

Newcastle Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27 January 2010 at Newcastle Community Centre commencing at 7.30 pm

The chairman congratulated Cllr Davies on her MBE and he also advised council that the clerk had decided to retire.

1 Record of members present

Chairman Cllr E M Jones Vice chairman Cllr S Davies, Cllrs Lello, Gittins, C Reynolds, M Reynolds and R Williams

2 Acceptance of apologies for absence. None

3 Declarations of Interests with regard to items on the agenda

*To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting.*

Personal: Cllrs Jones, Davies, C Reynolds, R Williams and M Reynolds Item 6a, Cllr Williams 10c

Prejudicial: Cllrs Jones, Davies, C Reynolds, R Williams and M Reynolds 6a Cllr C Reynolds 6b

4 Public Participation session. No one in attendance

5 To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2009

Proposed Cllr Williams and seconded Cllr Gittins, all were in favour

Clerk pointed out to councillors these minutes contained the fact that Cllr Lello had proposed that the minutes of 30<sup>th</sup> September were correct when she was not actually in attendance on 30<sup>th</sup> September. To put the matter right Cllr Jones therefore proposed that they were correct and those who were present for that meeting all agreed. .

Minutes of planning meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009

Proposed Cllr Davies and seconded Cllr Lello, all were in favour

6 Any continued business from last meeting

a. Walkers are Welcome initiative

A letter had been received from the Crown Inn withdrawing the request so matter was now closed.

b. Section 137 payment to Millennium Green Trust

The Millennium Green trustees had been advised of the sect 137 grant allocation for 2010/11. A letter in reply had been received from Mr Yeoward referring to previous correspondence which had indicated a delay until the results of the Parish Plan were complete. In his opinion he felt that as the majority of the answers to the question of future funding of the green chose the Parish Council with grants and "other" equally divided and this effectively removes the previous method of funding through a Gift Aid system. The Parish Council representative, Cllr C Reynolds was asked as to why the additional money had been requested by Mr Yeoward, when at the council meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> September he had agreed to pass on the council's decision back to the Millennium Green trustees. He replied that he was also surprised at the amount requested as he was not aware that this had been agreed by the trustees at their meeting.

There was concern that when the questions for the Parish Plan questions were set insufficient information was given regarding the source of Parish Council funding. Councillors felt that some people were unaware that in fact the Parish Council grant funding could only come from the Precept and would result in an increase in council tax to cover this. When faced with the full facts residents may have a different view and consideration of a consultation with each elector by way of a referendum may be deemed necessary on receipt of the Action Plan. Further concern was also raised that a significant number of suggestions regarding future use of the Millennium Green had been identified by residents during the Parish Plan procedure and the trustee's response to these should also be discussed. After discussion the

clerk was asked to write back to Mr Yeoward stating that the Parish Council would only consider further funding of the Millennium Green when the Parish Plan Action Plan was completed, published and presented to the council for action.

#### 7. Procedure for appointment of new clerk.

An application form, job specification etc had been prepared and the job advertised.

It was agreed that pre selection for interview would take place on 10 February with interviews on 17 February. After some discussion it was agreed that all councillors would attend the first meeting with a selection panel decided at that meeting.

#### 8 Highway Issues

##### a. Update on outstanding highway issues

Highways had indicated that work would be done on subsidence in Mardu and the roadside ditch at Caldu as soon as possible.

b Any other highway matters requiring attention. Mrs Evans Hillside had telephoned the clerk twice regarding excess water on Caldu and a blocked ditch. The matter had been raised with Ian Martin and Mrs Evans was also going to contact them direct.

c. Winter road clearing and gritting. The need for more salt bins was discussed and it was agreed that a decision on the placing of the bins would be considered and councilors were asked to consider suitable locations before the next meeting. A request would then be sent to Shropshire Council.

d. Environmental Maintenance – Street Cleaning. Street cleaning had been ordered for Mardu and other places but to date had not been done owing to the recent bad weather.

#### 9 Street Lighting

a. To note any street lights out of order. None

b. To consider a request for a new street light. A request had been made by Mr S Burge for a new street light opposite the entrance to the community centre by the post box. Clerk had obtained some approximate costing which were in the region of £1200 per street light. A possible grant source was available but would only be 25% and was discretionary. Another site lacking in adequate light was identified as between the Crown and the crossroads. Clerk was asked to write to Mr Burge stating that the council recognized the need for the light and intended to consult with householders in the vicinity and create a budget heading to prepare for the future. It was suggested that an amount of money could be set aside for new street lights as part of the yearly budget. A decision would be made when discussing the precept later on the agenda.

#### 10 Planning

a. To consider any planning applications received. None

b. To note any applications approved, refused or withdrawn.

Planning Application withdrawn - Little Glebe, Church Road

c. Development at Maes- y – Rhaim update. The planning authority had been written to and a report of their investigations was awaited.

d. Correspondence regarding the Craig development. A letter from Mr Cade asking council to make sure that the monitoring of the log cabin at the Craig did take place on a yearly basis. He suggested that the Parish Council followed the matter up each April. This was noted.

e. The Garage at Whitcott - compliance with Planning permission. After discussion it was agreed that there should be no action at present.

#### 11 Finances

a. To note bank account balances and receipts

Account 41025368 £ 781.81

Account 21248562 £ 3852.50

The balances include Parish Plan Grant money £2390.70

## Income Received

Interest. Dec 22p Jan 23p

b. To agree payment of outstanding bills

### Invoices for payment

P J Smith	Salary & Expenses	294.45
HMRC		25.40
Npower		91.35
S Burge (website)		10.00

12 Proposal for Precept 2010-11

The clerk presented estimated spending for 2010-11. A reserve of £400 was agreed, with £200 set aside to cover members travelling to LJC meetings and any other out of parish meetings deemed necessary for a representative to attend. An additional amount of £200 was set aside to cover either training for an inexperienced clerk or possible increased travel costs. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr C Reynolds a precept of £4500 seconded by Cllr M Reynolds it was further proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Lello that £4600 be requested. A vote was taken with 4 for £4500 and 3 for £4600. Therefore £4500 was to be requested.

13 Local Joint Committee Chairman gave a report of the last meeting.

14 Communications within the parish

Telephone Kiosk at Whitcott. Clerk reported that Shropshire council had confirmed that they have used their power of veto to object to the removal of all threatened kiosks in Shropshire. Clerk informed the meeting that HMRC had confirmed that all P35 returns should be sent online in future and that the council was not exempt from this requirement. Clerk also provided information on the position regarding the cessation of Access Broadband in the parish and that the present subscribers were looking into forming a community group.

15 Parish Plan update

a. To consider the Parish Council section. This had been circulated to councillors but it was decided to include the matter on the next agenda for more discussion.

16 Rural Community Engagement. Noted.

17 Shropshire Charter for more effective Local Government in Shropshire. Noted

18 Correspondence

Register of members Interests. Clerk had received a reminder that if councillors become aware of a new personal interest or change to any personal interest already registered they should provide those written details to the Monitoring officer with 28 days.

Emergency Planning briefing 2 Feb 2010, noted Chairman to attend

Register of member's interest a reminder of procedure. Councillors were reminded that any change in their interests should be reported to the monitoring officer. Noted.

Standards Committee Meeting. A training course for councillors was to be arranged later in the year.

Other correspondence was noted.

SALC various notifications

Shropshire Council

Local Development Framework Final document – notification of consultation period

Review of Public Conveniences

Sports and Leisure Advisory Group

19 Information from members and any new business for the next meeting

Next Parish Council meeting had already been agreed as 3 March 2010.

Meeting closed at 9.40pm