

**NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2017**

**Present** : Cllr Mrs. J. Myerscough-Illidge – Town Mayor

Councillors : D. Bowden                      A Cooper                      Miss S Eastwood  
                  M Falzon                        Mrs. A. Gerrard            T Lawrenson  
                  T Murphy                        S Naylor                     Mrs. L Nelson  
                  Mrs. J. Storey                A. Stott                      K. Rimmer

Also present: Chris Shaw                      Town Clerk  
                  Lesley Moore                 Events Co-ordinator/Town Clerk's P.A.  
                  Theresa Cash                 Council Secretary/Mayor's P.A.

**NTC 17/17    APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs D Cooke, G B Cooke, A. Dimelow, P. Dolan, Mrs G, Gough, B. Jameson, S. Kryger and P. Naylor.

**NTC 17/18    DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members to declare any interest under the following categories:

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

Cllr T Lawrenson declared an interest in matters relating to CWAC and Rudheath Parish Council  
Cllr. Mrs. Gerrard declared an interest in matters relating to Rudheath Parish Council  
Cllr M Falzon declared an interest in any matters relating to Barnton Parish Council.  
Cllr. S. Naylor declared an interest in any matters relating to CWAC.

**NTC 1719    OPEN FORUM**

There were no members of the public to speak at the Open Forum

**NTC 17/20    SIGNING OF THE MINUTES**

4.1 The minutes of Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2017, be confirmed and approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr. Rimmer referred to NTC 17/14 headed up Outside Bodies should read Northwich Carnival, not Mid Cheshire Rail Partnership.  
Proposed by Cllr. Rimmer, seconded by Cllr Falzon. Approved, Minutes signed by the Mayor.

Date.....

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**Cllr Mrs. J. Myerscough-Illidge**  
**Town Mayor**

## **NTC17/21      REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

5.1 To note Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 These were noted by Cllr. Rimmer, who made reference to £1000 deposit taken for Verdin Park. Queried if this should be taken as income as opposed to a deposit, TC explained further some of the money had been used for repairs to Verdin Park following a Circus visit..

5.2 To note Planning and Environment Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2017. These were noted by Cllr. Stott., Cllr. S. Naylor mentioned it is not always possible for him to attend Planning meetings, as he is involved with various meetings at the same time at CWAC in his capacity of a Ward Councillor.

## **NTC17/22      TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Mayor informed members of the events she has attended during June.

Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Bowling Green P.H. London Road	Grand Opening of the oldest pub in Northwich Cllr. A. Stott attended
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Boxingfit Academy	Presentation of trophies at amateur boxing show Deputy Mayor Cllr. Alison Gerrard attended
Wednesday 7th	Northwich Singing Festival	Schools singing festival ,Held at Memorial Court to showcase local Primary and Secondary Schools singing
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Rotary Club of Northwich	Speakers meeting held at Winnington Rec. Club. Speakers included John Walton, Northwich River Festival, Cllr. Brian Clarke regarding Market Way/Weaver Square/Winnington Swing Bridge
Wednesday 14th	Northwich Singing Festival	Schools singing festival held over 4 nights at Memorial Court.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	HC –One Acorn Hollow Care Home	Teddy Bear's Picnic Nursing Care Home Open Day for residents, families and visitors, raising money for Alzheimers research, and St. Luke's Hospice.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Witton Church Walk School	The Great Get Together in Memory of Jo Cox M.P. Part of a U.K. initiative. Picnic with staff and pupils. Deputy Mayor Cllr. Alison Gerrard attended.
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Sir John Deane's 6 <sup>th</sup> Form College	Year 12 Awards Evening for 6 <sup>th</sup> Form students
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Bailey Audio Systems Ltd	Anniversary Open Day which is a community based studio for local musicians.
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Knutsford T.C.	Civic Parade and Service
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Petty Pool Trust	Petty Pool Music Festival. Petty Pool students have organised this Music Festival as part of their Social Action project for the National Citizen Service scheme
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	St. Wilfrid's Davenham	South Korean Prayer Group visit held at The Salvation Army, Northwich, together with other local churches in the Grater Northwich area/South Korean Prayer Mission in the U.K.
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Environment Agency	Opening ceremony of Flood Defences, held at Pocket Park and Memorial Court. Also attended by the E.A. Chief of Staff, and CWAC Council Leader Samantha Dixon.

Date.....

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Town Mayor

**Church Walk Paddling Pool**

Tenders will now be sent to contractors to quote for the works to the roof, shop and toilets within the park. Tenders will be presented to finance for consideration in September.

**Defibrillator - Church Walk Paddling Pool**

We now have a new defibrillator situated within the onsite shop at Church Walk, and this device will be available when the pool is open during the summer months.

**Vickersway Park**

We have now taken delivery of the table tennis table, and this will be installed over the next couple of weeks. It will be free of charge to use, bats and balls will be available for hire from the shop when open. As it will have artificial grass, this facility will be available all year round.

The pergola arch is now over 15 years old, and showing signs of wear. Repairs will be made to this as soon as possible to make safe.

The skate park is also showing signs of wear due to its popularity, and a decision will have to be made on whether we continue repairing, or look to replace or remove this facility. Consultation will take place soon regarding Verdin Park which could include the installation of a new skate park. This will be referred to the Amenities Committee for a site visit and discussion.

Cllr. S. Naylor mentioned he had asked previously that in addition to the table tennis, could a Zipwire facility be made available. This is not possible due to being insufficient room at Vickersway.

The Consultation may suggest this at Verdin Park and we will then obtain quotes for the works required.

**Witton Cenemetry and St. Helen's Churchyard**

The wildflower garden situated at the bottom of the cemetery is now in full bloom and gives a spectacular backdrop to the cemetery.

The collapsed wall in St. Helen's Churchyard is currently being repaired and these works should take around three weeks to complete.

Tenders for the refurbishment to the Cenotaph have now been sent to all contractors. So as not to rush the work, this will now be started after the Remembrance Services in November.

**Tree Works (Various Areas)**

Tree works have been carried out in Verdin Park, Vickersway Park and Whalley Road over the last couple of weeks to ensure these areas remain a safe environment for all to enjoy.

Date.....

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**Cllr Mrs. J. Myerscough-Illidge**  
**Town Mayor**

**Town Centre (Planting & Hanging Baskets)**

We have now completed all summer bedding planting within our Parks, Cemeteries and outside contract areas. We have also installed over 100 hanging baskets and planters within the town centre which were funded by the B.I.D. with a contribution from NTC. We shall also be watering these baskets throughout the summer to ensure that they will give a fantastic display. Many thanks to all NTC staff who have worked so hard to make sure we live and work in such a beautiful and well maintained town. Cllr. Cooper wished to thank NTC staff for the hard work done. Cllr. Bowden commented that the quality of plants this year is excellent, and we should be proud of it.

**Events**

**Artisan Market**

The next Artisan Market will be held on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July. Councillors will be requested to attend.

**Civic Sunday**

Invitations have been sent giving details of this years' Civic Parade and Service:-

- Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July
- Civic Parade wil start from Victoria Street Car Park (adjacent to the Police Station) at 1.45 p.m.
- The Parade will march to St. Helen’s Church for the 2.00 p.m. Civic Service.
- Refreshments will be available at the Council Chambers following the Service.

Anyone else wanting to attend, please let Theresa know for catering requirements. The Mayor added a word about the Civic to members.

**Community Fun Weekend**

Taking place on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July, this ever popular event will again feature all the usual favourites, alongside some new additions this year. If any members wish to volunteer to help out over the weekend, please contact the office.

**NTC17/24 FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Discussions took place following the resignation of two Committee members, and whether it would be feasible to reduce the Committee members from 10 to 8.This was proposed by Cllr. Rimmer and seconded by Cllr. Nelson, with 2 abstentions to reduce the number to 8.

**Approved**

**NTC 17/25 PLAYSCHMES 2017**

Information regarding the provision of Playschemes have been previously distributed to Members. Rudheath Parish Council are also running a Playscheme during the same two weeks. Children will stay on site during the whole day. Cllr. Rimmer reiterated the importance of feedback. NTC will collate feedback. Cllr. S. Naylor commented that he fully supports this, and suggested that perhaps we would be able to do for 4 weeks next year. This will be considered if within allocated budget. Cllr. Sinar may provide funds next year if needed. Cllr. Naylor further advised that Victoria Road Primary School are doing a project targeting children and families in need of attending a Playscheme. Cllr. Illidge mentioned a hardship scheme supported by NTC.

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**Cllr Mrs. J. Myerscough-Illidge  
Town Mayor**

**NTC 17/26 LIVERPOOL STREET GARAGES**

Liverpool Street Garages have been a problem for some time as they do not appear to belong to any individual who will take responsibility for them. They are currently used to store fly tipping and also used by local addicts and drinkers who unfortunately leave needles, cans and bottle within the garages. NTC have been asked by CWAC to make a contribution towards the removal of these garages as the area is extremely unsafe and neglected. We have obtained a quote from our contractor, with total cost for removal of £8558. £6000 has already been secured from third parties and CWAC will meet the shortfall left from our contribution if we decided to support the project.

Resolved £1270 to be paid out of reserves as long as there is an understanding that a plan is put into place and a timescale for works to be completed and aftercare plan.

Confirmed by TC that CWAC will confirm plan is in place before the work takes place, in answer to Cllr. Rimmer's question. NTC will be holding meeting with Localities, Streetscene and Enforcement officers. Going forward will be working together with CWAC on the future aftercare plan. Cllr. Gerrard supports this plan of action. Cllr. Lawrenson has been involved in this matter and has promised £3,000 jointly from his own, and that of CWAC Cllr. Armstrong's budget. It was proposed by Cllr. Gerrard, seconded by Cllr. Cooper who commented this will be a test case, and suggest the outcome is watched with interest. All in favour.

**Approved**

**NTC 17/27 NORTHERN TIMETABLE CONSULTATION**

Cllr. Cooper advised the new timetable released. Subject to Mid Cheshire Rail agreement. Cllr. Cooper has done a draft response to a Consultation taking place. Timetable is quite complicated. Having met with Timetablers. Following serious consultation they are willing to listen to feedback. Cllr. Cooper illustrated specific known case studies. It would appear the timetable is structured on local people commuting to Manchester and not to other places. Cllr. Bowden asked how long it had taken Cllr. Cooper to complete the response. Some considerable time. Cllr. Myerscough-Illidge thanked Cllr. Cooper for his time and effort working on the response on behalf of Members. Cllr. Rimmer added that as he is a regular train passenger, he reiterated no washroom facilities at certain stations and this needs to be taken into serious consideration, adding that presently it is rare for trains to run on time. Cllr. Cooper reiterated problems with lack of facilities. Draft response was proposed by Cllr. Nelson, seconded by Cllr. Storey. All in favour.

**Approved**

**NTC 1728 CWAC CIL EXAMINERS FINAL REPORT**

Cllr. Cooper advised that NTC have been involved in the early stages. Examiners have dramatically reduced the amount to £70 from approximately £120. Detailed report previously circulated to Members.

**NTC 17/29 OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr. Cooper attended the Town and Parish Council Transport Strategy. This is work in progress and was a meeting with stakeholders. Bt the end of this summer it is hoped to have several recommendations to take to CWAC Cabinet Members. This is a 15 year programme covering 3 study areas:- Northwich, Greater Northwich and wider community areas improvement. Highlighted issues in our own area. Cllr. Cooper also mentioned the Manchester Airport link and the Middlewich line. If taken up this would dramatically increase passenger numbers at Northwich.

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Town Mayor**

**OUTSIDE BODIES CONT'D**

Cllr. S. Naylor attended the CWAC Meeting regarding Winnington Bridge, Gadbrook Park and Hartford. Now Northwch and Winsford advisory panel. There is a new Committee set up to avoid criticism being Chester centric. Discussed issues to Northwich and Winsford. Ensure correct Services are directed to children. Issues coming up include appropriate courses for Mid Cheshire College.

**NTC 17/30 CWAC AND PARTNERS CORRESPONDENCE**

Cllr. Rimmer commented on David Keane, Police Crime Commissioner, regarding PCSO's. The key with Communities, but sometimes do not stay long enough within that community. Mentioned funding formula – some Parishes pay towards the cost of a PCSO. Cllr. Cooper suggests Cllr. Rimmer attends the next meeting with the PCC. Cllr. Rimmer agreed, if work permits. Cllr. Bowden commented that a good PCSO can have a massive effect on the community they serve. They are value for money. Cllr. Rimmer mentioned practical problems but recognizes their potential value to the community. The Town Clerk added that NTC have very good relations with our PCSO's, they visit the cemetery regularly and we have no complaints. The next meeting with the PCC will be later in July.

**NTC 17/31 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

There will be no meeting in August due to recess.

Date of the next meeting will be Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 19.15

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**Date**

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**Cllr Mrs. Janet Myerscough-Illidge  
Town Mayor**