



Nantwich Town Council

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 9th July, 2007.

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

PUBLIC FORUM

Two representatives of Peppers Bowling Club explained the difficulty the Bowling Club was experiencing. After many years of operation, the Club's lease of the green at 'Peppers' (the former Liberal Club) had expired and the owners of the premises did not wish to renew it. A letter had been sent to all Members explaining this. **RESOLVED** that the Clerk write to the Club's landlord expressing the Town Council's support for the Club and requesting an extension of the lease.

33. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

No apologies were received.

34. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF 11TH JUNE 2007

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 11th June 2007, incorporating the Minutes of Policy and Resources meeting of 21st May 2007 and previously circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

35. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Councillor McGinnis said that he had attended the town Museum on 18th May and enjoyed an interesting evening learning more about John Gerarde the (presumed) author of "the Herbal", Gerarde was born in Nantwich.

Councillor Cafferty, as Vice-Chairman, had stood in for Councillor McGinnis while he was on holiday on a number of occasions. He had previously reported other events to the Council, but mentioned the Student Awards Ceremony at Reaseheath. He was particularly impressed by the enthusiasm of staff and students on that occasion.

36. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Stockton declared a personal interest as a member of the Development Control Committee of the Borough Council in all planning applications.

37. YEAR END ACCOUNTS 06/07

The Council considered a report of the Town Clerk and the attached accounts. **RESOLVED** that:-

- (i) The Accounts now presented be approved and the Chairman and Clerk, acting as Responsible Financial Officer, be authorised to sign them accordingly.
- (ii) The extract from the Annual Return, illustrating the statement of accounts and the annual governance statement, be approved, and the Chairman and Clerk, acting as Responsible Financial Officer, be authorised to sign the Annual Return accordingly.
- (iii) That the reason for the variance between 'total other payments' in 2005/6 and 2006/7 (line 6 in the Statement of Accounts) is because in 05/06 capital grants totalling £142,500 were made by the Council, whereas in 06/07, capital grants totalling only £27,475 were made.
- (iv) The explanation for the significant capital reserves held by the Council is because it may move or acquire other premises in the future and will need the funds for purchase or refurbishment and/or because it aspires to manage or share, at some future date, services or facilities from the Borough or County Council, and additional investment may be needed to ensure the effective operation of such services or facilities.
- (v) The Internal Audit Report (circulated at the meeting) for 2006/7 be noted and approved and the suggested Action Plan for 2007/7 be accepted.

38. ACCOUNTS FOR JUNE 2007

The Town Clerk drew the attention of Members to two matters. First, two misprints in the budget balance column of Comparison with Budget sheet. Second, the amounts shown on the 'Payments and Receipts' sheet which showed the withdrawal of substantial funds from the Abbey capital account, to pay grants to the Football Club and to Brine Leas School. **RESOLVED** that the Comparison with Budget sheet presented be noted and that the Payments and Receipts for June 2007 be approved.

39. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING OF 25th JUNE 2007

RESOLVED that the Recommendations contained in the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee of 25th June 2007 (which accompanied the agenda) be accepted and approved and the Resolutions be noted.

40. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE.

The Clerk reported as shown in Appendix B attached.

41. BOUNDARY COMMITTEE

Clerk reported that the Boundary Committee was making virtually the same recommendations as at the previous consultation stage as it affects the Town Council i.e., slight alterations to the Birchin/Wellington boundaries and continued 12 members.

The Town Council had suggested that the urban area of Stapeley should be included in the town parish boundary. Although the Boundary Committee noted this suggestion, they were not able to alter parish boundaries so they could not take this proposal further.

The Clerk indicated that he would be making an observation on the wording of the draft Order to put the recommendations into effect, concerned with the demarcation of Ward boundaries.

42. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

RESOLVED that the locality around Swine Market and surrounding streets be the prime focus for additional lights and, to make an impact, there should be a concentration on a fairly limited area.

43. PLANNING CONTROL

RESOLVED that the comments set out in Appendix A attached be transmitted to the Borough Council as planning authority.

44. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor Farrall reported on a meeting that she had attended in Crewe Outside Market regarding **proposals for Crewe town centre** on 2nd July from 5.30pm till 8.30pm, introduced by Alan Millington, the Borough Planning Officer. Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council have commissioned a team of consultants, led by Manchester based company called URBED, with TPM Landscapes, to develop a master plan for Crewe Town Centre.

The plan will build on development by group discussions based on analysis of the town as it is today and where it is felt it needed to be. Suggestions made included improvements to road layouts; building demolition; importance of industrial heritage; types of shops; whether the town should have Nantwich type signage; more footpaths and green areas; good architecture.

Councillor Farrall reported on a meeting of **Nantwich in Bloom** on 28th June. The North West in Bloom judging is on 12th July. Councillor Bill McGinnis as Chairman of Nantwich Town Council has accepted an invitation to a Presentation Evening on 6th August. Three key members have resigned from main committee (due to personal reasons). A cheque has been received from the Town Council. Working parties are to tidy up town and judging route ready for 12th. Manweb say they have tidied up Wellington Road substation. More entries are needed for the Best Garden competition. A coffee morning will be held on 16th August.

Councillor Williams reported that she had attended a **Police Forum** at Winsford on the 13th June. About 60 people attended. They had broken into groups to discuss how to improve attendance at Forums. She had found the discussion useful. One point which consistently emerged was the need for strong chairmanship to keep discussion focused.

Councillor Cafferty reminded Council of the **Fun Day** on Saturday 14th July. There were obvious worries about the weather and state of the ground but he remained confident (or at least hopeful) that it would be a fine day and a successful event.

Councillor Hope reported that he and Councillor Williams had been notified of the first meeting of the **Nantwich Consolidated Charities** on the board of which the Town Council had two trustees.

The Chairman closed the Council meeting. A short discussion took place as to a date to talk about the outcome of the town inspection of the 5th July. It was agreed that the time and date which suited most people was Tuesday 17th July at 3pm. (Members are asked to notify the Clerk if they subsequently find difficulty in attendance.)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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