



Nantwich Town Council

ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 14th May, 2007.

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

1. PRAYERS.

Prayers were lead by Reverend Peter Chantry, chaplain to the retiring Chairman, Councillor Steve Hope.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Farrall who was on holiday.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

It was proposed, seconded and **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Councillor Bill McGinnis be elected as Chairman of Nantwich Town Council to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

Councillor Hope invested the new Chairman with the Chain of Office. Councillor McGinnis made a formal declaration of acceptance of office.

Councillor McGinnis then took the chair.

Mrs Jenny Masser, the retiring Chairman's Consort, invested the new Chairman's Consort, Mrs Lyn McGinnis, with the Consort's Medallion of Office.

Councillor McGinnis responded to his election, thanking his proposer (Councillor Cafferty) and seconder (Councillor Williams) for their kind words. He paid tribute to Councillor Hope and the manner he had conducted himself as Chairman over the past year. He commented that it was a privilege to live in an attractive town like Nantwich. He said that among his aims during the next year were further physical improvements to the town, in association with Borough or County Council. He mentioned, in particular, his hopes for:-

- Effective drainage of Mill Island
- Clearing the river banks, so the river can be clearly seen
- Relaying paving in the town centre
- Genuine pedestrianisation of the town centre

- Improvements to specific areas of the town (e.g., Station View, where gutters were overgrown.) With this in mind, Councillor McGinnis proposed to reintroduce a “town inspection.”

4. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

It was proposed, seconded and **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Councillor Keith Cafferty be elected as Vice-Chairman of Nantwich Town Council to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

Councillor McGinnis invested the new Vice-Chairman with the Medallion of Office.

Councillor Cafferty made a formal declaration of acceptance of office. He thanked the Council for the honour it was bestowing and expressed his intention to support the new Chairman in his work during the forthcoming year.

5. APPOINTMENT OF CHAPLAIN AND NOMINATION OF CHAIRMAN'S CHARITY.

The Chairman informed the Council that the Father John Daly, of St Anne's Roman Catholic Church would be his chaplain for his year of office. He said that his charity for the year would be the British Legion, Nantwich Branch.

6. VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING CHAIRMAN.

A vote of thanks was unanimously agreed by the Town Council for the work undertaken by Councillor Hope during his year of office. Councillor Stockton, in proposing the vote of thanks, noted that Councillor Hope had completed his third successful term as Chairman. He had steered the Council through some tricky meetings, always leading from the front. He had represented the Council in style at many official engagements. She was seconded by Councillor Healey, who paid tribute to the way Councillor Hope had managed Council meetings. He said Councillor Hope spoke his mind and wore his heart on his sleeve and it was obvious that he was a Councillor devoted to Nantwich and the good of the town.

7. CHAIRMAN'S RETIRING REMARKS.

Councillor Hope said he had greatly enjoyed his year of office. He paid tribute to each individual member around the table and made clear his appreciation for the support he had received. He made special mention of Councillor Jean Powell, sadly, no longer with us. He thanked Reverend Chantry for the assistance he had rendered throughout the year. He welcomed the appointment of Father Daly as chaplain to the incoming chairman. He expressed special thanks and gratitude to his consort Jenny.

8. ADJOURNMENT.

A short adjournment took place and the Council resumed.

PUBLIC FORUM.

The next part of the meeting was preceded by Public Forum when the public were invited to make comments or ask questions.

No comments or questions were made by any of the members of the public present.

9. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

Councillor Moran declared personal interests in respect of the planning application at Malbank School, as a Member of the County Council (applicant) and in the sign board application at St Mary's Church as a church member. Councillor McGinnis declared an interest in the Malbank School application as a governor. Councillor Stockton declared a personal interest as a member of the Development Control Committee of the Borough Council in all planning applications. Councillor Lewis declared a personal interest in the planning display board proposed at Rookery Close, as it had been purchased from the ward budget.

10. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 16th April, 2007, and of the Council meeting of the same date, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

11. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE.

The Town Clerk reported as shown in Appendix A attached.

12. PLANNING CONTROL.

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

13. APPOINTMENTS TO PANELS AND COMMITTEES.

NB - The Chairman of the Council is ex officio on all Panels and Committees.
RESOLVED that the Members shown be appointed to the various Panels and Committees set out below:-

- (a) Policy & Resources Committee
All Members of the Council.
- (b) Awards Panel – 4 Members
Councillors Farrall, Lewis, Stockton and Abbott.
- (c) Nantwich Town Watch Committee – 4 Members
Councillors Williams, Stockton, Abbott and Hope.
Co-opted representatives from various interested organisations also form part of the Committee.

- (d) Nantwich CCTV Liaison & Development Panel – 2 Members
Councillors Williams and Lewis.
- (e) Current & Future Town Plan Panel – 4 Members
Councillors Abbott, Cafferty, McGinnis and Lewis.
- (f) Staffing Panel – 5 Members
Councillors Cafferty, Moran, Hope, Farrall and Stockton.
- (g) Finance Committee – 4 Members
Councillors Lewis, Williams, Cafferty and Hope.
- (h) Freedom of Information Committee – 2 Members
*Chairman of the Council (Vice Chair if Chair is unavailable).
(Chairman of Policy & Resources Vice Chair if Chair unavailable)*
- (i) Quality Status Working Group – 5 Members
Councillors Williams, Hope, Moran, Healey and Farrall.

14. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

To appoint Members as the Council's representatives on various bodies.

- (a) Nantwich in Bloom Committee
Councillors McGinnis and Farrall.
- (b) Nantwich Museum Trust
Councillors Martin and Cafferty.
- (c) Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council Allotments Panel
Councillor Cafferty.
- (d) Crewe & Shrewsbury Passenger Association
Councillor Lewis.
Also Councillor A Moran as and when issues relating to Cheshire County Council transport plans are under consideration.
- (e) Crewe Police Division – Local Consultative Committee
Councillors Stockton and Healey.
- (f) Nantwich Civic Society
Councillors Abbott and Farrall.
- (g) Mid Cheshire Footpath Society
Vacant.
- (h) Upper Weaver Initiative
Councillor Abbott.

- (i) Crewe & Nantwich Sustainability Alliance
Councillor Healey.
- (j) Nantwich Forum
To be reconsidered if re-formed.
- (k) Welsh Row Action Committee
Councillors Abbott, Hope, McGinnis, Moran and Stockton.
- (l) Nantwich Citizens Advice Bureau
Vacant - to be reconsidered if necessary.
- (m) Nantwich Senior Citizens Committee
Councillor W S McGinnis.
- (n) Trustees of Nantwich Consolidated Charities.
Councillors Hope and Williams.

15. AUTHORISATION OF CHEQUES AND INSPECTION OF ACCOUNTS

- (a) That in respect of the Town Council's Royal Bank of Scotland account, signatories for cheques, instructions and other necessary documents requiring authorisation by other than the Clerk alone, shall be:-

Any two of the Councillors - Mr S. F. Hope, Mr J. Lewis, Mrs E. Williams, Mrs J. I. Stockton and Mr W. S. McGinnis plus the Town Clerk (Mr W R Graham).

Also any two of the five members named above in respect of the Abbey National Capital Account, plus the Town Clerk, Mr W.R. Graham.

Also any two of the five members named above in respect of the two National Savings Investment Accounts.

- (b) Chairman's Charity Fund Account.
That in respect of the HSBC Charity Fund Account, signatories for cheques, instructions and other necessary documents requiring authorisation by other than the Clerk alone shall be:-
The Town Council Chairman – Councillor W.S. McGinnis plus the Town Clerk (Mr W R Graham)..

16. ACCOUNTS

The Schedule of Payments and Receipts for April 2007 and Comparison with Budget sheets were presented. **RESOLVED** that the payments made be approved and the Receipts and Comparison with Budget sheets be noted.

17. MINUTES OF TOWN WATCH COMMITTEE

Councillor Williams (Chair of the Town Watch Committee) introduced the minutes and commented on several issues arising. **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Town Watch Committee be noted.

18. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor Cafferty reported as follows:-

- The construction of the raised beds at Welshman's Lane allotments site had begun. Hope to finish Wednesday 16th May.
- Thanks to all Councillors for support on the St George's day event which was within budget.
- Turf had been laid at the Nantwich Football Club so it was looking like a real pitch.
- Congratulations to Councillor Martin for his charity run in the London Marathon.

19. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

A Programme of Meetings, previously agreed by the Council on 12th February 2007, had been attached to the Agenda as Appendix C and was noted by Members.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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