



Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 13th October 2008.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present on this occasion.

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

62. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors Healey, Martin and Stockton.

63. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF 15TH SEPTEMBER 2008.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15th September 2008, and circulated on the 24th September, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

64. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.

The Chairman attended the following events:-

- 16th September. Rookery Hall for the pre-Food and Drink Festival reception. Made very welcome. Concern expressed regarding the future of the show – would East Cheshire support it?
- 20th September. “Dance Around 08” at Crewe Station featuring X Academy. A wonderfully exhilarating and energetic display by the Academy, displaying the full array of the varied dancing talents of the members.
- 23rd September. Allotments Prize Presentation at Legends in Crewe. Chairman presented a cup to Welshman’s Lane group. Welshman’s Lane won 1st and 2nd best allotment in Borough. Allotments in Borough are 100% tenanted.
- 25th September. Cheshire Dance – Body Cartography Project (Year of Gardens) on Platform 12 Crewe Station. Over 100 dancers and interesting displays.
- 25th September. Edith Williams, Vice-Chairman attended Cheshire Community Pride Awards on behalf of the Council, when Nantwich was presented with the award for the best kept small town in Cheshire.
- 26th September. Food & Drink Festival. Toured Show Ground with other dignitaries and purchased some items from traders. Surprised to see traders from as far afield as Isle of Wight and Hampshire. Local produce was well represented. Followed by lunch at the Residence. Judging in Civic Hall for beers on offer. Councillor McGinnis and Mr Edward Timpson MP were two of the judges, diligently and conscientiously undertaking their duties.

- 30th September. Tatton Park, County Council Chairman's Garden Party, Chair, Consort and Vice-Chairman Councillor Edith Williams attended. Around 300 Councillors attended what was really a farewell to Cheshire County Council.
- 1st October. Attended "Annie", another excellent show by Acton Amateur Operatic Society who played to a really full house. The Chairman of the Society made my wife and me very welcome.
- 4th October. Players Theatre – 'Groping for Words' (Sue Townsend). Well directed and excellent acting. 25th Anniversary of the Players Theatre.
- 10th October. Retirement presentation. Susan Pritchard, retiring Curator (Museum) was given a Ron Dutton medal struck in silver, presented by Museum Chair, Robert Stones. On behalf of the Town Council the Chairman presented Garden vouchers (£100). Both were greatly appreciated.
- 13th October. Nantwich in Bloom photo call to celebrate achieving Best Town in North West award and 6th consecutive Silver Gilt.

65. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

Councillor Hope declared a personal and prejudicial interest in application P08/1086 (46 Sandford Road) as the applicant was a neighbour and friend. Councillors Moran and McGinnis declared a personal and prejudicial interest in application P08/1102 (Unit 4 Barony Trade Park) as Beam Heath Trustees. Councillor Moran also declared a personal and prejudicial interest in P08/1100 (24/26 Birchin Lane) as the applicant was well known to him from work. None of these Councillors took any part in the discussion relating to the applications nor voted thereon and left the room when they were considered. Councillors Moran, McGinnis and Lewis also declared personal interests in P08/1074 (floodlights at Barony Park) as members of Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council, the Council being the applicant.

66. CHAIRMAN OF THE CIVIC SOCIETY

Jeff Stubbs, recently appointed Chairman of the Civic Society, introduced himself. He thanked Members for the opportunity to speak to the Town Council and for the representation of the Council on the Society's Committee. Like the Council, the Society was consulted on planning applications. In addition, the Society had recently commented on matters such as Supplementary Guidance issued by the planning authority, some proposals of the County Council and the Weaver Valley improvements. In the past the Civic Society had carried out activities such as creating a photographic record of all buildings in the conservation area; raised money for footpaths; nesting areas; assisted in riverside improvements.

Jeff considered Nantwich a vibrant community with many distinctive and attractive buildings but certain developments had not been in tune with the town – had not got "the Nantwich signature". His personal list of improvements for the future included the pedestrianised area, now looking rather tired, and the Oat Market development. He had been disappointed in the new flats at Castle Court and the new Health Centre, which did not echo the character and design features of the town.

He wondered whether the formation of East Cheshire Unitary Authority would enable the town to get out of the shadow of Crewe. He looked forward to co-operation with the Town Council and offered any assistance he was able to give.

Councillors asked a number of questions and made comments whereupon the Chairman thanked Jeff most sincerely for his presentation and expressed the hope that the Council and Civic Society could work together more closely in the future.

67. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE.

The Clerk reported as set out in Appendix A.

68. ACCOUNTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2008.

The accounts for September 2008 were considered. The Council noted the Comparison with Budget Sheet presented and **RESOLVED** that the Schedule of Payments and Receipts for September 2008 be approved.

69. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS REQUEST.

Members were told that the Cocoa Yard display, towards which they had agreed to contribute £1,000, was to be 'scaled down' because traders were not now funding as much as had been previously understood. The question of whether the Council's contribution should be reduced arose. **RESOLVED** the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to decide the issue when the changes in the display were clarified.

An additional request had been received from the Town Centres Manager for curtain lights, along Welsh Row, at the cost of £2720. **RESOLVED** that only lamp posts 1-4 shown on the plan attached be funded (cost £1400 plus sign at £270) but that the request for £2720 be agreed and the balance of the monies (£1050) be used, by the Town Centres Manager in consultation with the Chairman and Clerk, to provide additional displays in the area of lamp posts 1-4, particularly, if possible, near the Welsh Row bridge.

70. PLANNING CONTROL.

RESOLVED that the Town Council's observations, set out in attached Schedule B, be sent to the Borough Council's Chief Planning Officer.

71. TOWN WATCH MINUTES.

The Clerk reported that unfortunately the Minutes were not available, but would be circulated with the Council Minutes at a later date.

Councillor McGinnis mentioned that, at an earlier Town Watch meeting, the idea of inviting an army unit to parade through the town had been raised. The Clerk agreed to pursue the suggestion.

72. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Councillor Farrall, as representative at **Nantwich in Bloom** and of the **Civic Society**, said that since the Chairman had reported on Nantwich in Bloom and the Chairman of the Civic Society had outlined recent developments, she felt main issues had been covered. The Chairman congratulated her on the brevity of her report.

Councillor Cafferty reported on a meeting at the **Museum** on 7th October. Donations and a grant from Rotary, along with commissions from sales, had put the Museum in an improved financial position for this year. Monday opening had been considered but not agreed. The Museum would be part of a Cultural Festival in 2009. Kingsley Field archives may be returned to the Museum. Decorating was taking place at the Museum premises. Windows had been replaced. A new student was assisting the curator. The new Museum Curator was Alison Wheeler of Birchin Drive, and would be starting on 20th October.

Councillor Cafferty reported on the **Fun Day**. The formula for the day had been revised. An Event Co-ordinator (Simone Cafferty) had been appointed. Individuals will be given specific budget heads and responsibilities for individual parts of the event. Councillor Cafferty would continue as Chairman, but would be pursuing more of an advisory capacity.

Councillor Cafferty reported on **Holly Holy Day**. Shaun Cafferty was now Chairman of the Society. The AGM was on 23rd October at 7.30pm in Brookfield Hall. The event had been awarded £2000 from the Co-operative Society Community Fund. Together with sponsorship, this made the outlook for 2009 relatively secure.

In connection with Holly Holy Day, Councillor Moran made two comments. First, that work to Welsh Row by the County Highways staff was being undertaken in January 2009. However, he had specifically raised with the County Engineers the issue of the Sealed Knot troops marching down Welsh Row from Malbank School for the parade in Nantwich, and been assured that this would be allowed for.

Councillor Moran went on to mention Mill Island. The battle took place on Mill Island but the Food Festival had left it in an "atrocious state". Although he hoped this would be the case, he felt that it was unlikely that the ground would recover by January for the battle. He wondered whether it was time to consider moving the battle to another location – for example the Nantwich Show ground. He felt strongly that it should not happen on Mill Island again. Councillor McGinnis was less sure about that and felt that some measures might be possible to safeguard or strengthen the turf for next year.

Councillor Lewis spoke briefly about the **Transport Group**. The new group had met and were consolidating their overall approach to transport issues. Anthony Blacklay was an enthusiastic and hardworking secretary. The Railway Station had been presented with an award by Nantwich in Bloom and was entered for the best kept station competition. Benches were to be supplied by Network Rail after an approach by Councillor Lewis. There was a possibility of a grant from Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council to help lay out the land next to the station as a car park.

Councillor McGinnis reported progress relating to the **First Responders**. The report of the Health Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group was still awaited. It was expected at the end of October. The Group were doing a thorough job and taking evidence from all sorts of people. Councillor McGinnis had met Mike Pyrah, Chief Executive of the Central and Eastern Cheshire PCT, who commissioned services from the North West Ambulance Service. They had discussed the changes which were proposed and whether such changes accorded with an effective service.

73. DATE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Agreed at 6pm on 10th November, (before next Council). Members were reminded that grants would be looked at on 27th October meeting and precept on 24th November meeting.

74. CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS.

Councillors were reminded of arrangements around Christmas.

75. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC.

RESOLVED that further to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the item following (Time Deposits and Bank Accounts) which relates to the investments and finances of the Council and for that reason is best considered in confidence.

76. TIME DEPOSITS AND BANK ACCOUNTS (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Clerk had prepared a report which Members had read. The Clerk said that circumstances were changing daily and he was not able to give a recommendation in this matter because of the uncertainties. Councillor Lewis said he felt we needed to diversify investments a little more. The Clerk expressed some reluctance because of the difficulties of dealing with several different bodies. Councillor McGinnis expressed concern about deposits in institutions linked to non-UK banks. Council **RESOLVED** that:-

- (a) The smaller investment, maturing on 24th October, should be moved to an appropriate major UK bank.
- (b) The time terms of the investments should be one month and then further consideration given to some diversification.
- (c) The interest accrued by each of the three deposits should be transferred to the Royal Bank of Scotland current account.

- END -

Note: Normally the preceding Policy and Resources Committee Minutes would be attached to these Minutes of Council. However, the meeting of Policy and Resources Committee scheduled to be held on 29th September, was cancelled on this occasion.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK TO TOWN COUNCIL 13th OCTOBER 2008

1. Notice of Annual General Meeting of Cheshire Community Action at Middlewich Community Church on 19th November 2008. (Tabled.)
2. Standards Board Newsletter available. (Tabled.)
3. Notice of publication of North West Spatial Strategy. (Tabled.)
4. Inspector Hassall's newsletter published. (Tabled.)
5. Asbestos survey received – only significant item (and not a hazard) was panel above door. Clerk to arrange any treatment recommended. (Tabled.)
6. Electrical survey not yet received but Clerk understood it to be satisfactory, except for some fairly minor items.
7. Clerk said he intended to transfer £2,000 from Contingencies to Repair and Renewals.
8. Letter of Pear Tree School explaining traffic problem. **AGREED** letter of support to be sent.
9. Reminder of Snow Hill exhibitions – one at Brookfield Hall, 20th October, for a week.
10. Closure of crossing at Wellington Road, 1st and 2nd November 10pm to 10am. (Tabled.)
11. October issue of Nantwich Link available for inspection – details of Councillors and advert for Chairman's Charity Gala Evening, 28th November 2008. (Tabled.)

- END -

NANTWICH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 13TH OCTOBER 2008

PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSULTATION

No	Applicant	Development	Site
P08/1081	Halifax Estate Agency Ltd	Listed building consent for the removal of ATM to front elevation, redecoration of front elevation installation of trough lighting to shop front and installation of hanging sign to front elevation (new location to previous application).	Regent House, 22 High Street, Nantwich.
Comment: No comment.			
P08/1069	Mr & Mrs J Redman	Listed building consent to brick up newly made door opening between kitchen to ground floor shop unit and stairwell lobby.	54 Welsh Row.
Comment: No comment.			
P08/1074	Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council	Retrospective permission for the installation of floodlights.	Barony Park, Barony Rd.
Comment: The Town Council object to this application as a number of nearby residents have complained that the lights are excessively bright and positioned so that they shine into their homes, causing them disturbance and loss of amenity. The Town Council also deplore the fact that the Borough Council itself, the planning authority, are submitting a retrospective application, which sets a bad example to other applicants.			
P08/1079	Crewe & Nantwich Conservative WMC	Proposed replacement windows re-submission of P08/0849.	Crewe & Nantwich Conservative WMC, Churchyardside.
Comment: The Town Council object to this application on the grounds that UPV windows are unattractive, weather badly and are out of keeping with the Conservation area. The fact that on a previous occasion UPV has been used for a window or door is unfortunate but does not alter the principle involved of attempting to maintain an appearance of quality and use sustainable material in the Conservation Area.			
P08/1082	Dr R Millward	Proposed extension to replace conservatory on rear of dwelling.	128 Crewe Road.
Comment: No comment.			

No	Applicant	Development	Site
P08/1086	Mr M G Steele	Demolition and replacement of rear conservatory.	46 Sandford Road.
Comment: No comment.			

ADDITIONAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSULTATION

No	Applicant	Development	Site
P08/0630	United Co-op Pharmacy	Two fascia signs and one projecting sign.	Church View Primary Care Centre, Off Beam St.
Comment: No comment.			

P08/1090	Muller Pallatine Properties Ltd.	Change of use of ground floor from A1 to residential single and two storey extension to rear with internal remodelling to form 4 no. residential properties together with bin and cycle storage.	91 & 93 Hospital St.
Comment: No comment.			

P08/1093	United Co-op Pharmacy	One fascia sign and one projection sign.	57 Beam Street.
Comment: No comment.			

P08/1094	Mr D Gray	Installation of new shop front.	16 Swine Market.
Comment: No comment.			

P08/1096	Webb House Furnishers Ltd.	Listed building consent for change of use from offices to residential.	Webb House, 17 Mill St.
Comment: No comment.			

P08/1097	Mr D Gray	One Internally illuminated fascia sign.	16 Swine Market.
Comment: No comment.			

No	Applicant	Development	Site
P08/1100	Mr P & Mrs G Dobing	Rear extensions at first floor level and pitched roofs over part of existing flat roofs at ground floor level.	24 & 26 Birchin Lane.
Comment: No comment.			
P08/1102	Carlton Holdings	Use of unit 4 for Retail (Class A1)	Unit 4 Barony Trade Park, Middlewich Road.
Comment: No comment.			
