

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2018

Present : Cllr Mrs. A Gerrard - Town Mayor

Councillors : Cllr D Bowden Cllr A Cooper Cllr P Dolan
Cllr T Lawrenson Cllr T Melville Cllr P Naylor
Cllr S Naylor Cllr Mrs L Nelson Cllr. Mrs. J. Illidge
Cllr K Rimmer Cllr M Rowley Cllr. T. Murphy
Cllr J Taylor Cllr. A. Stott

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

NTC 18/85 CLLR. BRIAN JAMIESON

Members observed a minutes silence in memory of the late Cllr. Brian Jamieson.

NTC 18/86 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Ms. S. Eastwood. Cllrs. G. Emmett and M Falzon were not present.

NTC 18/87 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interest under the following categories:

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

Cllr. Mrs. A Gerrard declared an interest in any matters relating to Rudheath Parish Council.
Cllr. T. Lawrenson declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council and Rudheath Parish Council
Cllr. P. Dolan declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council.
Cllr. S. Naylor declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council.

NTC 18/88 OPEN FORUM

Cheshire West and Chester Cllr. Mrs. G. Sinar addressed Members. Cllr. Sinar wished to speak regarding the implementation of Car parking charges in Northwich and her opposition to this. There is a problem specific to Weaver Vale Housing Association (WVHA) properties. Percy Street residents were not aware of any parking charges, and has asked if NTC can assist. A resident also spoke regarding enquiries she had made to CWAC following correspondence received from them, which appeared to be ignored. Cllr. S. Naylor commented that we have been fighting against the charges, but the decision has been taken. Cllrs. S Naylor and Dolan have spoken to Wardens patrolling who explained the barrier system. They had been assured this will be a smooth transition and it's not to put people off visiting Northwich. Residents will not be prosecuted in the affected area and will have 12 months 'grace'. Cllr. S. Naylor and Dolan have assured residents they will do all they can. Cllr. Dolan thanked the resident for highlighting this issue to us. Cllr. Sinar was also thanked.

Date.....

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Cllr. Mrs. A. Gerrard
Town Mayor

NTC 18/89 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

- 5.1 The minutes of Town Council Meeting held on Monday 5th November, 2018 be confirmed and approved as a true and accurate record with the following points mentioned: Minor adjustments to be made to a couple of items on last Minutes. Cllr. Cooper wished to give update on item 18/79 the HS2 consultation and mentioned the meeting in Rudheath. There will be a further meeting to discuss the final response being prepared. Also item 18/80 regarding the CWAC Polling districts. A response was sent on behalf of NTC, and CWAC have accepted our suggestions. May also be possible to implement a maps indicating Polling Stations.
Proposed by Cllr Cooper and seconded by Cllr Rimmer. Signed by the Town Mayor.

NTC18/90 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- 6.1 To note Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 20th November, 2018.
- 6.2 To note Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 20th November 2018. Cllr. Stott, Chair of Planning Committee explained to Members that as the last meeting was not quorate, the applications were discussed and draft comments prepared. Approval of the Council is now needed in order to submit fully to Planning Department at CWAC. Proposed by Cllr. Rimmer, seconded by Cllr. Bowden.

Date.....

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Cllr. Mrs. A. Gerrard
Town Mayor

.NTC 18/91 TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor attended the following events during November, 2018

Friday 2 nd November	Britain in Bloom Representing NTC	Awards event at Southport
Saturday 3 rd November	Northwich Rotary/Round Table	Bonfire Night, Verdin Park
Friday 9 th November	Lostock Lodge Care Home	Visit a veteran Breakfast club.
Saturday 10 th November	Northwich Indian Community	Diwali celebrations 2018 at Kingsmead Primary School
Friday 9 th November	St Helen's Church	Northwich Remembers Anniversary of the end of WW1
Sunday 11 th	NTC	Remembrance Parade and Service
Sunday 11 th November	Rudheath Parish Council	Remembrance Service at Rudheath Cemetery
Sunday 11 th	NTC	Beacon lighting. St Helen's
Tuesday 13 th November	Knutsford Town Council	Come Dine with me Mayor's charity meal
Friday 16 th November	Costa Coffee	Grand Opening of new store at Denton Drive
Saturday 17 th November	The Entertainer store	Grand Opening of new store in Barons Quay.
Friday 23 rd November	Impulse Dancers	End of year presentation
Saturday 24 th November	NTC	Christmas Extravaganza Christmas Light switch on
Sunday 25 th November	NTC	Charity lunch in support of Mayor's charity North West Air Ambulance at Kanya
Thursday 29 th November	Redrow Homes Hartford	Christmas Charity event ** Deputy Mayor attending**
Thursday 29 th November	Lord Mayor of Chester	Charity Evening of Entertainment. at Eaton Hall

Cllr. Rimmer spoke regarding the Redrow Christmas Charity event he attended as Deputy Mayor, and said this annual event is well attended and it is great to see that Redrow Developers giving something back to the community when developers get a bad press at times. Members thanked the Mayor for her attendance at so many events throughout a very busy month.

NTC18/92 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Verdin Park improvements

Plans are now beginning to arrive at the office for the improvements. Once all have been submitted we shall visit local schools for their views and to hold a consultation event within the Park. Cllr. Cooper requests an Amenities Committee meeting is arranged to review the results of the consultations once received, and agree next steps

Resolved.

Date.....

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Cllr. Mrs. A. Gerrard
Town Mayor

Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 11th November saw the town turn out to remember all those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Hundreds of people stood around the Cenotaph as a mark of respect and to observe the 2 minutes silence. Cllr. S Naylor on behalf of Members thanked the Town Clerk and staff for organising another well run event.

Beacon Lighting

Following on from the Act of Remembrance, a Beacon was lit on the top tower of St. Helen’s Church at 7.00 p.m. This event was well attended and many thanks to Cllr. Rowley for assisting with carrying up the necessary equipment. Cllr. S. Naylor again thanked the Town Clerk and staff for organising this event.

Christmas Light Switch On and Extravaganza

Saturday 24th November saw the annual light switch on and extravaganza in the town centre, followed by a fireworks display. The most successful yet with thousands of visitors coming into town throughout the day. Cllr. Cooper thanked NTC and partners. Would like to have a report brought to the next Amenities Committee to see how we can develop the event next year given the numbers attending.

Tree of Lights

Will take place Friday 7th December around the holly tree within Witton Cemetery. This will be followed by light refreshments and entertainment in our Condate Rooms. Stars will once again be available from NTC office, Northwich Information Centre and Snippets Hair Salon.

Old Hall Road Play Area

Work has commenced and should be finished within the next few weeks.

At this point Cllr. Bowden made reference to ‘A Cunning Plan’ who have approached NTC regarding working to upgrade the image of the town by various means. Cllr. Bowden further suggested that a small group of members meet them to discuss what they can offer and costs. Proposed by Cllr. Bowden and proposed by Cllr. Rimmer.

NTC18/793 CHRISTMAS MEAL

Each year we allow our staff to have half a day for our Christmas lunch, and this year we propose to take it on Friday 21st December. The office will be closed from 1.00 p.m. on this day, but an emergency number will be advertised in case of any issues that may arise during the afternoon. Decision of the Council is required to close as above. Proposed by Cllr. Rimmer, seconded by Cllr. Stott. All in favour.

Approved

. Date.....

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Cllr. Mrs. A. Gerrard
Town Mayor

NTC18/793 COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

Cllr. Rimmer explained he is a member of the panel interviewing applicants. The filling of two vacancies were discussed and the panel's recommendations for co-option. Voting then took place among members with the results as follows:-

Helen Rowlands who will represent Witton Ward, and Ben Whitter who will represent Bridge Ward.

NTC18/94 NORTHERN RAIL

Cllr. Rimmer gave an update regarding the passenger shelter at Greenbank Station which is wholly inadequate. This was erected without consultation. Train services are appalling with lateness and cancellations. Following correspondence, Mr Raj Chanderama the Northern Stakeholder Manager has agreed to meet with NTC and states that he wants to work with other stakeholders, namely, Headteachers of local schools affected, CWAC, the Mid Cheshire Community Rail Partnership and local MP's early in the New Year to discuss issues for all parts of the community. Cllr. Cooper mentioned other issues, such as lack of progress on timetables, access at Northwich Station and difficulty in obtaining funding for access.

Resolved

NTC18/95 MID CHESHIRE COLLEGE

Cllr. Bowden attended a recent meeting following plans to demolish and develop housing on the site. Cllr. Bowden commented the feeling of being let down and the need to take this forward. In this area there are very good schools for pupils up to 16 years old. Then a huge gap for a vast number of pupils. Governors and Senior Staff are willing to meet with NTC. Would like as many Councillors as possible to attend to challenge what courses are available. Cllr. Rimmer agreed with this proposal and added that anything we can do to challenge. Cllr. Dolan added the current impact on students, what uptake there is, transport issues and other barriers experienced. Cllr. Naylor advised that he and Cllr. Cooper had met with the new CEO of CWAC. The Authority received £1m towards other facilities. We are dismayed at the speed at which these plans have been progressed. Our MP Mike Amesbury has set up a petition, Cllr. Cooper stated it is easy to criticise College Management, but this situation is due to Government policy and underfunding. Cllr. Naylor added that our MP was given assurances that Mid Cheshire College was safe with a bright future. He wants an independent investigation as to what we are faced with now. Cllr. Dolan added that people feel a sense of betrayal, a cynical decision was taken to sacrifice this site, and has had a detrimental effect on the town. TC agreed to arrange a meeting. Proposed by Cllr. Bowden, seconded by Cllr. Rimmer. All in favour.

Resolved

NTC18/96 CW&C & PARTNERS CORRESPONDENCE

There were no members comments.

Date.....

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Cllr. Mrs. A. Gerrard
Town Mayor

NTC18/97 MONTHLY COUNCILLORS SURGERY AT THE ARTISAN MARKET

The next Councilor Surgery at the Artisan Market will take place on Saturday 8th December, 2018. Cllr. Dolan gave update to advise that questions asked by members of the public at the last Councillor Surgery, were in relation to the recently introduced car parking fees in Northwich.

Councillor rota as follows:-

- 10- 11 a.m, Councillor P Dolan
- 11 – 12 Councillors A. Stott and T. Murphy.
- 12 – 1 p.m. Councillor A. Cooper

Part B

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

NTC 18/98 PROPOSED EVENT

NTC18/99 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of the next meeting will be Monday 7th January, 2019 at 6.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.45 pm.

The Mayor invited fellow Councillors to join her for a Christmas drink and small buffet, in the Council Chambers.

Date.....

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Cllr. Mrs. A. Gerrard
Town Mayor

