

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 2nd MARCH, 2020

Present:	Cllr. K. Rimmer	Town Mayor
Councillors:	Cllr. D . Bowden Cllr..A. Cooper Cllr. Ms. G Edwards Cllr. S. Naylor Cllr. Mrs. A. Lockett Cllr. Ms H Rowlands	Cllr. A. Stott Cllr.Mrs. J. Illidge Cllr. Miss C. Fox Cllr. Ms. J. Thomas Cllr. G. Emmett

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

NTC 19/119 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs M. Rowley, M. McNamee A Gerrard S. Eastwood, L. Nelson, and T. Melville.

NTC 19/120 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 Cheshire West and Chester Council
Cllr. A. Cooper declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council, and any matters relating to Victoria Road School where he sits as a Governor.
Cllr. G. Edwards declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council

NTC 19/121 OPEN FORUM

The Mayor welcomed Iain Stead who addressed Member, who gave thanks for the support received for the recent fundraising activities and events held on 1st February, in aid of the Market Traders due to the fire early in the New Year of the Market premises. There was great interest shown. Mr Stead is currently looking at plans to repeat this next year. All Traders have benefited from this. He is looking for support and funding, but he is willing to organize, and will send further details of this to NTC. There was a big increase in footfall on the day which raised almost £13,000. Felt it was good timing into the New Year. There were 29 venues each hosting musical entertainment. The Town Mayor wanted to personally thank all the volunteers again. Cllr. Rowlands advised she will forward on details of contacts that may help. Cllr. Illidge mentioned the NTC Grants scheme. Cllr. Fox suggested CWAC Councillors could help by way of their budget if available. Cllr. Naylor suggested making application for funding from Localities Team. Discussions then took place regarding present private ownership of the Plaza premises. Cllr. Lockett voiced a 'Well done' for the initiative and said she could offer volunteers to help on the next event. The Mayor thanked Mr Stead for visiting and asked that he keep in touch with any arrangements for the future.

Date.....

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**Cllr. K. Rimmer
Town Mayor**

NTC 19/122 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

4.1 The minutes of Town Council Meeting held on Monday 3rd February, 2020 be confirmed and approved as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. Lockett, seconded by Cllr. Fox. Minutes signed by the Mayor. All in favour.

NTC19/123 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- 5.1 To note Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 3rd February, 2020
Noted by Cllr. Cooper
- 5.2 To note Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 18th February 2020. Noted by Cllr Rimmer.

NTC 19/124 TOWN MAYOR’S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor attended the following events during February

Saturday 1 st February	Parkrun Northwich	100 th Parkrun anniversary
Saturday 1 st February	NTC	Plaza cinema, Music Event in Northwich in support of Market Traders
Monday 3 rd February	Children’s Art Trail	Wakabout within Northwich
Monday 3 rd February	Photoshoot at Verdin Park	Launch of Krazy Races
Monday 10 th February	Daneside Court	100 th Birthday celebrations for a resident
Tuesday 18 th February	NTC	Mayor’s Charity Night at ‘The Indian’
Friday 28 th February	Sticky Paws	Opening of new store in Barons Quay.

The Town Mayor conveyed his thanks to NTC staff, and support received for his recent Charity Event at The Indian. Very positive feedback received. Also was very impressed with ‘Sticky Paws’ when he attended the launch. Good to learn that all employees are from Northwich. Cllr. Naylor had also attended the launch.

NTC19/125 TOWN CLERK’S REPORT

1.0 Verdin Park

Works will begin on the new play area in April, and currently looking into obtaining funding for installment of CCTV within the Park.

2.0 Burnside Way Play Area

Unfortunately, unsuccessful in obtaining funding from Pocket Parks to refurbish. Will look at alternative funding streams.

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**Cllr. K. Rimmer
Town Mayor**

3.0 Old Hall Play Area Leftwich

New trim trail and litter bin will hopefully be installed within the next few weeks. Delay has been due to extremely wet weather in recent times.

4.0 Northwich Town Centre Impact Day

Impact Day will take place with partners on Monday 23rd March from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. during the day we shall be clearing grot spots throughout the town and our NTC/BID branded gazebo with officers from CWAC departments will be on hand to give out information and advice. Councillors who volunteered are Cllr. Rowlands, Illidge and Rimmer.

Cllr. Naylor spoke about the general decline with litter issues, which is an utter disgrace, and does nothing to enhance the town and its many attractions. The Town Mayor also made reference to blocked drains, potholes and other urgent work that needs to be attended to, but unable to do repairs due to funding cuts. Cllr. Emmett added that being part of a Clean Team can be dangerous when trying to litter pick on busy roads.

5.0 CWAC Parish Conference

Annual Parish Conference takes place Tuesday 3rd March in Chester. Opportunity to hear from the Leader of the Council Louise Gittins and Chief Executive, Andrew Lewis. Other officers will be on hand to answer questions, and a finger buffet will be provided.

6.0 Defibrillators – Hub Greenbank and Victoria Road School

In partnership with The Rotary Club Northwich, Rotary Northwich and Vale Royal, Rudheath and Witton Together and Weaver Vale Housing Trust, we now have 24 hour accessible defibrillators situated in cabinets outside the Hub in Greenbank and also outside Victoria Road School in Orchard Road. Both devices are on a 7 year consumables package and will be maintained by NTC every 2 weeks. Thanks go to all partners who have supported this initiative. Now looking at additional sites within Northwich to install accessible defibrillators, sites discussed being Leftwich, Winnington and Lostock. Report of costs to next Amenities Meeting.

7.0 Play Areas and Greenspaces

All our sites have now had a winter tidy in preparation for Spring. We are looking to make improvements to the pool surface by installing a non-slip surface around the edges. Both shops will have new slush machines installed and will be trialling sugar free slush, in addition to reducing our plastic use with all cups and straws being paper.

8.0 Meetings

Planning & Environment	Monday 6 th April, 2020 5.00 p.m.
Full Council	Monday 6 th April, 2020 6.30 p.m.
Finance Meeting	Tuesday 17 th March, 2020 9.30 a.m

The Town Mayor mentioned at this point the lack of Councillor attendance to meetings in particular to Finance. Would like to see an improvement.

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**Cllr. K. Rimmer
Town Mayor**

NTC19/127 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

TC pointed out specific amendments and explanation to these. Proposed by Cllr. Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Stott. All in favour.
Approved

NTC19/128 MEMBERS SURGERY - ARTISAN MARKET

The next Artisan market in Northwich will be on Saturday 14th March. It was agreed the following Councillors will attend between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Cllrs Naylor and Rimmer.

NTC19/129 COUNCILLORS EMAILS

Councillors have been issued with their own dedicated email address for Council use only. TC again gave details to any Councillors who are experiencing technical problems by giving them contact details of our IT support, who will gladly help them through any problems. Some Councillors gave details of their various specific problems which the ATC took note of.
Resolved

NTC19/130 CWAC MEMBERS UPDATE

Cllr. Edwards mentioned Climate Change, there should be a report available by end of year. Advised specific enquiries made, e.g. Solar panels on Grade 1 listed Churches.
Cllr. Cooper mentioned that CWAC will be replacing the girder at Winnington Swing Bridge, which has been a long standing problem.
Cllr. Naylor advised high level meetings are taking place regarding the coronavirus situation. CWAC have plans in place.

NTC19/131 CWAC AND PARTNERS CORRESPONDENCE

Cllr, Cooper referred to Community Transport consultation in relation to level of subsidy. Gave details of drop in dates for Northwich.
Cllr. Naylor advised of a meeting coming up regarding Northwich River strategy, wanting to make more use of our Waterways.
Cllr. Rimmer referred to the Adult Social Care, National Survey. Spoke regarding the current cost of Care for the elderly, with an increasing ageing community in the future. Cllr. Rowlands spoke about the extent of suffering and breaking point for many and urge CWAC to try and put more intense pressure on Government.
Cllr. Bowden remarked that all these plans come down to cost. The outcome should be a public body to demonstrate a cost effective plan across the board.

NTC19/132 OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr. Rowland attended the CWAC Action Conference. Cllr. Rimmer read the PCSO report received.

NTC19/133 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of the next Full Council Meeting will be Monday 6th April, 2020 at 6.30pm
There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.25 p.m.

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**Cllr. K. Rimmer
Town Mayor**