



MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9TH NOVEMBER 2015.

Present – Councillor Martin (Mayor) and Councillors Bostock, Bowyer-Bates, Butterill, Kirkham, Hall, Marren, Moran and Simpson and PC Matt Stonier, PC Marc Harley together with the Town Clerk.

68. PUBLIC FORUM

PC Stonier and PC Hartley reported on the operation of the new beat management system which is working well. The recent purse thefts have been stopped and an offender has been apprehended in respect of car thefts.

Policing the taxi rank at weekends remains an issue. The Police reported that in other areas (e.g. Chester, Newcastle under Lyme) a security taxi marshal is employed to manage the queue allowing the Police to concentrate on other incidents. Councillors asked about cost and the Police agreed to obtain costs for security and barriers.

Monks Lane was now being covered on the beat and no further incidents had been reported. CCTV operators had been made aware of the incidents associated with planters. During the summer the number of anti-social behaviour incidents had gone down.

Councillor Marren asked about the recent incident at the Civic Hall involving damage to the side door. CCTV images have been copied and it is hoped to release the image to the media.

The Police confirmed that they remain opposed to increases in licencing hours. Councillor Butterill asked about the incidents involving spiking drinks. This was under investigation by the CID but no further incidents had been reported.

The Mayor thanked the Police for their report.

69. PRESENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS FOR THE FORMER GAS WORKS SITE ST ANNES LANE NANTWICH

Mr Martin Greenwood, representing Messrs Schofield, presented information on a proposed development scheme for the former Gas Works site in St Anne's Lane. The scheme would be a mixed development of retail units, offices, café and restaurant together with a 20 bedroom hotel and 28 apartments. Car parking for 100 cars would be retained on site. The proposed scheme would also involve redevelopment of the corner property on Wyche House Bank / Welsh Row currently occupied by a Thai restaurant. A hard landscaped terrace would be provided along the river back in accordance with Environment Agency guidelines.

Councillor Moran welcomed the mix of development for this strategic site including the parking provision for the new uses. There was shortage of hotel accommodation in the town and more residential development in the town centre was to be encouraged. Councillor Bowyer-Bates asked about the parking provision. 100 spaces were to be provided even though this was not a requirement of the Cheshire East development brief for the site.

The Mayor thanked Messrs Scofield and Mr Greenwood for the presentation.

70. PRESENTATION BY CATHERINE HOLLIGAN – BEFRIENDING SERVICE

Catherine Holligan, Befriending Volunteer Co-ordinator (Crewe & Nantwich) of the Wishing Well Project, shared information about the new Befriending Service for frail, isolated people with multiple health issues. The service employs one paid member of staff who organises a team of volunteers to visit once a week. Nantwich has an ageing population and this service aims to help the elderly and to combat loneliness.

The Mayor thanked Ms Hooligan for her presentation and it was agreed to feature the service in Talk of the Town.

71. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Bartram (Work commitment), Councillor Groves (Other meeting) and Councillor Lewis (Holiday).

72. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF 12TH OCTOBER 2015

Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12th October 2015 be confirmed as a correct record, approved and signed by the Mayor.

73. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillors Butterill and Marren declared an interest in their capacity as Cheshire East Councillors on the Southern Planning Committee.

Councillor Marren declared an interest in the CANTA application for grant discussed at Finance Committee on 20 October 2015.

74. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor's report on his list of engagements from October to November was received.

12 th Oct	Attendance at Words and Music reception launch at Enzo
13 th Oct	Visit and Interview on Cat Radio 8 a.m.
13 th Oct	Meeting with Principal at South Cheshire College
14 th Oct	Promotion of Nanocon event at Civic Hall
14 th Oct	Attendance at Barbara Dickson concert at St Mary's Parish Church
17 th Oct	Visit to 10-2 p.m. Nantwich Square / Parish Hall . Nantwich & District Soroptomists Anti-Slavery gift box.
17 th Oct	Attendance at 11 a.m. Willaston & District History Group open day at Elim Bible College.
17 th Oct	Visit to Spooktacular 2015 team on Nantwich Square
18 th Oct	Nantwich Town Civic Service 10.45 a.m. St Mary's Parish Church
23 rd Oct	Attendance at Stapeley Grange Wildlife Centre Sensory Garden created by Crewe 46 team
23 rd Oct	Mayor's Quiz . Civic Hall 7 p.m.
24 th Oct	Attendance at Crewe & Nantwich Rugby Union Club match v Worcester
25 th Oct	Bridgemere Memorial Service.
29 th Oct	Nantwich Players Neighbourhood Watch
29 th Oct	Visit to St Luke's Hospice
30 th Oct	Visit to Nantwich Museum . Cartoon Academy
31 st Oct	Attendance at Spooktacular event
3 rd Nov	Interview on Redshift Radio 6 p.m.
6 th Nov	Attendance at SCCCI Business Awards, Crewe Hall
7 th Nov	Attendance at Nanocon event in Civic Hall
8 th Nov	Airman's Grave Remembrance Service
8 th Nov	Remembrance Sunday Service in Nantwich
9 th Nov	Attendance at Nantwich and Rural Children's Centre

75. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

75.1. NANTWICH IN BLOOM

Nantwich in Bloom has been successful once again at the North West in Bloom awards ceremony in gaining a GOLD award in the %Best Town+category. The Committee was again grateful for the support from the Town Council.

75.2. DEFIBRILLATORS

Following the presentation at the last Council meeting an application for defibrillators has been made to the British Heart Foundation for two outside locations, at the Market Hall car park and at the Civic Hall.

75.3. MORRISONS STATION ROAD NANTWICH - LICENSING ACT 2003 NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE UNDER SECTION

Wm Morrison Supermarkets PLC has applied to Cheshire East Council for a variation of the Premises Licence in respect of premises Morison~~s~~, Station Road, Nantwich. The proposed variation is to vary the hours for the supply of alcohol and opening to 0600 to 2400 on Mondays to Sundays inclusive and to add conditions.

Council **RESOLVED** to object to the application on the grounds that delivery times were likely to change causing disturbance to nearby residents and that the variation would be contrary to Sunday trading laws.

76. PLANNING CONTROL

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendations of the Clerk in respect of the applications listed and to make observations to Cheshire East with the exception of 15/4731N relating to 3 detached houses on the former tennis court in Audlem Road. In respect of this application Council **RESOLVED** to express concern about the access and the unusual design which would be out of keeping with the nearby residential development.

77. CONFIRMATION OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 20 OCTOBER 2015

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

78. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Councillor Moran referred to the proposals by Cheshire East to cut the Council Tax Support Grant to Town and Parish Councils. The grant to Nantwich had fallen from £65,000 three years ago to £43,000 last year and no grant is proposed for next year. Councillor Moran urged Cheshire East to reconsider. By taking on assets such as the Civic Hall the Town Council had enabled Cheshire East to reduce its costs but much of the grant had been spent on repairs that had been inherited on takeover.

Councillor Marren said that, although Nantwich has the highest Band D rate in Cheshire East, the Council was better placed than others as it had taken account of the potential loss of grant, reduced expenditure on the assets and increased the income stream thus making its financial position stronger over the last few years.

79. NANTWICH PARTNERSHIP

The Partnership had not met since the last Council meeting.

80. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor Hall reported on the successful launch of the Two Saints Way Guidebook at Nantwich Bookshop.

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