

**NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

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

**Councillors** : A Cooper                      Miss S Eastwood      S. Naylor  
                  B. Jamieson                  P. Dolan  
                  A. Stott                         K. Rimmer  
                  Mrs. L Nelson                 M. Falzon

**Also present:**            Chris Shaw                 Town Clerk  
                                  Liza Clansey              Assistant Town Clerk/Registrar  
                                  Theresa Cash               Council Secretary/Mayor's P.A.

At the commencement of this meeting, a minutes silence was observed in memory of Cllr. Stephen Kryger who died on Christmas Day.

**NTC 17/98    APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs.D. Bowden, B. Cooke, Mrs. D. Cooke, Dimelow, Mrs A. Gerrard, T. Lawrenson, T. Murphy and P. Naylor.

**NTC 17/99    DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members to declare any interest under the following categories:

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

Cllr. P. Dolan declared an interest in any matters relating to CWAC.  
Cllr. 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 17/100   OPEN FORUM**

Ms. Tina Hickman addressed Members in relation to Plastic Free Northwich and Recycling.  
Ms. Hickman has written at length in Northwich Life and other social media sites about this subject., and has received a lot of response in support of her views. Gave examples of packaging and disposables from Supermarket and shops. Cllr. Cooper advised Northwich was where plastic was invented. Ms. Hickman suggested NTC can help by carrying out an audit of consumables in our shops. Water fountains could be installed, and this may be recommended at a future meeting. Cllr. Dolan added that recently China will no longer accept waste plastics, so our behaviour has to change towards recycling, and we should take the lead on this. Cllr. Rimmer mentioned that certain plastics cannot be recycled. Cllr. Naylor suggested Ms Hickman to work with Transition Northwich. Also suggested by Cllr. Jamieson that our Artisan stall could be used to promote any initiative. Transition Northwich are keen to support, and the Mayor mentioned our Council Grants which are available for local projects. Ms Hickman was thanked by the Mayor for her presentation to Members.

**Date**.....

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

**NTC 17/101 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES**

4.1 The minutes of Town Council Meeting held on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2017, be confirmed and approved as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. Rimmer seconded by Cllr. Stott. Cllr. Jamieon mentioned Burnside Way and a meeting to be arranged. A556 issue raised, and meeting with local surrounding Prish Councils should be called, also to include The Police and Crime Commissioner, David Keane, Highways and Police. TC advised that Highways have already responded and we want to know the cost required for speed checks

**NTC17/102 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

5.1 To note Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017. These were noted by Cllr. Rimmer

5.2 To note Planning and Environment Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.  
 These were noted by Cllr. Stott. It was further commented regarding the Watling Street development and CWAC’s decision to refuse the application. Representation was made at CWAC HQ Planning Meeting from NTC and these people were thanked for attending. Cllr. Rimmer referred to the previous meeting with the Developer. Cllr. Dolan added it is important to have a democratic decision. Cllr. Jamieson reiterated that CWAC should refer to their Planning protocol. Cllr. Rimmer advised that G.P.’s from Winnington Urban Village Medical Centre have sent letters out to patients giving 2 weeks’ notice to find an alternative practice. Cllr. Dolan pointed out that it is the right of both G.P.’s and patients to suggest an alternative Medical Centre, but can appeal to Clinical Practitioners.

**NTC17/103 TOWN MAYOR’S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Mayor attended the following events during December, 2017

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Mayor’s Charity	Cheese and Wine evening held at NTC Council Chambers  6.00 pm
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Northwich Stroke Club	Christmas celebration evening
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	UCAN Rudheath	Awards Evening ***attended by Cllr. Nelson
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	N.T.C.	Tree of Lights NTC Offices .
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Contact the Elderly Northwich Volunteer Group	Tea with Friends 2-4pm
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	IES Youth Service	Buddies Christmas Concert, Youth Centre.
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Mike Amesbury M.P.	Visit to Westminster

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In addition the Mayor has appeared in the Pantomime Aladdin at Memorial Court on the following dates:-

16 <sup>th</sup> December	2 performances
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Evening performance
28 <sup>th</sup> December	2 performances
29 <sup>th</sup> December	2 performances
30 <sup>th</sup> December	2 performances
31 <sup>st</sup> December	Afternoon performance.

The Mayor also mentioned £200 raised for her Charities on the Artisan market on 9<sup>th</sup> December. The Pantomime collection raised £785. Thanks to Cllr. Nelson for attending the Awards Evening. The Mayor ended by giving an overview of her recent visit to Westminster where she met several M.P.'s. introduced by our own M.P. Mike Amesbury. Also had the opportunity of observing PMQ's in the House, and mentioned if any Councillors would like to visit, they can get in touch with Mike Amesbury to arrange.

## **NTC17/104 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

### **Yarwood Close**

Approved contractor, Play and Leisure have been instructed for the refurbishment of Yarwood Close Play area. Works are due to start early 2018. Illustrations of the new Play area were distributed to Members.

### **Northwich Railway Station**

Several meetings have taken place to agree improvements to Northwich Station. As this is the gateway to our town it is identified as not very welcoming and in need of upgrade. Due to a dilution of ownership there are a number of issues that have to be agreed at a higher level, therefore it was decided to concentrate on areas we can get a quick result but high impact. Northern have agreed to contribute to this project in addition to funds from NTC and Mid Cheshire Community Rail Partnership. The following works will commence early in 2018. New black recycled plastic fencing for the embankment along Station Bridge to replace the old white picket fencing. All trees' will be removed from the embankment and 3 hanging basket trees will be installed to create a wonderful display during the summer. Concrete fence around the rose garden will be reduced in height and painted blue. Existing damaged fencing along the railway track will be replaced with new secure fencing.

### **Northwich Subway**

Awarded funding of £9650 from the Big Lottery Fund for works to Northwich Subway. Enabling us to start the project to transform the Subway into a picture of Northwich through the eyes of our Primary Schools. We will also install planters to add colour to this area. This will be Cllr. Janet Myerscough-Illidge's legacy of her Mayoral year in Office.

**Date.....**

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**Parks and Cemetery update**

Our Park staff are burying pruning, hedge cutting and removing leaves from all our sites in readiness for Spring 2018. Also continue to carry out contract work as and when required for our neighbouring Town and Parish Councils.

Have also planted in excess of 2000 beech hedging at the far end of Witton Cemetery to cover the palisade fencing. This will create a softer look to this area. Same hedging has been planted at Verdin Park and Dane Valley Cemetery.

**Church Walk Paddling Pool**

Contractors have now been appointed to undertake the improvements to the Paddling Pool. Some pre-works will take place in January with the major works commencing in February. Refurbishment will be finished in time for the opening in May when visitors will enjoy new toilet facilities along with this improvement will also be constructing a new apex roof and additional storage space.

**Northwich Cenotaph**

Works are ongoing at the Cenotaph. The weather is having an impact slowing progress, but it is hoped to have all works completed by February. Now resolved to have natural York Stone flags as the surface instead of the resin bound stone which will dramatically improve the appearance when finished. Can notice a significant difference already now the Cenotaph itself and surrounding wall and pillars having been rebuilt, cleaned and repointed. Cllr. Cooper mentioned the large Capital projects being undertaken and well done to NTC, delivering on what people say they want.

**Parkrun**

The first Parkrun for Northwich has been set up in conjunction with Northwich Running Club, and is hoped to take place in Spring 2018. More details will be passed to Members when finalised.

**Give and Gain**

The latest Give and Gain took place at Alan Street on 19<sup>th</sup> December. Organised by Mike Crimes the day comprised of cleaning back the overgrown Alleyway and removal of some tipping.

**SANDS**

Stillborn & Neonatal Death Society representatives recently visited the cemetery where we discussed our ideas for a proposed children’s burial section within Dane Valley Cemetery. We will now work with the Society regarding any funding available and will keep Members informed of progress. Cllr. Rimmer commented this is an important initiative, with Cllr. Jamieson suggesting we get suitable publicity for NTC about all our projects in the form of Press releases, highlighting what we have done and our achievements.

**Staff Appraisals**

All staff appraisals took place in December, and a P & O Meeting will be arranged in January to provide a full report to Members for their consideration. Cllr. Jamieson offered a vote of thanks to all NTC staff.

Date.....

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**Town Mayor**

## EVENTS

### Mayor's Cheese and Wine Evening

The Mayor hosted an evening of Cheese and Wine in our Condate Room with 40 guests attending. Thoroughly enjoyed by all and raising £495 for the Mayor's Charities.

### Tree of Lights

Very successful event again this year. Remembering our loved ones, very well attended despite the bitterly cold weather. Generous donations for stars and refreshments totaling £406.60 in aid of the Mayor's Charities. Many thanks to all that took part making this evening an enjoyable but reflective one.

### Charity Quiz Night

The Mayor will be holding a Charity Quiz Night at the Oddfellows Arms, Davenham on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January from 7.00 p.m.

## MEETINGS

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Full Council	6.30 p.m.	NTC
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Budget setting	5.30 p.m.	NTC

Meet to discuss the budget for 2018/19 prior to Finance Committee meeting and Full Council approval in February.

Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Finance	9.30 a.m.	NTC
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Planning	5.00 p.m.	NTC
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January		5.00 p.m.	NTC

Meeting with Paul Nolan from Mersey Forest

### **NTC 17105** COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Request from Cllr. Gough to read a letter received out to Members. Cllr. Rimmer would propose to co-opt Mrs Gough back onto the Council. Cllr. Cooper explained regarding the process of advertising of the vacancy and possible election. TC confirmed that a standard letter will now go out to all Councillors who have been absent after 3 meetings as a reminder of their commitments.

### **NTC 17/106** NORTHWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Update given by Cllr. Cooper. The final consultation ends this week conducted by CWAC. To determine if the Plan meets the criteria, CWAC have consulted with us in relation to an Examiner. A suitable one has now been selected. Subject to their being no major issues, the Examiner will review. Referendum takes the form of other elections, and we need to think about how to publicise this clearly to residents, and any recommendations taken on board. Cllr. Jamieson showed a sample of a flyer used by Hartford PC, and would also recommend Banners are placed around the town etc. Cllr. Cooper added that we would have to wait until the Examiner has finished review. The process is however, time critical.

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**NTC 17/107 ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN**

Prior to Christmas TC and Cllr. Jamieson met with Sgt. Davies from Northwich to discuss possibility of a joint Road Safety Campaign with Cheshire Police. Discussed how NTC could support Cheshire Police in their already successful campaign in reducing speed within Northwch and surrounding areas. Factors that Police look at as contributing issues to accidents are, speeding, drink driving/drug driving, use of Mobile phones and non-wearing of seatbelts.

Discussed getting more schools involved and perhaps each school producing posters to deter motorists from doing any of the above and place these on gateways to Northwich. A schools visit from local PCSO's to highlight the issues and local campaigns by the local press. A further meeting will take place and to set up a small working group with Police, Highways and local schools. Working group would comprise of no more than 3 members and 1 representative from each organization. If Council supports this initiative, this will allow the working group to report back together with costings at next Full Council Meeting.

It was Moved by Cllr. Jamieson to support this, seconded by Cllr. Rimmer. All in favour. Volunteers for the working group will consist of Cllrs. Jamieson, Rimmer and Eastwood.

**Resolved**

**NTC 17/108 NORTHWICH TRANSPORT STRATEGY CONSULTATION**

NTC response to this Consultation was distributed among Members prior to this meeting. Cllr. Cooper went through some points of the response. It was acknowledged that not all suggestions will happen, and it is important to manage people's expectations, particularly in regard to Winnington bridge.

**NTC 17/109 LOW EMISSIONS STRATEGY**

Cllr. Jamieson gave update regarding his recent meeting referred to in last month's Minutes. There has been no air quality monitoring carried out in recent years. Schools close to town centre were discussed. Some diffuser tubes will be placed and then produce a results report on a monthly basis. Previous monitoring station has been removed. It was also noted the volume of standing traffic in the Greenbank area.

**NTC 17/110 OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr. S. Naylor attended a very positive meeting of the Mid Cheshire Development Board, who are keen to achieve something tangible. A revamped running track is planned on Hartford Campus and hppe for a State of the Art track. A cross group initiative to work at the regeneration of Barons Quay and Weaver Square. Will look at other town markets in the area in the hope of recreating them in Northwich. Will keep Members fully informed. Cllr. Rimmer referred to the Course prospectus for Warrington and Vale Royal College. Mot courses are at the Warrington site. Cllr. Dolan added that in terms of population has the bulk of courses on offer. Could get an update on the position and feedback from Colleges about their future intentions. Cllr. S. Naylor further added that the Northwich and District Advisory Panel, representatives from College coming to net meeting, and they have got plans for moving forward, as it is considered they now have a great Senior Management Team, so the College has a bright and secure future ahead

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**NTC 17/111 CWAC & PARTNERS CORRESPONDENCE**

Cllr. Cooper mentioned the consultation with Mid Cheshire Rail Partnership.

GDPR – Data Protection- new rights for the public. Need to consider date kept and retained. A Data Protection Officer to be appointed, and also suggested that NTC have an internal review of, for example, burial records, and allotments details by the end of May.

Cllr. Dolan explained current provision in respect of Extra Care Housing. A new provider is now Allied Healthcare.. There are currently around 7000 carers, possibly saving CWAC money. Now integrate Care Support and Better Care Support. Can ask for an independent assessment. Package of help and support put together by NMC, and Alzheimer’s .It was also noted that some carers are very often young people, caring for parents, relatives, the provision includes those.

Cllr. Jamieson mentioned the Community Asset Framework and explained the key principals. Requests TC to contact Mark Simmons (Localities CWAC) regarding the consultation, and possibly come and speak to Members. Cllr. Jamieson put forward proposal to arrange meeting, seconded by Cllr. S. Naylor. All in favour.

**Approved**

**NTC 17/112 MONTHLY COUNCILLOR SURGERY AT THE ARTISAN MARKET**

Last months Artisan market was attended by the Mayor. Stall Holders were asked for a donation to a Hamper which was raffled off in aid of the Mayor’s Charities. The Mayor wished to thank all those involved. There will be no Artisan Market this month.

**NTC 17/113 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Date of the next meeting will be Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2018 at 6.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

**Date.....**

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