

BUDGET & FINANCE MEETING REPORT - 17th OCTOBER 2008

PRESENT: Cllr. Paul Harries (Chairman)
Cllrs. Byron James, Dai Webb, Ann Hollyfield and
Soo Hutchinson.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllrs. James Davies, Daron Paish, Dilys Evans
and Robert Vaughan.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 12th June 2006, having
been approved at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the
30th June 2008 were taken as read.

MATTERS ARISING

Mr. Brian John had informed the Clerk verbally that he was unaware
of any remaining Carningli Walks books at the various booksellers.

No progress has been made on clearing and re-planting the bus
shelter garden opposite the Castle Hotel, and the Newport Forum
will again be reminded about their promise to have this work
carried out.

The Clerk has still to ascertain whether our insurance policy
identifies each individual property owned by this Council, or
whether there is a condition stating all our various and mainly
small parcels of land etc. are covered for Public Liability.

Cllr. Soo Hutchinson reported that there were nettles in the small
childrens play area. This will be reported to our County Council
with the request that he ensures P.C.C. keeps this area clear of
such weeds when attending to the grass cutting etc. plus it was
also brought to the Committee's attention by the Clerk that the
grass verges on either side of Pen y Bont at the junction with
the A487 have not been cut for some considerable time, likewise
the small grass area outside Bro Deg, East Street, containing a
public seat. Both areas are prominent at the entrance to the Town
and need to be kept tidy.

FINANCE

The Chairman said in the first quarter of this financial year
our expenditure was £7,401 and the 2nd quarter £7,015.

Our Bank a/cs currently are

Parrog Yard	£5858.91
Savings a/c	£22,345.50
Treasurers a/c	£1,310.47
Hafan a/c	£28.33
Playing Field	£4,303.66

The bulk of the Parrog Yard a/c had been invested in a Fixed Term
Deposit with our Bank but this matures today and new instructions
will be sought from the full Council at the next Ordinary Meeting.

Monies earmarked in the current budget for Parc y Plant and
Town Cleaning remain intact, and viable suggestions can be made
for their use. Plus £7,000 remains earmarked for a new shelter
at Cwm but presently this project is on hold pending a decision
by the Land Owner.

Approaches have been made about local commercial advertising on
the Town Website which would considerably reduce or absolve the
Council from any expenditure on the site. Advice will be sought
on this matter from various bodies.

One Tender had been received for the Town Christmas lighting this
year, and this was from Mr D.N. Wilmott in the sum of £2,000.

The Sealed Tender was for erecting, maintenance and dismantling Christmas lights in the Town and Maes Ingli, and was opened in the presence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, and reported to the meeting tonight. It was unanimously agreed to accept Mr. Wilmott's tender.

An invoice has been received from Mrs. J. Jamison for accountancy work for the Town Council during 2007 and 2008 in the sum of £250 and this will be put before the full Council at their October Ordinary Meeting.

The Council's Borrowing and Lending have been reviewed in accordance with the official procedure.

The Senior Citizens Luncheon Club have requested a donation from the Council to cover their rent, electricity charges etc. to the Memorial Hall in the sum of £300. Whilst the Council is sympathetic towards this request it has been noted that the Luncheon Club is a registered Charity, and as such must produce annual accounts, but unfortunately this task has not been carried out. The Chairman kindly offered to assist the Club Treasurer should they require help. Providing the Club finances are in order by October 27th and the majority of Councillors agree the £300 donation will be made.

Councillors were reminded that we have to agree a Precept for 2009/2010 early next year, and the County Council informed. However, the Chairman drew attention to the fact that we spend the most in the October, November, December quarter and need time to complete and ratify our quarterly accounts before assessing our Precept needs for the coming year. All present agreed the Clerk should ask the County Council for a precept notification date at the end of January 2009.

NEWPORT TOWN COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING 17th OCTOBER 2008
HELD AT THE ECO CENTRE, LOWER ST. MARY STREET, NEWPORT.

PRESENT: Cllr. Paul Harries (Chairman)

Cllrs. Byron James, Dai Webb and Soo Hutchinson.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllrs. Ann Hollyfield, James Davies,
Daron Paish, Dilys Evans and Robert Vaughan.

The Chairman opened this meeting by informing all present that it had been brought to his attention that the W.A.G. had sent a Consultation Paper Planning Policy - "Sustainable Development in Rural Areas Meeting Housing Needs" to various groups and organisations including the N/P, but not to this Council. The Chairman had contacted the department involved in the W.A.G. who whilst could give no reason for this omission agreed we could comment! The closing date for comments was originally 10th October, but we were given an extension until 20th October.

The majority of Councillors present agreed we should comment, with one abstention, and the Chairman read and recorded Councillors' comments on all the various questions. Cllr. James Davies had agreed to collate everything and reply to the W.A.G.

In addition to the above Consultation Paper, a second Paper has been circulated to various Groups on Planning for Climate Change, but again not to this Council. The Clerk was requested to contact our A.M.'s office and find out the reason for these omissions.

CLOSE OF MEETING - There being no further business the Meeting closed at 7.45pm.