



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



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 10th March 2008.

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

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr Graham Fenton asked for the views of Councillors as regards the position of the Town Council, now that East Cheshire was clearly to be established. The general feeling was that there were opportunities for the Town Council and indeed, other town councils of similar size, to manage some of the activities currently undertaken by the Borough. Specifically the civic hall, possibly leisure facilities, maybe even the library, were all mentioned. The view was also that Crewe would probably benefit by having a town council and the government had relaxed the rules to encourage the establishment of parish and town councils.

Mrs Janice Fenton asked about the size of the electoral wards at the next election. Councillor Moran said that the first election for the shadow authority would be based on the existing county wards which equated to the Town Council area. Subsequently, a review of wards and of parish wards was likely. The review of Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council electoral wards would not now be of any effect because of local government re-organisation. Elections for the new authority would take place in 2011. The Town Council elections, due in 2010, would be deferred for a year so that all local government polls would take place together.

116. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Cafferty (holiday) and Councillor Lewis (holiday).

117. BRINE LEAS HIGH SCHOOL – VOCATIONAL STATUS.

Andrew Cliffe, head teacher of Brine Leas High School addressed the Council on the new Sports Hall and the extensive public use which was taking place using the school facilities. Members praised the efforts of the head and the contribution he and the school made to the community life of the town.

Mr Cliffe also explained that a bid for Vocational Status had been successful and post-16 teaching would, hopefully, be taking place at the school, including vocational qualifications and traditional A levels. There would also be increased opportunities for adult learners. Potentially, following consultation, and assuming a successful application, up to £7m worth of funding was available and first post-16 learners could enter Brine Leas in 2010.

The head teacher was thanked for his presentation and congratulated on the continuing success of the school.

118. MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL OF 11TH FEBRUARY 2008.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Council meeting of the 11th February 2008, (circulated on 19th February) be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

119. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.

The Chairman had been due to attend the Lions Youth Brass Band Concert, unfortunately he had been unable to do so, but Councillor Joyce Stockton had stepped into the breach and ably represented the Council at the event, for which the Chairman expressed his gratitude.

On 1st March, the Chairman attended the Fair Trade Group. His time in West Africa meant he was particularly interested in this venture and he was hopeful that it would be a successful initiative.

The Chairman mentioned correspondence received from the North West Ambulance Service, regarding the First Responders. He considered the letter replying to the Council's concerns was deficient in many respects. It amounted to an apology for the fact that the service to the town was being reduced to a lower level in order to standardise the First Responders activities across the North West region. Councillor Hope echoed the Chairman's concerns. He called the changes "disgusting" and "totally unacceptable" and felt the response from the North West Ambulance Service was inadequate. Councillor Moran said he would attempt to raise the issue at County level, at a County Council Health Scrutiny hearing. The Chairman suggested that the next step was a public meeting and there was general agreement that this was necessary.

RESOLVED that the Chairman and Clerk agree a time, venue and format for a public meeting to protest about the proposed changes in the First Responder service and that a representative of the North West Ambulance Service be invited to be present.

120. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Councillor Stockton declared a personal interest in all planning applications as a member of the Development Control Committee of the Borough Council. Councillors Moran and McGinnis declared personal interests in P08/0201 (Malbank High School) as governors.

121. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE.

The Clerk reported as shown in Appendix A attached.

122. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING OF 25TH FEBRUARY 2008.

RESOLVED that the recommendations contained in the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee of 25th February (which are attached to these Minutes) be accepted and approved and the resolutions noted.

123. MINUTES OF TOWN WATCH COMMITTEE OF 12TH FEBRUARY 2008.

The Chairman made the point that he had attended the Watch Committee meeting and had asked that a record be made of the observation that, when Inspector Brierley had left the area, he was a hard act to follow. Councillor McGinnis had said that there was some fear that his successor might not enjoy the same good relationship with the Town Council as Inspector Brierley. Those fears had been groundless. Inspector Hassall had shown his mettle and was an effective and practical police officer, who had quickly settled into the town.

Subject to that addition, the Council noted the Minutes.

Councillor Hope mentioned the fact that the Chairman of the Committee, Councillor Williams, had been unable to attend the meeting but Mr Phil Ball, Manager of Gregory's and licensees representative, had performed very well as Chairman at short notice.

Councillor McGinnis welcomed Councillor Mrs Williams back to the Council, especially looking so well after an operation. Councillor Williams thanked Members for the cards and good wishes she had received.

124. ACCOUNTS FOR FEBRUARY 2008.

RESOLVED that the Payments for February 2008 be approved and the Comparison with Budget sheet for February 2008 be noted.

125. 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.

126. REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Councillor Farrall reported on a **Nantwich in Bloom** sub-committee and a competition for a new logo for the organisation.

Councillor Hope mentioned his attendance, with **Councillor Cafferty** at a meeting on **Quality Status** organised by Chalky White of Chalc. The meeting was on 27th February at Winsford. It had not been very well attended and Councillor Hope did not feel there were any items of great note to report.

Councillor McGinnis reported that the **Health Centre** project was on schedule with a likely date for completion in June. There was a competition to determine a suitable name for the new centre. (Councillor Moran suggested “Nantwich Health Centre”).

Councillor McGinnis also reported on the position on car parking at the **Football Club**. He was confident that the Borough Council would soon be managing it on behalf of the club – Paul Burns of Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council, having discussed outstanding issues with Clive Jackson of the Club.

- END -

Signature: _____

Date: _____

CLERK'S REPORT TO COUNCIL 10TH MARCH 2008.

1. Cheshire County Council had started sending the Council an email newsletter called **LINK (Local Involvement Newsletter)**. Mainly concerned with social services, NHS and health matters. (Tabled). As it does not seem to have any real relevance to the Council, the Clerk did not intend to refer to it again.
2. **Cheshire Replacement Waste Local Plan.** (Tabled). The plan set out policies against which planning applications for the development of waste management facilities will be assessed. It also identifies sites considered suitable 'in principle' for waste management use.
3. **Newsletter of Cheshire and Wirral NHS Trust** (tabled).
4. **E Planning Seminar at Northwich organised by Chalc.**
Seminar about providing planning applications on the web instead of hard copy. 6.30pm to 9.30pm on 17th April 2008, at Northwich Memorial Hall. (Tabled). All Members invited.
5. Members noted the **final item of 25th February 2008, Policy and Resources Minutes**, which gives suggested programme for meeting on 14th April. The Clerk said that since there were no objections to the timetable, he intended to send out invitations.
6. **Talk of the Town**, the Council newsletter, is due to be distributed week beginning 17th March. Strictly, this is a 'winter' edition.
7. Reminder of **St George's day Medieval Fair** to be held 12-4pm on 20th April, Nantwich Square. Helpers welcome – speak to Councillor Cafferty, the organiser.
8. A request had been received from Lucy Johnson, **Tourism Officer, for contribution** to the Floating Year of the Garden, passing through Nantwich (£250) and 'What's On In Nantwich' (£500) a tourist guide. The Council did not feel able to make a contribution. **RESOLVED** that a contribution was not appropriate in these particular cases.
9. Reminder about intended **Finance Committee** meeting. Members were asked to indicate which date suited them.
10. **Accounting Adjustment.**
Members were reminded that in May 2007, £100,000 was transferred from the Royal Bank of Scotland to the Abbey. Inadvertently the transfer into a Revenue Reserve was not separately identified, necessary to accord with Accounting practice. This had been resolved and was reflected in the revised format of this months Bank Reconciliation statement before the Council. Members noted the position.

11. **Update from Chalky White at Chalc.** (Tabled). (Mainly about Ordnance Survey copyright.)
12. **Minutes of Transport Group** (Tabled). **Nantwich Now** was coming to an end in June and the Clerk suggested that to lose the enthusiasm and expertise of the two advisory groups (Transport and Environmental) would be a matter of regret. He felt that an effort should be made, in some way to preserve the interest and commitment of these Advisory Group members. **RESOLVED** that the issue be considered at the next appropriate Policy and Resources Committee meeting.
13. Notice of **appeal decision 44 Wellington Road**. Refusal of an appeal by Mr Zyda to change offices to apartments. (Tabled).
14. The Clerk attended **Upper Weaver Tourism Network** meeting on 6th March. One item of note is that Crewe Heritage Centre seems to be back on track. Cheshire Year of Gardens was discussed.
15. Notification of Spring Members Evening on 22nd April, at 6.30pm. Organised by **Cheshire Community Council** in Kingsley Community Centre near Northwich. All Members welcome. (Tabled).
16. Notification of **Long term Conditions Information** event, on 28th April (all day) at Crewe Alex Football Ground. The event would concern, among others, neurological conditions, parkinsons, strokes, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy.
17. News Release – **Cheshire East** judicial appeal failed and House of Lords delay didn't happen. Cheshire East will definitely go ahead.
18. Mention of meeting of **Nantwich Museum Trust** – agenda for 11th March at 7.30pm, with past minutes. (Tabled). Councillor Cafferty unable to attend.

- END -

NANTWICH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 10TH MARCH 2008

PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSULTATION

No	Applicant	Development	Site
P07/0201/0202	Planning appeal FOR INFORMATION	Listed building consent for demolition of existing extension and construction of two storey rear extension to provide two apartments and creation of cellar and railings to flat roof.	40 Hospital Street.
Comments: No comment.			
P08/0197	3D Entertainment	3 fascia signs (trough light).	Gregorys, Castle Street.
Comments: No comment.			
P08/0201	Governors Malbank School	Fenced and gated enclosure for goods received storage container.	Malbank School, Welsh Row.
Comments: No comment.			
P08/0205	Redcar Developments Ltd.	Replacement of outbuilding to provide 3 dwellings.	Land to the rear of 165 Welsh Row.
Comments: While not objecting to this application the Town Council would ask that particular attention be given to highway issues including access/egress to the site and the proximity to a school.			
P08/0221	Mr & Mrs S Wedgwood	External chimney	38 Whitewell Close.
Comments: No comment.			
P08/0233	Mr B Reynolds, Spacehopper Devs. Ltd.	Replacement dormer window and pitched roof on garage.	7 Hornby Drive.
Comments: No comment.			

ADDITIONAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSULTATION

No	Applicant	Development	Site
P08/0242/3	Mr K Quinlan	Listed building consent for the demolition of outbuildings and erection of rear single storey extension.	3 Dysart Buildings.
Comments: No comment.			
P08/0252	Mr & Mrs S J Grant	Change of use from ground floor shop area to self contained domestic dwelling unit with garage/ carp port / porch.	5/7Market Street.
Comments: No comment.			



Nantwich Town Council

Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee of the Council **held on 25th February 2008.**

Exceptionally, Councillor Moran, Chairman of the Committee, allowed Gavin Palin, volunteer first responder, to address the Committee before it considered the agenda.

Mr Palin explained that the First Responders in Nantwich and other parts of Cheshire were being required to reduce the service they could provide in accidents and emergencies. Mersey Ambulance Service was being merged to become part of the North West Ambulance Service.

A standardisation of practice across the North West meant that the local first responders could no longer administer entonox for pain relief, aspirin for cardiac problems or hypostop for diabetics. In addition, the 100% oxygen mask was to be replaced by a mask to be simply breathed in by the responder. Cheshire and Merseyside Community First Responders currently offer a much higher level of service than other similar services in the Trust area. The 'standardisation' would mean everyone would be reduced to a lower level and provide a poorer service to the community.

Mr Palin appealed for support from the Committee. This was a matter which affected health and threatened lives. It was agreed that:-

- (i) The Chairman of the Council would write to the Chairman of the North West Ambulance Service.
- (ii) Follow up enquiries would be made to the letters already sent to the local MPs and the Ambulance Service.
- (iii) Letters would be sent to local medical practices asking for their support.
- (iv) Councillors would support a vigorous campaign in newspapers and other media.

The Chairman thanked the First Responders for attending the meeting and for the clear explanation of the issues.

The committee then commenced.

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

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Abbott (working), Farrall (holiday), and Williams (recovering from an operation).

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

Councillor Cafferty declared a personal and prejudicial interest in application P08/0094 (91/93 Hospital Street) as his son lived next door. Councillor Hope declared a personal and prejudicial interest in application P08/0114 (27 Millstone Lane) as a relation was the applicant and application number P08/0139 (66 Brereton Drive) as the applicant was a close neighbour.

The Councillors left the room during discussion of the relevant applications and took no part in the discussion or voting.

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

3 SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS.

The Committee considered the report on the Draft Supplementary Planning documents issued by the Borough Council for consultation by 26th March. One concerned "Development on Backlands and Gardens", the other concerned "Extensions and Householder Development." Broadly speaking, Members welcomed the documents, while expressing concern about the continued development in the town.

RECOMMENDED: that the response of the Town Council should be as follows:-

- i. The Town Council welcomes both documents and looks forward to the issue of more guidance of a similar nature.
- ii. As regards the 'Development of Backland and Gardens' document, the following paragraph is suggested as paragraph 4.4A:-

"Individual sites should not be considered in isolation. The points made in paragraphs 4.3 and 4.4 about the characteristics and surroundings of a particular site and about respecting existing properties are important. Equally important, however, is the effect which development may have upon the character of the wider locality. If potential developments are each regarded individually, one by one and only in the context of their close surroundings, then the gradual effect upon a wider area may be overlooked. The cumulative effect of development on backlands, and in particular, gardens, will also be taken into account. It will be unacceptable for an area to be changed in character and appearance due to repeated building on available previously developed land (e.g., gardens). The planning authority will take action at an early stage to prevent the loss of garden land, when it considers that repeated development of that nature would detract from the light, green and spacious character of a particular street, square, road or other locality in detriment to the amenity of the residents."

- iii. As regards the 'Extensions and Householder Development' document the following paragraph is suggested as paragraph 4.11A:-

"It is the responsibility of the applicant to create a match of materials and where a builder or other third party is used to construct the extension, the applicant must ensure, for example by a condition with penalties in the contract of works, that the match is consistent and visually acceptable."

4 ORDERS AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO STANDARDS COMMITTEES.

The Committee noted the intended change to regulations which would give increased powers to local Standards Committees to deal with allegations of breaches of the Code of Conduct by councillors.

5 DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS 2008/09.

The Committee noted the proposed dates for meetings of Council and Policy and Resources Committee from May 2008 to May 2009.

RECOMMENDED that Council on 12th May consider adopting the timetable of meetings as presented (the proposed timetable is attached to these Minutes.)

6 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

RESOLVED that the comments on planning applications listed in Appendix A should be submitted to the Borough Council Planning Officer.

7 SPEED GUN.

The Committee considered a request from Inspector Bob Hassall of Nantwich Policing Unit for a contribution of £1500 towards a Speed Gun. This would enable tickets to be issued from the NPU.

RECOMMENDED that the sum of £1500, as requested, be contributed with the proviso that, so far as possible, the gun be used only in the area of Nantwich and adjoining parishes. The expenditure to be from the next financial year's 'Miscellaneous Payments' line 52.

8 STREET SPORTS.

Councillor McGinnis mentioned a proposal for a contribution to the Street Sports Program for Nantwich. This is an extension of the Sports Programme run in Nantwich on the Barony to the open space at Queens Drive, operating from April into the summer months. The sum

involved was £976 and it would be used to fund football and other sports for youngsters in that area.

RECOMMENDED that a contribution of £976 be made to the Street Sports Programme from this year's budget (line 43 Potential section 137 grants) and the expenditure be authorised under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council being of the opinion that it will bring direct benefit to the area or some of the inhabitants of the area and will be commensurate with the expenditure to be incurred.

9 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC.

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be now excluded from the meeting because the following items concern financial issues or business affairs of third parties best considered in confidence.

10 CAPITAL RESERVE.

The Committee briefly considered the future of the present capital reserve and, indeed, the future status and position of the Town Council in the likely new unitary. **RESOLVED** that the issue be referred to the Finance Committee with a view to a report and recommendation to Council in due course (a suitable date for the committee to be agreed by the Clerk and Chairman of the Finance Committee, Councillor Cafferty).

11 DANCE.

Councillor Moran (the Chairman of the Committee) had suggested a discussion concerning Todd Miller and the Joe Loss Orchestra, but withdrew the item from the agenda.

12 TOWN MEETING.

The Clerk suggested a rather different form of meeting on 14th April.

The proposal was:-

6.45pm	Annual Town Meeting followed by Council Meeting
7.45pm	Christmas lights awards
8.05pm	Grant cheque presentation
8.30pm	Quality Status celebration.
9.30pm	Close.

The suggestion was approved by the Committee, but more precise timings and invitations were to be agreed between the Council Chairman and the Clerk.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

- END -