



## **MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2017.**

**Present** - Councillor Martin (Mayor) and Councillors Bowyer-Bates, Butterill, Hall, Kirkham, Lewis, Marren, Moran, Simpson and the Town Clerk.

### **104. PUBLIC FORUM**

PC Matt Stonier reported that there had been a drop in the number of incidents associated with the night time economy in Nantwich over the past eighteen months. There had been no arrests in the last three weeks and this was an encouraging trend. There were no questions from members of the public.

### **105. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bartram, Bostock and Groves.

### **106. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Butterill declared an interest as a member of the Cheshire East Southern Planning Committee.

### **107. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING – 12 JANUARY 2017**

Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 12 January 2017 be confirmed as a correct record, approved and signed by the Mayor.

### **108. MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor's report on his list of engagements in January and February was received.

Sat 21st Jan	Nantwich Square promoting Battle of Nantwich
Fri 27th Jan	Cheshire East Holocaust Memorial Service at Sandbach
Fri 27th Jan	Annual Commissioning Service . Nantwich Methodist Church
Sat 28th Jan	Battle of Nantwich
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Holly Holy Day Banquet
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Sacred Orchard Pub opening

### **109. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **109.1 Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications to the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy - Formal Consultation Period 06 February 2017 to 5:00pm on 20 March 2017**

Cheshire East Council submitted its Local Plan Strategy to the Secretary of State in May 2014 for public examination. This sets strategic priorities for the development of the area, along with planning policies and development sites to guide development up to 2030. Having considered the issues raised through the examination process, the Inspector issued his views on further modifications needed to the Local Plan Strategy on 13 December 2016. As a result, the Council has proposed a series of Main Modifications to the Local Plan Strategy . Proposed Changes (March 2016 Version), which are considered necessary to make the plan sound and capable of adoption.

These Proposed Main Modifications are now published for six weeks of public consultation, ending 5:00pm on Monday 20 March 2017.

After the consultation, the Inspector will consider all duly-made representations before submitting his final report to the Council into the legal compliance and soundness of the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy.

### **109.2 No waiting restrictions- Station View**

Following complaints from local councillors and residents about problems caused by parked vehicles on Station View, Cheshire East Highways has undertaken an investigation. The introduction of no waiting at any time restrictions is considered necessary to remove parked vehicles from parts of the highway where they are hindering the free flow of traffic and access and are a source of danger by restricting visibility and movement.

The proposal is to extend restrictions further into Station View from its junction with Wellington Road. Council **RESOLVED** to support the proposed order.

### **110. PLANNING CONTROL**

There were no planning applications to consider.

### **111. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF POLICY COMMITTEE 26 JANUARY 2017.**

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

With regard to item 14 relating to the Kingsley Fields development Council asked for a further report to be presented to Policy Committee on 23 March.

### **112. BROOKFIELD ALLOTMENTS - DRAINAGE**

Council received a report on the severe flooding and drainage issues at Brookfield Allotments. The Clerk reported that during the preceding week a drainage contractor had been employed to jet the drain to attempt to clear any blockage. The initial attempt was unsuccessful. The contractor is to return to pump out one of the manholes. If this is not successful and to avoid a further recurrence of the problem it may be necessary to excavate the drain, remove the cause of the blockage and re-instate. To undertake this work will require expenditure which is not covered in the budget for this year or in 2017/18. The work will require several plots to be taken out of commission for contractor's access and to secure the site for health and safety reasons.

Council **RESOLVED** to authorise Finance Committee to approve the excavation of the drain to identify the problem, following consideration of three quotations.

Council further **RESOLVED** to authorise the Clerk to offer refunds to plot holders as appropriate.

No decision was taken on the establishment of a reserve to cover expenditure on renewal of the drain.

### **113. NANTWICH PARTNERSHIP**

Councillor Moran reported that the new footpath between the car parks had been completed. Some money was still available to undertake repairs to the existing path around the lake. ANSA had been asked to quote for further works to improve this path.

The Nantwich Partnership project group had met with Cheshire East officers and repairs were to be undertaken to the footpaths around the Church. In future no car parking will be allowed within the Church gates.

### **114. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Councillor Moran reported that the Cheshire East budget had been approved by Cabinet for submission to Council on 23 February 2017. There were concerns about the

implications for Nantwich particularly in respect of expenditure on facilities and services in other towns in Cheshire East. The effect is that Nantwich residents are paying for their own facilities (e.g. the Market) through the precept and for similar facilities in other towns through the Cheshire East council tax.

Councillor Moran also referred to proposals in the budget to introduce free parking after noon in Crewe and a programme of shop front improvements in Macclesfield. There was need to ensure that Nantwich was obtaining a fair deal from Cheshire East expenditure.

Councillor Marren stated that these issues related to double taxation and that when both Crewe and Macclesfield were formed they were given sufficient budgets to tackle these issues.

Council **RESOLVED** to write to Cheshire East expressing concern over the double taxation issues.

**115. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES**

None.