



MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9 MARCH 2015

Present - Councillor Farrall (Mayor) and Councillors Butterill, Cooper, Hopkins, Hutton, Lewis, Marren, Martin and Simpson together with the Town Clerk.

PART 1

126. In NANTWICH WEB SITE

Liz Southall gave a presentation on the Nantwich web site. The web site is being developed as a portal for events and businesses in Nantwich. The site is structured at different levels for businesses, community groups and voluntary organisations with related membership fees. A number of community partners support the project. There are currently over 700 entries at the basis Tier 1 level.

The costs of supporting the project were outlined and Liz Southall asked the Council to consider supporting the site as a Community Partner or Sponsor.

The Mayor thanked Liz for her presentation.

127. PUBLIC FORUM

Several Market traders outlined their concerns about stallholders who do not open on Tuesdays. Councillor Hopkins, Chair of Town Plan and Partnership Committee, said that the traders' concerns had been noted. Members were aware that the tenancy agreements were not being adhered to and that Committee had resolved to take action.

128. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Fenton (work commitment) and Councillor Farr (holiday).

129. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 9TH FEBRUARY 2015

The Council **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th February 2015 be confirmed as a correct record, approved and signed by the Mayor.

130. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Butterill declared interests in planning matters as she is a Cheshire East Councillor as well as a Town Councillor.

Councillor Marren declared interests in planning matters as he is a Cheshire East Councillor as well as a Town Councillor.

Councillor Moran declared an interest in planning application 15/0238 for a new shop front. The Mayor declared an interest in planning application 15/0238 for a new shop front.

131. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor's list of engagements was circulated.

- Talk at Rotary.
- Attended The Cat Radio Launch at Harrisons.
- Attended the Freedom of Crewe ceremony given to The Mercian Regiment on Crewe Memorial Square.
- Took part in a Desert Island Disc programme at Red Shift Studios.
- Visited Nantwich Baths to meet Nantwich Seals Swimming Club.
- Answered questions on Nantwich Aqueduct restoration and road closure on Nantwich Square.

- Interviewed about Mayoral year on Red Shift Radio.
- Addressed the Hubqbusiness community at The Residence and watched a presentation of a new Nantwich Website.
- Together with the Mayor of Crewe launched U3A publication "Times of our Lives" at Nantwich Bookshop.

"Salt of the Earth Awards"

The Mayor announced that she would be presenting 8 community awards at a special event prior to the Mayor's Dance on 27 March.

132. CLERK'S REPORT, CORRESPONDENCE & MATTERS OF URGENCY

132.1 Charity Collectors

The meeting for Town and Parish Councils has now taken place and negotiations will now take place with PFRA regarding the detailed proposals for each town.

132.2 Election – Thursday 7 May 2015 – Town and Parish Election briefings

A summary timetable of key dates has been circulated. Nomination papers for the Town Council election can be obtained from the Town Council office.

132.3 Civic Hall Toilets

The expected completion date for the refurbishment of the toilets is 13 March. This will mean that the work will be finished prior to the Jazz Festival concerts at Easter.

133. PLANNING CONTROL

Council **RESOLVED** to make no objection to all the applications listed.

Council considered the proposed street name of Halfpenny Avenue for the development off Audlem Road and **RESOLVED** to make no objection.

134. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF TOWN PLAN AND PARTNERSHIP 26 FEBRUARY 2015

Councillor Hopkins noted that allocations had been made to many of the vacant allotment plots and waiting lists had been reduced. The differential rates for tenants outside the town council area would be charged from 1 April.

Councillor Moran noted that there was some concern about the inclusion of a charging system in the tenders for the refurbishment of Snow Hill toilets. Councillor Marren explained that this was to allow options to be explored and any decision on charging would have to be brought to Council.

Council noted the minutes and **RESOLVED** that the Recommendations contained in the above Minutes be accepted and approved and in particular **RESOLVED**

- that 200 flags and bunting are to be provided from the Events Budget with 40 flag holders to be completed in Phase 1
- that the design for the refurbishment of Snow Hill toilets (including the installation of a payment system) be approved and issued for tender and
- that notice should be served on ANSA regarding the accommodation of the street cleaning team.

135. MEETING DATES 2015-16

The meeting dates of Council and Committees for 2015-16 were approved subject to some necessary changes to avoid a clash with meetings of Nantwich in Bloom.

136. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Councillor Martin reported that the Cheshire East Council Tax will not increase in 2015/16. Councillor Moran stated that the tax on a Band D property in Nantwich was still the highest in the Borough.

137. NANTWICH PARTNERSHIP REPORT

The Nantwich Partnership Strategy was received. The Clerk explained the background to the preparation of the strategy. Following adoption of the constitution the Partnership was under some pressure to move quickly in support of the refurbishment of the Aqueduct. Publicity for this project was seen as an ideal opportunity for consultation on the strategy. Formal adoption of the strategy by partner organisations was now necessary to ensure that grant applications made on behalf of the Partnership can be processed satisfactorily.

138. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor Simpson reported that Nantwich Museum is pursuing 2 projects of refurbishment with insulation and the installation of LED lighting. Nantwich in Bloom has prepared an action plan for Spring planting.

PART 2

139. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Council **RESOLVED** that, further to section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960) to exclude press and public on the grounds that the matters to be considered concern commercial financial details best considered in confidence.

140. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE 4 MARCH 2015

Council noted the minutes and **RESOLVED** that the Recommendations contained in the above Minutes be accepted and approved.

141. CREWE AND NANTWICH COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME

Further to the minutes of the Finance Committee of 4 March 2015 Council considered support for the Cheshire Community Action Community Car Scheme and **RESOLVED** to grant delegated authority to Councillor Lewis, as Chair of Grants and Awards Committee, to award an emergency grant of £500 if necessary.