

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MONDAY 6TH MARCH, 2017

Present : Cllr K. Rimmer. – Town Mayor

Councillors : D Bowden A. Cooper P. Dolan
 Miss S. Eastwood M. Falzon Mrs. G. Gough
Mrs. J. Storey Mrs. J. Illidge B. Jamieson S. Kryger
 S. Naylor Mrs. J. Storey G.B. Cooke
 A. Stott T. Lawrenson T. Murphy

Also present: Chris Shaw Town Clerk
 Mrs. T. Cash Council Secretary /Mayor’s P.A.

NTC 16/142 PRESENTATION OF MEDALS TO PAST MAYORS

Medals were presented to past Mayors present. These were Cllr. G.B. Cooke and Cllr. A. Stott. It was agreed previously that other past Mayors will be contacted and invited to come to a future Council meeting to be presented with theirs, alternatively the medals may be posted out. It was proposed by Cllr. Stott and seconded by Cllr. Illidge that the past Mayors be invited to the Annual General Meeting of the Council, and also agreed that in the case of deceased past Mayors , their living spouse will be awarded. All in favour.

Resolved

NTC 16/143 PRESENTATION OF SMALL GRANTS

Small Grants award was presented to Witton in The Community who were successful in their recent application for funding.

NTC 16/144 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence and reasons for absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs. D. Cooke, Mrs. A. Gerrard, Mrs. L. Nelson, P. Naylor and A. Dimelow ,

NTC 16/145 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interest under the following categories:

- Pecuniary Interest
- Outside Bodies Interest
- Family, Friend or Close Associate interest

Cllr. S. Naylor declared an interest in any matters relating to CWAC
Cllr. Falzon declared an interest in any matters relating to Barnton Parish Council.
Cllr. Lawrenson declared an interest in any matters relating to CWAC and Rudheath Parish Council
Cllr. Storey declared an interest in any matters relating to Barnton Parish Council
Cllr. Jamieson declared an interest in any matters relating to C.C.D.T.

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Cllr Kevin Rimmer
Town Mayor

NTC 16/146 OPEN FORUM

There were no speakers.

NTC 16/147 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

4.1 That the minutes of Town Council Meeting held on Monday 6th February, 2017, be confirmed and approved as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr Jamieson, seconded by Cllr. Cooper. Approved and signed by the Mayor.

NTC16/148 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

5.1 To note the Policy and Operations Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 15th February, 2017

5.2 To note Amenities Committee Meeting held on Friday, 17th February, 2017

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5.3 To note Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 21st February, 2017. Cllr. Cooper commented that in relation to Small Grants and the awarding of successful Grant monies, he considers this a hard line to take. Cllr. Cooke disagreed and stated that if a representative from the successful organisation does not come to collect their Grant, it should not be paid. Cllr. Illidge felt the Grant should be given a second chance to collect, and did not agree that if the persons did not show up on the first invitation, they should be offered another date. Cllr. Dolan asked how we communicated invitations to Organisations. Letters are sent through the post to the address given on the application form, and we confirmed they are not sent recorded delivery. It was proposed by Cllr. Cooper that this matter is further considered by Grants Committee to make a decision on the policy, and bring back to Full Council. Cllr. Bowden also agreed a second chance should be offered. This was seconded by Cllr. Illidge. Vote carried, as 8 in favour, 2 against, 2 abstentions.

5.4 To note Planning and Environment Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 21st February, 2017. Cllr. Jamieson referred to the Planning Application 17/000123/FUL.. Planning Committee withheld their comments pending details on the dimensions of the proposed shed. Further information received from CWAC Planning Proposal to object to the replacement shed due to its cumulative impact due to its size, overbearing development, and visual impact. Proposed by Cllr Jamieson,, seconded by Cllr. Bowden. All in favour of submitting further comments

NTC16/149 TOWN MAYOR’S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor informed members that he had attended the following events during Febv:-

February, 2017

- 1. 2nd Daneside Court Open Afternoon
- 2. 3rd Ms. Galaxy Pageant UK. Gladstone Club (Dep. Mayor attending)
- 3. 10th New Era Boxing Club Presentation Night at Witton Albion F.C.
- 4. 14th Winnington Park Primary School Reading and Book Fair
- 5. 16th Sir John Deane’s College Production.
- 6. 24th Cheshire & Warrington Carers Hebden Green School. Winsford

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**Cllr Kevin Rimmer
Town Mayor**

TC reported on the following: -

Northwich Carnival

Cllr. Cooke declared an interest in this, as he is a life long member of Northwich Carnival Committee. Northwich Carnival Committee have requested the free use of Verdin Park for this event. Proposed by Cllr. Jamieson, seconded by Cllr. S. Naylor. All in favour. Cllr .Jamieson mentioned this also includes use of Verdin for Car Boot sales. Proposed by Cllr. Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Stott, as it is within budget All in favour.

Approved

1874 Northwich F.C.

A request has been made for NTC to sponsor a Mid Cheshire sports quiz at a cost of £350. It was proposed by Cllr. S. Naylor, seconded by Cllr. Dolan that we sponsor this time. Future requests would be decided by Grants Committee. All in favour.

Approved

Visual Arts Cheshire

Visual Arts Cheshire have asked for a letter of support for them to return to 93 Brunner Court. This was proposed by Cllr. Jamieson and seconded by Cllr. Falzon. All in favour.

Approved

Cemetery Wall

Quotes have now been received for the rebuild of the wall that collapsed last month. We have also obtained a report from a structural engineer with recommendations to prevent the wall from collapsing again. We have discovered we are not covered by our Insurers. Will therefore contact Rev. Alison Harris to ascertain if any monies are available for the Church to contribute to the overall costs. NTC has already paid £5,000 in ongoing costs.

Vickersway Park

The Amenities Committee met and discussed draft plans for the extension of Vickersway park shop, and the incorporation of the toilets. Members discussed Draft lay out and made suggestions to take back to the Architect. TC will bring back finalised plans to Full Council for members approval.

Phonebox – defib

NTC has been advised by Boots that the defibrillator may not be placed on the outside of their building.

Northwich Railway Station

Some works have now been carried out on Northwich Station including clearance growth from the canopy gutters, clearing litter from the netting, and we are advised the track will be cleaned in the near future. NTC along with CWAC cleaned the car park. Cllr. Rimmer commented the station looks appalling. Sign has been seen that there will be no trains on Sunday in order to clean the tracks. Cllr. Jamieson further added we are not responsible for the station, but offered thanks to TC for working through. This issue is now on the Agenda, having attended a Community Rail Partnership meeting so progress is being made. Suggested a Give and Gain project on surrounding area.

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Date

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**Cllr Kevin Rimmer
Town Mayor**

Northwich Clean

On 10th February, NTC, BID, CWAC, volunteers and businesses came out in force to clean the town centre. The day was a fantastic success with over 10 tonnes of rubbish removed from Weaver Way, Sheath Street, Albion Way, and other town centre areas. Many thanks to all those who helped on the day, Greggs Bakery for providing hot drinks. Tesco, and Marks and Spencer. Cllr. Cooper commented this is an excellent example of team work, and great community spirit. There were over 50 volunteers who took part. NTC has since had reports of fly tipping which has been reported to CWAC and we await response.

Events

Artisan Market

The Artisan Market will once again take place on Saturday 11th March and the usual request will be sent to members. Members discussed attendance times. Cllr. Cooper advised that at present the Council Surgery operates between 10.00 a.m.- 2.00 p.m., although most visitors come between 11-1, therefore it is not viable to be available 4 hours. 11-1 is more manageable. Cllr. S. Naylor asked if the local Guardian could publicise this. Proposed by Cllr. Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Stott. All in favour that the stall operates between 11.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m.

Approved

Mayors Charity Lunch

The Town Mayor will be holding a Charity Lunch on Sunday 12th March, 2017 at Hartford Hall.

Pedal Power

The annual Pedal Power Sportive will be held on Sunday 14th May. Once the routes and venues are confirmed, TC will report back to members.

Volunteers for NTC Events

As NTC continues to grow and take on more events, it is becoming increasingly important for members to support by attending and running the events alongside officers and staff. I will request this week to show your availability. By doing this the office can then decide on the appropriate level of staffing requirements for each event. Where possible volunteers from Councillors need to do a bit more. Arrangements are now gaining pace with the Cycling Tour in May, with dates being launched shortly on social media.

Riverbank on Whalley Road

The riverbank has collapsed badly. It is not insured so repair will be to our cost. NTC has contacted the Environment Agency, but is not classed as priority by them. Possible funding and volunteers may be available. Cllr. S. Naylor commented that E.A. run a similar initiative to Give and Gain, and has offered to speak to them. TC explained the cause of the collapse. TC to get quotes for repair work needed.

Church Walk Paddling Pool

All works now approved. Tenders to go out to Contractors. Hoping to have all works completed before Summer opening.

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Date

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**Cllr Kevin Rimmer
Town Mayor**

NTC 16/151 COUNCILLOR MRS. D. COOKE

To approve an extended leave of absence. It was suggested another 6 months leave for Councillor Mrs. Cooke. This was proposed by Cllr. Jamieson, seconded by Cllr. Illidge. All in favour.
Approved

NTC 16/152 HS2

Cllr. Bowden explained the background and the working group who contributed. NTC object overall, some of the reasons being:-

- Part of the proposed route is unstable particularly in the Whatcroft area.
- No maps showing the underground in the area.
- Problems created for businesses could be irreversible.
- Conservation area damaged.

The final draft of the response to the consultation was distributed among members. The response was proposed by Cllr. Lawrenson, seconded by Cllr. Illidge. All in favour. Thanks were extended to Cllr. Cooper for his work on this response.

Cllr. Jamieson further mentioned that a separate letter will be sent. Our concern is how the route was selected in the first instance. Further maps and documentation have been uncovered, and other issues that appear to have been missed. It is intended to send this secondary letter to the Secretary of State, our M.P.'s and CWAC. Action proposed by Cllr. Jamieson and seconded by Cllr. Eastwood.

Approved

NTC 16/153 CWAC PARKING STRATEGY

Councillors noted the response sent to CWAC regarding this matter. Cllr. Cooper advised that as much was incorporated as possible. Our position remains quite high risk whilst regeneration of the town continues.

NTC 16/154 NORTHWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Mr. David Roberts addressed members with an update. Cannot underestimate how important this is. Historically, little attention has been given to the Riverside condition, especially downstream. CWAC Officers have been very helpful and constructive. There has been tremendous volunteer support. Much appreciated also has been the immense skills of Cllr. Cooper and support from NTC staff. Mr Roberts now invites NTC to sign off and send to CWAC for consultation. Following which there will be an inspection and the referendum expected to take place later in the Autumn. Mr. Roberts further acknowledged that it was a credit to NTC for funding. Cllr. Rimmer wished to convey a massive thanks to all involved. This proves that collectively we care about Northwich. Cllr. Cooper also thanked both Mr Roberts and Mr. Fifield for their efforts over the last 5 years. Also to Rupert Adams for his help and support. Cllr. Cooper further explained the point of the consultation is to ensure it is legally sound. Examiners may make suggestions. It was moved, and proposed by Cllr. Cooper and seconded by Cllr. Dolan. Cllr. Rimmer added it is another example of partnership working. All in favour.

Approved

NTC 16/155 POLLING STATION REVIEW

Cllr. Bowden briefly explained the review. Badly designed Polling Stations will take the franchise away from voters. It was proposed by Cllr. Jamieson and seconded by Cllr. Cooper that NTC will respond to the review taking place by 31st March, 2017.

Resolved

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Date

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**Cllr Kevin Rimmer
Town Mayor**

NTC 16/157 NORTHWICH WASTE RECYCLING

The revised opening hours of the local Waste Recycling Centre was noted by members.

NTC 16/158 CHESHIRE CDT AND PLAY SCHEMES

Members noted the recent decision that CCDT will not run the play schemes for this year. NTC did award a Grant last year. Cllr. Dolan commented he would be disappointed if play areas were reduced. Is it possible of some provision elsewhere? Requested that TC contact CCDT to ask which other organisations are able to offer support.

NTC 16/159 CWAC HOMELESSNESS CONSULTATION

TC, Cllr. Eastwood and Sgt. Davies attended a Workshop. Asked CWAC for an extension on the date to respond. Cllrs. Eastwood, Jamieson, Cooper and TC to put a letter together. Proposed by Cllr. Cooper, seconded by Cllr .Eastwood.

NTC 16/160 LARGE AND SMALL GRANTS

Alterations to the current application forms were discussed. Among these, Cllr. Jamieson suggested that one of the conditions should read that the Grant has to benefit Northwich residents. Proposed by Cllr. Cooper, seconded by Cllr. S. Naylor. All in favour.

.Resolved

NTC 16/161 FINANCE MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS

Report distributed among members prior to this meeting. Regarding staff training costs, Proposed by Cllr. Stott and seconded by Cllr. Cooper. All in favour.

Resolved

NTC 16/162 AMENITIES MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS

Report distributed among members prior to this meeting.

Vickersway Park - Cllr. Jamieson commented that further consideration needs to be given to a possible container on site. Architectural plans were mainly discussed.. Proposed by Cllr. Stott, seconded by Cllr. Jamieson . All in favour.

Resolved

Bond Street – Assurances have been had that Section 106 monies will be paid to NTC. Proposed by Cllr. Jamieson, seconded by Cllr. S. Naylor.

Hanging baskets –_This issue proposed by Cllr. Jamieson, seconded by Cllr. Illidge. All in favour.

Resolved

Inovyn - Cllr. Cooper explained the background to this issue. Proposed by Cllr. Stott, seconded by Cllr. Illidge. All in favour.

Resolved

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Date

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NTC 16/163 CWAC AND PARTNERS CORRESPONDENCE

Cllr. Jamieson commented regarding the Police and Crime Commissioner of Cheshire Constabulary's communication regarding issuing Police Officers with computer Tablets. Requests that TC invites Insp. Snasdell to show how it works. TC to request a copy of the Adult Social Care Survey. TC to contact Fiona Reynolds, Director of Public Health at CWAC regarding the Antimicrobial Resistance campaign. NTC welcomed the introduction of Safe and Well initiative by Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service. Other items discussed were Cheshire Young Carers, Northwich Policing Units provided stats showing speed monitoring campaign. Cllr. Dolan advised on the statutory annual report on Adult Social Care. There were a high number of complaints received last year. Cllr. Rimmer, in his capacity of Town Mayor commented on the Young Carers events he has attended. These are exceptional young people in the work they carry out. Savings to the Government approx. £60m per year.

NTC 16/164 MONTHLY COUNCILLOR SURGERY AT THE ARTISAN MARKET

Cllr. Cooper gave members the most recent update. Members of the public visited the stall with queries such as various issues in the Castle area, and mobile phone issues in Comberbach.

PART B

In accordance with the Local Government Act – Public Admission to Meetings Act 1960, the following Agenda item is to be considered in the absence of press and public.

It was moved by Cllr. Cooper and seconded by Cllr. Jamieson that the meeting proceed into Part B.

All in favour.

[Please refer to Appendix No 113.](#)

NTC 16/165 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of the next meeting will be Monday 3rd April , 2017 at 6.30 p.m.
The meeting closed at 21.00.