 10 minute period of time will be set aside before the start of the meeting for public questions

No members of the public requested to speak

1. To note apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Alan Hedley, Cllr David Sass, Cllr Juli Escritt, and Cllr Samuel Letchford.

2. Declarations of interest on items on the agenda.

Cllr Sara Hulbert declared an interest on item 12 on the agenda Cllr Joshua Roberson and Cllr Julia Gooch declared an interest on item 4.a, 8 and 9 on the agenda

3. To approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 20th May 2024

The Council resolved that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chair.

Cllr Julia Gooch and Cllr Joshua Robertson left the room at this juncture

4. Finance

- a) To approve the accounts to be paid

A list of payments was sent to the members prior to the meeting

This item was not discussed due to being inquorate

Payment list item available below

[Payment list June](#)

- b) To approve the Bank Reconciliation 31/5/2024

The Council agreed to defer this item to the next meeting

- c) To approve the Cashbook of 31/05/2024

The council agreed to defer this item to the next meeting

- d) To approve Earmark Reserves 31/5/2024

The council agreed to defer this item to the next meeting

- e) To approve Income & Expenditure Report of 31/5/2024

The council agreed to defer this item to the meeting

- f) To note all investment account balances and return OF 31/5/2024

The council agreed to defer this item to the next meeting

- g) To note the Internal Auditors Report for the F/Y ending 31 March 2024

The council accepted and noted the Internal Auditors Report

[Internal Audit Report](#)

To adopt the accounts for the F/Y ending 31 March 2024

The council resolved to adopt the accounts for the F/Y ending 31st March 2024

[Accounts 2024](#)

- h) To approve year end earmarked reserves 2023/24

[Earmarked Reserves](#)

The council resolved to approve the year end earmarked reserves F/Y ending 31st March 2024

- i) To approve the explanation of Variances F/Y ending 2023/24

The council resolved to approve the explanation of Variances F/Y ending 2023/24

[Explanation of Variances](#)

- j) To approve the Annual Governance Statements for the F/Y 2023/24

The council completed and approved the Annual Governance Statements for the F/Y 2023/24

[Annual Governance Statements](#)

- k) To approve the Accounting Statements for the F/Y 2023/24

The Council approved the Accounting Statements for the F/Y 2023/24

- l) To note the dates of the Exercise of Public Rights (26th June until 6th August 2024)

[Exercise of Public Rights](#)

The council noted the dates of the Exercise of Public Rights (26th June until 6th August 2024)

5. Forest of Dean Local Plan

5.1 To agree to set up a working group to review the proposed Local Plan and bring a recommended response to full council

The council by unanimous decision agreed to set up a working group to review the proposed Local Plan and bring a recommended response to full council

5.2 to consider the appointment of a planning consultant to assist with the regulation 18 Response to the proposed Local Plan

The council agreed to appoint Andrea Pellegram Ltd as presented in the supplied proposal to assist with the regulation 18 response to the proposed Local Plan funds to come from budget heading 4400 220 Professional and consultant fees

[Fee Proposal](#)

6. Work Report

6.1 To note the Estate Supervisors Work Report

The council thanked the team for all their hard work and Estate Supervisors Work Report was noted

6.2 To Approve the installation of the replacement bus shelter at Gloucester Street

The council approved the installation of the replacement bus shelter at Glos Street Newent At a cost of £5579.41 + Vat the costs will be met from the insurance claim minus the £100 excess

[Work Report](#)

7. To approve the purchase and installation of a replacement Fishing platform and agree any expenditure

The council approved the purchase and installation of a replacement Fishing platform at Newent Lake at a cost of £10,200.00 + Vat from the following budget
£6600.00 from budget heading Fishing platform refurbishment
£4762.88 from acquired grant funding from the Environment Agency

[Fishing Platform Report](#)

8. To agree to renew membership with Forest of Dean & Wye Valley Tourism

Cllr Julia Gooch provided a brief description of what the council currently get and how the website can be utilised,

Cllr Gooch left the meeting at this juncture

The council agreed to renew the current silver membership for another 12 months With Forest of Dean & Wye Valley Tourism for the cost of £255.00 + Vat to come from Budget heading 4420-220 Tourism/Town Promotions

[Forest of Dean & Wye Valley Tourism](#)

9. To Agree to utilising the electronic screen in Gooch Sports Window for an information point for Newent Town Council Publications and information

The council agreed to utilising the electronic screen in Gooch Sports window for an information point for Newent Town Council Publications and information and approved the initial expenditure of £175 + Vat and the ongoing cost of £25 per year after, to come from budget heading 4405-220 Advertising

[Report](#)

Cllr Julia Gooch returned to the meeting

10. To note the Flying Geese Consultancy Market Town Regeneration Report and agree to request the Regeneration Working Group gather further insights and report to full council with recommendations and agree any expenditure

The Flying Geese Consultancy Market Town Regeneration Report was noted and the council agreed to request the Regeneration Working Group gather further insights and report to full council with recommendations and approved the expenditure of £100.00 For room hire to come from budget heading 4300-220 office rent room hire

11. To agree to add a budget heading for the 2024/2025 Council budget for Canopy Arts festival for the sum of £4000 to be used for the Canopy Arts festival 2025

The council agreed to create a budget heading for the 2024/2025 Council budget for Canopy Arts festival for the sum of £4000 to be used for the Canopy Arts festival 2025

[Canopy Arts](#)

12. Asset of Community Value

Cllr Sara Hulbert (chair) left the meeting at this juncture

The council elected Cllr Joshua Roberson to chair the meeting for the next agenda item

12.1 To Review and agree the building named The Red Lion Bar and Kitchen 2 Broad Street Newent, Gloucestershire GL18 1AH to be nominated by Newent Town Council as an Asset of Community Value

Further clarification was required on the technicalities of nominating the building an Asset of Community Value the council agreed to defer this item until a future meeting

12.2 To Agree for the Black Dog, Church Way, Newent, GL18 1AT to be nominated by Newent Town Council as an Asset of Community Value

Further clarification was required on the technicalities of nominating the building an Asset of Community Value the council agreed to defer this item until a future meeting

Cllr Sara Hulbert rejoined the meeting and Cllr Joshua Robertson left the meeting

[Report](#)

13. Website/Media

13.1 To agree to create a social media page for the Newent monthly markets

The council agreed to create a social media page for the Newent Monthly Market that Will be controlled by the council staff for a six month trial period

13.2 To appoint members to review and update Newent Town Council website pictures and content

The council agreed to appoint Cllr Gill Mosely Cllr Clare Stone and Cllr Sara Hulbert to review and update the website pictures and content

Cllr Clare Stone left the meeting at this juncture

14 To approve the request from Newent Initiative Trust to contribute toward the cleaning refurbishment and addition of names to Newent's War Memorial

This item was not discussed due to being inquorate

[Public Appeal](#)

15 To agree to support Lord Foster and Electrical Safety First, Campaign for greater safety in the use and disposal of lithium batteries

The council agreed to write to Lord Foster in support Electrical Safety First, Campaign For greater safety in the use and disposal of lithium batteries

[Safety Bill](#)

16. Date of the Next Meeting

Monday 22nd July 2024 to be held at The Newent Community Pavilion, Watery Lane Newent GL18 1QA. At 7.30 pm or soonest after the previous meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.41 pm

Signed:.....

Dated