



Nantwich Town Council, Brookfield Hall, Shrewbridge Road, Nantwich, CW5 7AB.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 17th December, 2007.

Present - Councillor McGinnis (Chairman) Councillor Cafferty (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Healey, Hope, Lewis, Martin, Moran, Simpson, Stockton together with the Town Clerk.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no questions or comment by members of the public on this occasion.

80. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors Farrall (attending to the affairs of an elderly relative) and Williams (holiday).

81. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF 12th NOVEMBER 2007

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12th November 2007, incorporating Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee of 22nd October 2007, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

82. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman briefly outlined the variety of attendances he had made as representative of the Town Council:-

17th November Guy Harvey Club – memorial bench for Arthur Bedson
30th November Chairman's Charity Dance to raise funds for British Legion
1st December Christmas Lights Switch on.
6th December Gables Christmas party.
10th December Scout Troop carol service.
12th December Players theatre "How the other half lives."
16th December Lions Club carol service at St Mary's.

83. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Moran and Hope declared personal and prejudicial interests in P07/1625 (10 Cheyne Walk) as they were both friends of the applicant. Councillor Stockton declared a personal interest in all planning applications as a member of the Development Control Committee of the Borough Council.

84. POST OFFICE CLOSURES

The Chairman reported briefly on the public meeting held on 8th December at the Civic Hall to protest against post office closures at Millfields and Millstone Lane. It was reported that 72 people were at the meeting and most Town Councillors had attended. Councillor Moran, who sits as a County and Borough Councillor as well as a Town Councillor, gave a brief outline of the impact report produced by County Council officers which set out the probable affects of the closures. Councillor McGinnis, who is also a Borough Councillor on the Council Board (cabinet), told the Council that the Borough Council had produced a study critically examining the Post Office's own criteria for closure. Councillor Lewis confirmed the cross party support present in both the Town and Borough Councils in favour of maintaining the service offered by the two shops.

Councillor McGinnis told councillors that a substantial petition had been sent to Post Office Ltd., together with a letter from the Town Council containing strong arguments in favour of keeping the two post offices open. A copy of the letter had been supplied to all Members.

85. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE.

The Clerk reported as shown in Appendix A attached.

86. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING OF 26TH NOVEMBER 2007.

RESOLVED that with the exception of the two points noted below, the Recommendations contained in the Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee of 26th November, be accepted and approved and the Resolutions noted. The points concerned are:-

- (i) In regard to the grant for the Jazz and Blues Festival, further enquiries be undertaken to ascertain exactly what was being requested and whether the Festival was generally a profit – making venture.
- (ii) It was noted that the Minutes did not include budget recommendations which would go to Council of 14th January 2008.

The minutes are attached but because of its length Appendix A (the Local Development Framework Core Strategy Questionnaire) is not included.

87. ACCOUNTS FOR NOVEMBER 2007

RESOLVED that the Comparison with Budget sheet be noted and the Payments for November 2007 be approved (the sheets are attached to these Minutes).

88. PLANNING CONTROL

RESOLVED that the observations on the planning applications set out in Appendix B (attached) be transmitted to the Borough Council as planning authority.

89. LENGTHSMAN

Members noted the intention of the Clerk to seek tenders on the basis of the schedule attached as Appendix C in accordance with recommendations of the Staffing Panel meeting held on 3rd December 2007.

90. WATCH COMMITTEE MINUTES – 20TH NOVEMBER 2007

Minutes of the Watch Committee held on Tuesday 20th November, were noted. Arising from the Minutes and in particular the work of the police in Nantwich, Councillor Moran proposed, and it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk be requested to write, on behalf of the Council, to the Home Secretary, urging her to fully backdate the 2.5% increase in salary recommended by arbitration, and deploring the decision to, in effect, reduce the award to 1.9%.

- END -

Signature: _____

Date: _____

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK TO NANTWICH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON
12TH NOVEMBER 2007

1. **Talk of the Town.**
Autumn edition was printed. It was circulated to Members. Distribution was that week.
2. **Daffodil Bulbs.**
The Clerk had collected 2000 daffodil bulbs, obtained, at the request of the Chairman, from the Borough Council. The Clerk explained that he had received three estimates for planting in the nine sites involved. The first was for £600. The second was for £380 but without actually inspecting the sites and contractor not immediately available. The third was for £540, the sites having been inspected, able to carry out immediately and previously worked for the Town Council. **RESOLVED** that notwithstanding the estimate was not the lowest, the work of planting daffodil bulbs at various locations in the Town Council area be awarded to Michael Byrne's Gardening Services of Audlem, in the sum of £540 (no VAT).
3. The Clerk suggested purchase of new stacking chairs to replace the green ones which were worn and tatty. Members felt that since the chairs were not physically dangerous there was no necessity to replace them at this time.
4. Clerk said that Paul Beckett had said he was working to re-start the Millennium Clock.
5. Various reminders of significant dates given.
6. Staffing panel meeting for employment of Lengthsman agreed for Monday 3rd December 7pm, at Brookfield Hall.
7. Next Police Forum on 10th January 2008, at Civic Hall, at 7pm.
8. 'An Inconvenient Truth'. Reminder of a free viewing at Lyceum Theatre, on Monday 19th November, at 7pm.
9. The Clerk was delighted to report notification of award of Quality Status. Members expressed their pleasure and congratulated Clerk and his assistant on the work involved. The Clerk pointed out that the award was made only to Councils which communicated well and took full part in community life, which was a tribute to Members as well as staff. It was agreed that a formal ceremony, probably in the New Year, would be an opportunity to celebrate and publicise the award more widely.
10. Notification that the Town Council had been awarded a grant of £1000 by the County Council towards benches by the lake.
11. The Clerk told Members that a request had been received from Borough Councillor Graham Fenton for a contribution of up to £300 to purchase the usual gifts for Christmas for the elderly housebound, from potential section 137 grants budget. Such payment was to be made by the Clerk under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (line 43) on the basis that it will direct benefit to some of the inhabitants of the area and be commensurate with the expenditure to be incurred.

- END -



Nantwich Town Council

Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee of the Council held on 26th November 2007.

Present - Councillors Moran (Chairman), Cafferty, Farrall, Hope, Lewis, Martin, McGinnis, Simpson, Stockton, Williams, together with the Town Clerk.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Abbott. During the meeting Councillor Hope felt unwell and left following item 2.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

Councillor Stockton declared a personal interest in relation to the Local Development Framework questionnaire as a member of the Borough Council Development Control Committee. Councillors Lewis, Moran, Stockton and McGinnis declared personal interests in the Local Development Framework questionnaire and Peppers Bowling Club grant as members of the Borough Council.

3 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Councillors reviewed the Local Development Framework consultation. A copy of the completed questionnaire as agreed is attached to these minutes as Appendix A.

RESOLVED: That Option 3 of the Local Development Framework questionnaire be selected and the completed questionnaire submitted to the Borough Council.

4 GRANT APPLICATIONS - PRESENTATIONS

Nantwich Players presented their application. In attendance were Sandy Laughlin, Rebecca Burchell and Jeremy Acklam. Jeremy Acklam told Councillors that the Players were encouraging the dramatic arts, shows, play reading and community activities, also encouraging disabled and hard of hearing in workshops. A number of teenagers are currently involved in the theatre. The workshops are professionally lead to teach skills, to children aged 6 to 12 years. The Cheshire Academy has brought children to the theatre to look at lighting and sound equipment. Scout groups have also been involved.

The Players want to physically expand the theatre upstairs to provide more community events, to allow additional members to use lighting and back stage items. This will boost membership and also enable the Players to reach out to schools.

Councillors asked various questions about the activities of the Players.

Peppers Bowling Club, Mr George Harrison presented his application, he stated that the club had 45 members, approximately one third of the club were females. The club competes competitively in Cheshire and would like to expand teams and build on membership. The club had looked at the Barony Park bowling green which needs facilities and upgrading to bring it up to a Crown Green standard. Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council have agreed to a 10 year lease. The club would use the green during the evenings and some afternoons, the green would be available for other people to use during the times when the club was not in attendance.

£35,000 is required for the bowling club to relocate and upgrade the green at Barony Park. Fairly limited grants have been applied for from Age Concern, British Crown Green, Kellogg's, Awards for All and Crewe and Nantwich Community Fund. However, the main funder would be £22110 from the Town Council. The subscription for the club is currently £20 per season per member.

Councillors asked various questions about the activities of the Bowling Club.

Jazz and Blues Festival, Mr Phillip Martin talked about his application for a grant of £3000. He has approached the police regarding last year's festival and more policing is required. Last year there were 10,000 people in premises and another 10,000 people on the streets. Wristbands had been agreed with almost all licensees in Nantwich and the police. Children will be permitted entry without charge. Events at the Civic and Crown hotel will be supplied with wristbands. A charge of £5 per wristband will be made and this may cut down the number of people attending. Sponsorship from Alvaston Hall Hotel of £3000 had been received.

Mr Martin asked the Council to underwrite the costs of wristbands to a maximum of £3000.

Councillors asked various questions about the activities of the Jazz and Blues Festival.

5 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC.

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during a) discussion of Item 6 (grant applications) on the grounds that the finances organisation and proposals of individual bodies making applications is best considered in confidence and (b) discussion of Item 7 (Budget 08/09) on the grounds that the finances and business affairs of the Council and other organisations are best considered in confidence.

6 GRANTS APPLICATIONS – DETERMINATIONS

The committee considered the presentations made by Nantwich Players, Peppers Bowling Club and Nantwich Jazz and Blues Festival.

RECOMMENDED that: (a) the application for grant of £2300 to Nantwich Players be agreed. (b) the application in respect of a grant for Peppers Bowling Club be declined. (c) If the sale of wristbands for the Nantwich Jazz and Blues Festival generates less than £3000, then Nantwich Town Council will underwrite the loss to a maximum of £3000.

The Clerk reminded Councillors that these grants were for the next financial year. The Clerk agreed, in respect of the Bowling Green at the Barony, to ask the Borough Council planners whether some of the section 106 sums gained over recent years could be used to improve the facility.

The committee also discussed a request from Borough Councillor Graham Fenton regarding a contribution to Holly Holy Day. **RECOMMENDED:** that the contribution requested of £865 be made from this year's budget (line 37) for 'Local Organisations'.

7 BUDGET 08/09

Councillors discussed grants for 08/09 and in particular the Food Festival proposed donation of £1200. It was **RECOMMENDED** to increase this to £2000 to enable an event to be held on the Square on Sunday sponsored by the Town Council.

The budget was discussed with a view to approving a precept at the Council meeting of 14th January 2008. Budget details, minutes and suggested resolutions will be presented at that meeting.

RESOLVED that press and public be re-admitted.

8 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported as shown on the attached sheets, Appendix B.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

- END -

Local Development Framework – Issues & Options – Core Strategy Questionnaire.

Population

Q1 HOW DO WE ENSURE THAT OLDER PEOPLE CAN ACCESS THE SERVICES THEY NEED, IN PARTICULAR HOW SHOULD THEIR HOUSING NEEDS BE ADDRESSED?

Older people should generally be able to live near their friends and family and retain familiar local links. Nantwich is in danger of becoming a town with an excessive number of old people's residential homes and sheltered housing developments without the facilities to support them. Elderly people add to the demands on social and medical services. It is important that older people are encouraged to feel safe and valued and it is essential that medical support, social care, accessible shopping and other necessary infrastructure is provided to assist an aging population.

Q2 THERE IS A NEED TO PROVIDE MORE FACILITIES FOR THE UNDER 18s, WHERE AND HOW SHOULD THESE BE DELIVERED?

Children and young adults need to play or meet in a secure, stimulating environment. Smaller children need play areas near houses designed for young families, possibly courtyard style, with measures to discourage teenagers or older children from using them. Teenagers need facilities further from dwellings but in many cases appreciate some adult presence to prevent bullying or intimidation by older youths. Such facilities as bowling alleys, skate boards, BMX tracks need to be away from housing but within easy access, using public transport. Developers should be encouraged or required to provide appropriate facilities, maintained thereafter by the local authority.

Local Environment

Current Planning policy protects the natural environment and biodiversity. There are no plans to review the Green Belt boundaries in RSS, nor is it intended to make any changes to those sites which are of statutory importance.

Q3 ARE ANY CHANGES REQUIRED TO CURRENT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION POLICIES?

Protecting the environment and maintaining biodiversity involves adopting green policies increased composting and recycling etc., as well as use of green materials and building methods in construction. Far more attention to these policies is required. In addition, policies need to be enforced. Currently planning and environmental enforcement is inadequate Staffing and expertise need to be increased by all agencies involved. It is also important that the bodies and agencies charged with safeguarding the environment have adequate democratic controls and elected representations are not simply unaccountable quangos.

Q4 SHOULD THE GREEN GAP POLICY BE REVIEWED, IS THERE JUSTIFICATION FOR ITS BOUNDARIES TO BE CHANGED?

Every effort should be made to retain and strengthen the Green Gap.

Q5 SHOULD AREAS OF SPECIAL COUNTY VALUE BE RETAINED?

Yes.

Q6 SHOULD WE TAKE A MORE PROACTIVE APPROACH TO INCREASING BIODIVERSITY/ NATURE CONSERVATION THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT CONTROL SYSTEM?

The current balance is about right – almost by definition development will interfere with natural surroundings, trees, plants, animals etc. Measures need to be taken to protect them but it must always be a careful balancing act between permitting development and protecting the natural environment.

Q7 ARE THERE ANY AREAS OF THE BOROUGH WHICH YOU THINK SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR DESIGNATION OR OFFERED SPECIAL PROTECTION FOR THEIR BIODIVERSITY OR NATURE CONSERVATION VALUE?

Weaver Valley should receive special protection.

Heritage and the Built Environment

Current Local Plan policies aim to preserve and enhance the 19 conservation areas in the Borough, to protect listed buildings, Historic parks and gardens, scheduled ancient monuments, historic battlefields and generally to promote good design.

Q8 SHOULD THE COUNCIL CONSIDER DESIGNATING MORE CONSERVATION AREAS, OR CONCENTRATE ON REVIEWING EXISTING ONES?

The Town Council has recently commented on the review of the Nantwich Conservation area. Its broad view was that it should be more strictly observed and more effectively enforced, although some extensions were suggested. No observations are considered appropriate by the Town Council in relation to other Areas.

Q9 SHOULD THE COUNCIL SEEK TO PROTECT ALL AREAS OF THE DISTRICT EQUALLY BY ENSURING THAT ALL DEVELOPMENT OR REDEVELOPMENT IS OF A SUITABLE HIGH STANDARD OF DESIGN

There may be some areas of the Borough where redevelopment needs are outweighed by the necessity to ensure the highest standards of design – which is, in any event, a somewhat subjective issue. However, the Town Council do not believe that Nantwich is an area where the need for development overcomes the necessity for design of the highest standards.

Q10 HOW SHOULD THE COUNCIL ENCOURAGE GOOD DESIGN?

- *By paying respect to the existing character of the locality.*
- *By encouraging “green considerations” in design*
- *By employing high calibre officers or consultants to advice on design issues*
- *By insisting on the highest standards even if this leads to increased planning appeals or some delay in determining applications.*
- *More effective enforcement of planning conditions.*

Employment

The Core Strategy needs to identify the broad areas where new employment land will be permitted.

There is also a need to encourage economic activity in the rural areas of the Borough in line with Government policy.

Q11 HOW SHOULD THE BASFORD SITES BE DEVELOPED?

No comment.

Q12 WHERE SHOULD NEW EMPLOYMENT SITES BE PROVIDED?

Preferably on brown field sites in Crewe and outskirts of Nantwich subject to infrastructure. Efforts should be made to retain existing employment opportunities being available.

Q13 HOW MUCH EMPLOYMENT LAND IS NEEDED?

Efforts should be made to retain established employment uses and encourage locally based employment. However, we are not able to say how much land is needed for that purpose.

Q14 GIVEN THE PRESSURE FOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ON BROWNFIELD SITES, HOW DO WE DEAL WITH PRESSURE FOR CHANGING THE USE OF EMPLOYMENT LAND?

By more detailed planning briefs and a coherently thought through local development policy which can be justified and defended on appeal.

Q15 HOW DO WE IMPROVE THE PROSPECTS FOR THE RURAL ECONOMY?

Allow small scale, suitable employment uses without sacrificing the rural scene.

Improve transport links.

Employ a small group of officers whose main activity is to improve the rural economy by means of co-ordinated planning, economic assistance, grant seeking, lobbying etc.

Housing

A Housing Market Assessment will be required to provide a strategic view of housing need and demand; and inform policies to deliver the right mix of housing, both market and affordable.

The Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West provides for the completion of 8100 new dwellings in the Borough between April 2003 and 2021, at an annual average rate of 450. So far 3004 dwellings have been completed, 1363 (45%) on brownfield sites). 832 are under construction (470 (56%) on brownfield sites); and there is planning permission for an additional 2116 (1257 (59%) on brownfield sites). When the outstanding housing allocation from the Local Plan is added (the Stapeley Water Gardens brownfield site, which is likely to deliver 150 units) the outstanding RSS requirement is reduced to 1998, although the end date of the RSS is expected to be speedily reviewed, probably to 2026 or 2031.

At least 60% of these 8100 new dwellings (4860) will be expected to be built on "brownfield" sites. If all the sites currently with planning permission are built, it will mean that an additional 1620 dwellings on brownfield sites will have to come from as yet unidentified brownfield land, compared with an additional 378 on greenfield land.

The RSS policy for south Cheshire emphasises the need for the role of Crewe to be promoted as a key regional town and gateway to the region. It also allows for regeneration to improve the environment, economy and image of the town. The spatial policy for Nantwich deals with the protection and enhancement of the historic town to support its tourism role. This would suggest that the bulk of new housing will be directed towards Crewe.

Q16 SHOULD MOST NEW HOUSING TAKE PLACE IN OR ON THE EDGE OF CREWE?

Yes. However, the Council should not be seeking to increase its housing allocation as in the past – rather, it should require the government to allocate less houses for the Borough...

Q17 WHAT BROWNFIELD SITES ARE SUITABLE FOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT?

Unable to comment.

Q18 WHERE SHOULD THE NEW GREEN FIELD HOUSING BE ALLOCATED?

Generally speaking the Council is opposed to housing development on Greenfield sites. One exception to this is the Kingsley Fields North development, provided it brings with it improved roads and relieves some congestion in Nantwich and includes employment opportunities, adequate parking and affordable housing.

Q19 SHOULD EXISTING SURPLUS OPEN SPACES IN THE URBAN AREAS BE USED FOR HOUSING?

There is often an argument for that, especially "the green deserts" (large, under used, areas of overgrown green space) of Crewe.

Q20 WHAT DENSITY SHOULD NEW HOUSING BE BUILT AT – THE NATIONAL MINIMUM IS NORMALLY RECOGNISED TO BE 30 PER HECTARE. WHAT LEVEL SHOULD BE THE MAXIMUM IN THE BUILT UP AREAS?

Depends on circumstances. Dense housing can be appropriate in some circumstances. However, the Town Council opposes cramped apartments, cramming of sites for maximum profit and inadequate parking provision.

Q21 WHAT LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE ALLOWED IN THE RURAL VILLAGES?

Unable to comment.

Q22 SHOULD THERE BE ANY MORE GREENFIELD HOUSING IN NANTWICH?

Only the area mentioned above at question 18 (Kingsley Fields North) with the provisos set out there.

Q23 HOW DO WE MANAGE THE RELEASE OF THE HOUSING SUPPLY?

The Town Council considers there is too much housing in and around Nantwich already and further development will alter the character of the town and put extra strain on infrastructure. Efforts must be made to prevent additional housing in the town except as previously mentioned (questions 18 and 22).

Affordable Housing

The Borough Council published a Housing Needs Study in August 2005. The survey revealed a net annual need for 139 affordable housing units, a total of 834 in the period up to 2011. The survey will need to be updated in the near future, and this will be through the Strategic Housing Market Assessment mentioned above.

The adopted Local Plan was modified to allow the Council to negotiate for the affordable housing on all sites of 15 units or more or greater than 0.5 hectares in the urban areas and the larger villages. In the smaller villages with populations below 3000, a lower threshold of 5 units is applied.

Since 2004 209 affordable units have been provided; an average of 52 per annum. This is well below the target; and is something that the Core Strategy needs to address.

Q24 SHOULD THE THRESHOLDS AT WHICH THE COUNCIL CAN NEGOTIATE FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING BE REDUCED?

Yes.

Q25 SHOULD THE COUNCIL AND ITS PARTNERS USE LAND AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO DELIVER AFFORDABLE HOUSING?

Yes.

Q26 SHOULD AFFORDABLE HOUSING BE REQUIRED ON BARN CONVERSION SITES, OR SHOULD COMMUTED SUMS BE REQUIRED?

Commuted sums – but of realistic and higher amounts than in the past, specifically for affordable housing, through Housing Associations.

Transport

4.23 The current national debate revolves around the perceived need to restrict the use of the private car and encourage alternative means of travel. This is in the interests of reducing congestion/ pollution and its contribution to global warming. There are still some road schemes which need to be built to ensure the continued vitality of the Borough's economy:

- The completion of the Crewe Green Link Road
- The dualling of the Barthomley Link road (in tandem with the M6 widening).
- The completion of the Flag Lane

Q27 HOW DO WE ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO TRAVEL BY MEANS OTHER THAN THE CAR - PUBLIC TRANSPORT, WALKING AND CYCLING?

Financial pressure – increase cost of using a car, make public transport cheaper, more convenient and more pleasant. Encourage cycling by providing cycle lanes etc., also education / propaganda.

Q28 HOW SHOULD WE MANAGE THE INCREASED LEVEL OF TRAFFIC?

Encourage public transport use. For example, the “green bus scheme” which reduces car journeys by transporting children to and from schools, then is available for shopping, hospital trips etc., for older people.

Q29 HOW DO WE IMPROVE PUBLIC TRANSPORT, ESPECIALLY IN RURAL AREAS?

More imaginative schemes such as bus/taxis, dial and ride etc. Financial incentives for car sharing. Groups which actively encourage car sharing or provide (say) mini-bus to major town 3 times per week. Subsidise public transport to make it more attractive.

Q30 SHOULD TOWN CENTRE PARKING BE RESERVED FOR SHORT STAY SHOPPERS?

Yes, although there may always be exceptions (e.g., parking for disabled people). Depends on particular town and particular circumstances.

Q31 SHOULD LONG TERM PARKING FOR WORKERS BE PROVIDED ON THE EDGE OF TOWN – IS A PARK AND RIDE FACILITY PRACTICABLE?

Long term parking for workers should be provided on the edge of town in Nantwich.

Park and ride should be carefully examined and possibly an experimental scheme established to help determine practicalities, degree of usage and whether financially viable.

Q32 SHOULD ON STREET CAR PARKING CHARGES BE INTRODUCED?

No, not in Nantwich.

Q33 CAN WE JUSTIFY THE RETENTION OF SURFACE CAR PARKS IN TOWN CENTRES?

Yes, although greater use of decked parking should be considered.

Q34 SHOULD RESIDENTS PARKING SCHEMES BE INTRODUCED IN STREETS WITHIN OR ON THE EDGE OF TOWN CENTRES AND THE NANTWICH ROAD AREA?

Yes.

Q35 DO YOU AGREE THAT MORE LONG STAY CAR PARKING SHOULD BE PROVIDED AT CREWE RAILWAY STATION?

No comment.

Q36 WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF CREWE STATION BEING MOVED?

No comment.

Recreation and Open space

The Council has recently carried out a survey of open space, sports and recreational facilities throughout the Borough.

Areas of open space which have potential for other uses will be subject to a separate consultation with local residents.

Q37 WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ABOUT THE ADEQUACY OF OPEN SPACE IN YOUR AREA?

Adequate, but needs vigilance to protect it.

Q38 WHERE THERE ARE SURPLUSES OF OPEN SPACES IN AN AREA (EVEN ALLOTMENTS) SHOULD THEY COULD BE DEVELOPED FOR OTHER PURPOSES?

No, not in Nantwich.

Q39 ARE THERE ANY AREAS WHICH YOU THINK SHOULD BE USED AS NEW OPEN SPACE?

No, not in Nantwich.

Q40 WHAT IMPROVEMENTS TO CULTURAL AND LEISURE FACILITIES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?

In Nantwich – cinema, additional allotments, retention of swimming baths, roof on brine pool, art gallery, more public art, improved rural footpaths, it's own Leisure Centre in Snowhill area. Performing Arts Centre providing music and drama training.

Q41 WHAT FACILITIES SHOULD BE PROVIDED FOR CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS?

- (a) Facilities which will enable exercise and risk taking in a safe and protected environment.*
- (b) A simple safe meeting place, free from adult supervision.*
- (c) See also answer to question 2.*

Shopping and Town Centres

The Regional Spatial Strategy and the recently published Cheshire Retail Study recognise the important role of Crewe as a Regional Town and Nantwich as a Key service centre.

A major new retail development in Crewe town centre (the Modus scheme) is imminent and there are emerging proposals for the regeneration of the Snow Hill area in Nantwich.

Q42 DO YOU SUPPORT THE POLICY TO CONCENTRATE ON IMPROVING CREWE AND NANTWICH TOWN CENTRES?

Depends on the proposals – haven't yet seen them as far as Nantwich is concerned.

Q43 WHAT MEASURES DO YOU THINK SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN TO ACHIEVE THIS?

Full consultation on proposals as they affect Nantwich.

Q44 SHOULD THE COUNCIL SUPPORT LOCAL AND DISTRICT SHOPPING CENTRES AND ENCOURAGE THE RETENTION OF LOCAL SHOPS?

Emphatically yes.

Social exclusion

The Borough is generally a fairly well off area. But there are pockets of deprivation and there are huge inequalities for people living in certain areas.

The Neighbourhood Renewal Panel is working to narrow the gap between the most deprived areas and the rest of the Borough.

Q45 HOW DO WE REDUCE DEPRIVATION AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION?

Targeted economic and social help to those areas allied with a general emphasis on achieving healthy economy throughout the Borough.

Applications for aid from central government and EEC.

Q46 HOW DO WE HELP TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH'S POPULATION?

Education, convenient health facilities, emphasis on prevention rather than cure, financial incentives. In Nantwich, specifically, traffic pollution in Hospital Street, Wellington Road and Millstone Lane require urgent attention.

Q47 HOW DO WE ADDRESS CRIME AND FEAR OF CRIME?

General visible police presence.

Consistent repetition of message about low crime rates in this area.

More rapid response to calls.

Distraction activities for groups liable to be responsible for crime or vandalism.

Maintaining police officers and stations with police present to speak to.

Naming and shaming of persistent offenders.

Climate Change

Finally but probably the most important issue of all - Global climate change has been identified as the biggest issue to be tackled in the twenty-first century, and it is therefore not a side issue for the Core Strategy. It is a central issue to be addressed in assessing the options for and delivery of future development. . Issues for future development include reducing carbon emissions caused by energy use, including making new developments zero carbon by 2016.

Q48 IN WHAT WAYS CAN THE CORE STRATEGY HELP TO REDUCE THE CAUSES OF, AND MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF, CLIMATE CHANGE WHILST ALLOWING FOR MAJOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SIGNIFICANT PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT?

Emphasis on green issues, continued recycling etc. Acceptance that lifestyles will need to change which may involve inconvenience or reduction in current living standards. See also answer to questions 27,28 and 29.

DO YOU AGREE WITH THESE ISSUES? – ARE THERE ANY OTHER MATTERS WHICH NEED TO BE ADDRESSED?

ALSO PLEASE READ THE SUGGESTED OPTIONS IN SECTION 6 AND LET US HAVE YOUR VIEWS ON THEM.

Q49 WHAT OPTION/ OPTIONS WOULD YOU PREFER?

Nantwich Town Council favour option 3. However, every effort must be made to retain the 'Green Gap'. The only exception to the view that there is too much development, is in relation to Kingsley Fields North (see answer to question 18) where, on balance, if suitable infrastructure is provided, and development is carefully considered and sustainable, additional transport links may reduce congestion and traffic problems in the town.

Q50 ARE THERE ANY OTHER OPTIONS YOU WOULD PREFER?

Only options which result in limited and appropriate development in Nantwich with, where possible, emphasis on affordable accommodation for local people.

Please use additional sheets if necessary.

Name *Nantwich Town Council*
Address *Brookfield Hall*
 Shrewbridge Road
 Nantwich
 CW5 7AB

Telephone *01270 619224*

E-mail *nantwichtc@nantwichtowncouncil.gov.uk*

CLERK'S REPORT TO POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE 26/11/07.

1. Chalc Area meeting 6th December 2007, at 7.30pm, in Municipal Buildings.
2. 2000 daffodil bulbs planted. Locations shown on circulated map.
3. Additional bulbs received for Councillors to plant.
4. Reminder about Band at Christmas, 23rd December, Parish Hall, booked 1pm to 3pm. Members asked the Clerk to inquire about the former Tourist Information office.
5. Electoral Commission reviewed Crewe and Nantwich area. Changes not to be implemented until unitary proposals clarified (beginning December).
6. Press releases about Post Office closures and Local Development Framework have been issued. Copies available.
7. School Stopping Order. (Tabled).
8. Thanks regarding Remembrance Sunday from the Royal British Legion.
9. Proposed Fun Run on Sunday 12th October, 2008. Streets in Nantwich to be closed including Pillory Street, Hospital Street. (No comments by Members).
10. Parish Conference on 13th November. Clerk had attended. Discussed Core Strategy and affordable housing in rural villages.
11. Invitation to Weaver Valley Spatial Framework Workshop, Tuesday 4th December, 9.00 – 1.30pm, Winsford.
12. Funding opportunities from Leader Plus, Acton Village Hall, 28th November and other locations.
13. Snowdrops and bluebells planted near railway bridge by river.
14. Taxi stands – new orders in Nantwich.
15. Bus Services – late night over Christmas, timetable available.
16. Can Civic Society join in giving awards at our “award evening” at Annual Meeting on 14th April 2008? Council decided to maintain the evening simply for Council awards.
17. Chalc monthly update – 21st November. Topics include registering village greens, state benefits and charity grants on web site. Grants for voluntary organisations. Any Councillor who wants email copy of the update to ask Clerk.
18. Footpath society walks programme.
19. Link article circulated.
20. Note of road designing and re-classification.

21. Closure of footpaths on Mill Island for Holly Holy Day.
22. Do we want notice of new streets/properties in future? Members felt 'yes'.
23. Meeting of Watch Committee – 20th November 2007, at 6.30pm. Councillor Williams briefly reported. Clerk to prepare minutes.
24. Winter Gritting routes – leaflets available.
25. Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council, (Alcohol consumption in public places) Order. Designates urban areas of Crewe & Nantwich as locations where drinking in public is prohibited if a police officer asks the drinker to stop.
26. Dance on 30th November as at 26/11/07 254 tickets have been sold.
27. Yellow leaflets regarding Post Office closures and Local Development Framework for distribution. Some taken by Councillors for delivery.
28. Mill Island – St Anne's bridge, Nantwich Now update circulated.
29. Drains to ladies toilets blocked (again) Clerk had purchased a set of rods and added 'drain unblocker' to his other talents.

- END -

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS - Royal Bank of Scotland Account

Nov-07

Date	Budget Code	Chq No	Details of payment	Reason for payment	£ Amount Less VAT	£ VAT	£ Total Amount
01/11/2007	17	DD	Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council	Rates for November 2007	198.00		198.00
15/11/2007	19	1751	Mr W Baker	Ground maintenance 23/9/07 to 20/10/07	120.00		120.00
01/11/2007	1b	DD	Standard Life Assurance Company	Clerical Assistants Pension payment for November 07	85.00		85.00
15/11/2007	7	1752	Petty Cash	To balance imprest account.	96.04	1.53	97.57
15/11/2007	7	1753	Weaver Digital Office Solutions	Photocopier service for Oct 07.	19.66	3.44	23.10
15/11/2007	7	1754	Office Services	Stationery for Oct 07	15.25	2.68	17.93
15/11/2007	14	1755	Mr M Byrne	Planting 2000 bulbs around Nantwich Town.	540.00		540.00
15/11/2007	1a	1756	Mr W R Graham	November Salary for Clerk	1492.98		1492.98
15/11/2007	1b	1757	Mrs J Geldart	November Salary for Clerical Assistant	735.58		735.58
15/11/2007	1a and 3	1758	Cheshire Pension Fund	Clerk's pension payment for November 2007	634.51		634.51
15/11/2007	2 and 1a	1759	H M Revenue & Customs	National Insurance Contributions for November 2007	475.53		475.53
15/11/2007	1a and 1b	1760	H M Revenue & Customs	Income Tax for November 2007	722.68		722.68
15/11/2007	7	1762	Trinity Mirror North West & North Wales Ltd	Public notice in Chronicle on 24/10/07	64.70	11.32	76.02
21/11/2007	7	DD	British Telecommunications plc	Line rental 1/11 - 31/1/08 call charges 7/8 - 6/11/07	126.54	22.14	148.68
15/11/2007	7	1764	Mr J Hogan	Signwriting honours board at Brookfield Hall.	38.50		38.50
15/11/2007	7	1765	Cheshire Association of Local Councils	Basic Induction training 12/10/07 Mrs J Geldart.	20.00		20.00
15/11/2007	7	1766	Royal British Legion	2 wreaths for Remembrance Sunday 11/11/07	40.00		40.00
15/11/2007	18	1767	United Utilities	water charges 28/7 - 17/10/07	134.69		134.69
15/11/2007	43	1768	Ceroc Dance Association	Contribution to Ceroc to assist in dance sessions in Nantwich.	200.00		200.00
15/11/2007	22	1769	Cleaning Force Office Cleaners Ltd	Cleaning of Brookfield Hall for October 07.	171.76	30.06	201.82
					5931.42	71.17	6002.59

Date	Income Code	Details of Receipt	Reasons for Receipt	£ Amount	£ VAT	£ Total
01/11/2007	R9	Abbey	Interest on capital for November 07.	4987.18		4987.18
13/11/2007	R3&R4	Christadelphian Church	Payment of water charges. 1/3 share for 3rd quarter.	34.80		34.80
15/11/2007	R8	Mr W S McGinnis	Spanish Group meetings x 10 in Brookfield.	60.00		60.00
16/11/2007	R5	Nantwich & District Band.	3rd quarter charges for room hire.	260.00		260.00
26/11/2007	R6	Nantwich in Bloom.	3rd quarter charges for room hire.	36.00		36.00
26/11/2007	VAT receipts	H M Revenue & Customs	Vat claim repaid.	771.67		771.67
30/11/2007	R8	Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council	Room hire on 29/11/07 Mrs P Stevens Funding drop in session.	15.00		15.00
Net Movement of Funds				6164.65	0.00	6164.65

Signed _____

Date _____

NANTWICH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 17TH DECEMBER 2007PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSULTATION

No	Applicant	Development	Site
P07/1542	Phones 4u Ltd	Replacement illuminated signage, fascia and projecting.	20A Pepper St, Nantwich
Comments: Although this is a replacement, the Town Council consider the opportunity should be taken to reduce the number of illuminated signs in the conservation area which detract from its character and are unnecessarily obtrusive.			
P07/1543	Mr B Whitehouse Cheshire Police Authority	To adapt the existing carport layout to accommodate an office/pace room (change of use).	Police Station, Beam St, Nantwich.
Comments: No comment.			
P07/1557	Marstons Pub Company	Create new external seating area with jumbrellas to front of the building.	The Talbot Inn, 4 Oat Market, Nantwich.
Comments: No comment.			
P07/1589	The Almshouse Charity of Sir Edmund Wright	Listed building consent for proposed security lighting.	Crewe's and Wrights Almshouses, Beam St.
Comments: No comment.			
P07/1625	Mr & Mrs C Turner	Outline application for the erection of a bungalow.	10 Cheyne Walk, Nantwich.
Comments: No comment.			
P07/1630	Mr S van-Russelt	Rear dormer	18 Sycamore Close. Nantwich.
Comments: No comment.			

No	Applicant	Development	Site
P07/1609	Muller Property Holdings	Construction of a 3 and half storey B1/D1(a) office/ Studios building with ground floor car parking and a variation of condition no 14 of P03/0278 (Provision of 10 off-site parking spaces to be provided for at: Land to the rear of 91-93 Hospital St, Nantwich).	Land to the rear of 5 Chapel Court.

Comments:

The Town Council object to this application on the following grounds:-

1. A similar application for apartments at this location was opposed by the Town Council, the Civic Society and Borough Ward Councillors. There is widespread concern and objection by nearby residents. Local feeling and knowledge should be taken into account and the Town Council object to this application on similar grounds as the previous one.
2. The development will over dominate surrounding buildings and be out of character with the locality.
3. The number of units proposed is excessive and will result in a cramped development on a small site.
4. The effect on the residents of Grocotts Row will be detrimental due to additional parking, traffic movements and noise which will result from the development.
5. Parking problems will be exacerbated on this site. The Council considered that residential units would cause parking and traffic difficulties. Such problems will be even more significant if offices/studios are in operation, as it is likely that traffic movements will be more frequent and may involve larger vehicles.

P07/1644	Hardy Estates Ltd.	Erection of 3 dwellings (Amendment to P06/1213)	Land at rear of 18 Barony Road, Nantwich.
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Comments:

No comment.

P07/1656	Ploverdale Ltd.	Application to raise finished Floor levels by 100-400mm Of previously approved Permission P07/0405.	Land to the rear of The Beeches, Station Yard, Nantwich.
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Comments:

No comment.

Lengthsman

Types of work to be undertaken by a contractor acting as a Lengthsman for the Town Council. Tenders to be sought for an hourly rate, fully inclusive of all overheads to be borne by the contractor.

Types of work

- Cleaning gutters of dirt, leaves, weeds and similar.
- Mowing and tidying grassed areas.
- Cutting and strimming edges of verges or grassed areas.
- Tidying and defining edges of pathways.
- Weeding pavements and cobbled areas.
- Reporting overhanging hedges or branches causing a nuisance or obstruction.
- Reporting blocked drains, potential hazards in footways, damaged kerbs and similar.
- Reporting significant areas of litter or fly-tipping.

Such work of a like nature as may from time to time be assigned by the Town Clerk after consultation with the contractor.

- END -