



## **MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019.**

**Present** - Councillor Marren (Mayor) and Councillors Bartram, Bostock, Butterill, Groves, Hall, Kirkham, Lewis, Martin, Moran and the Town Clerk.

### **129. PUBLIC FORUM**

The Police had tendered their apologies.

### **130. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Bowyer-Bates and Staley.

### **131. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Councillor Martin declared an interest in relation to planning application 19/0910N.

### **132. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING – 7 FEBRUARY 2019**

Council **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019 be confirmed as a correct record, approved and signed by the Mayor with an amendment to minute 122 to read “up to £1,000”.

### **133. MAYOR’S REPORT**

The Mayor’s report on his list of engagements in February and March was received.

Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Police Patrol – Nantwich
Sun 24 February	Salt of the Earth Awards
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Pear Tree School Stapeley Mystery Reader

The Mayor has also been invited to attend Nantwich Town v Stalbridge Celtic to choose the man of the match and had visited Meir Heath Academy as a mystery reader.

### **134. CLERK’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **134.1 New Homes Bonus applications**

Cheshire East has informed the Town Council that the applications to the New Homes Bonus Community Fund have been fully evaluated and recommendations have been presented to the Portfolio Holder. Unfortunately, none of the applications submitted by the Town Council have been recommended for an award.

The scheme received over 200 applications, with over £7 million being requested. The final recommendations for award are to be approved by the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Communication. The decision to award is expected in the week commencing 11 March 2019.

Councillor Moran explained the process of selection at the Wards Group and suggested that the Public Realm scheme might be funded by the Town Council. Councillor Groves endorsed this suggestion.

The Mayor suggested that the balance of the ward budget expenditure could be utilised. The Clerk was asked to prepare a paper for Policy Committee on funding sources and to contact Highways for a discussion on the proposed works.

The Clerk was asked to prepare a similar paper for Policy Committee on funding sources for the Community Bus scheme with a view to contributing to the Audlem scheme.

#### **134.2 Cheshire East Review of Licensing Policy**

Cheshire East is consulting on its review of the Statement of Licensing Policy between 8 March and 19 April 2019.

#### **134.3 Community Infrastructure Levy**

Cheshire East Borough Council adopted the Cheshire East Council Community Infrastructure Levy Final Charging Schedule at its Council meeting on 21st February 2019. The Final CIL Charging Schedule took effect on 1st March 2019.

#### **134.4 Variations to Cheshire East Parking Order**

Cheshire East has made some amendments to the parking order following the receipt of representations during the statutory consultation period. The amended proposals relate to car parks in Crewe and Wilmslow. The decision to approve the changes was taken on 7 February and will come into effect on the 13 March 2019. From this date, most car parks across the borough will have an increase in parking charges.

Cheshire East states that it is aware of the differences in parking fees across the borough and has already started a process to review parking in local towns, like Wilmslow. This approach will be replicated across the borough and forms part of a local transport plan that will be published in spring 2019.

#### **134.5 Market Hall Valuation appeal**

The initial appeal to the Valuation Office agency against the increase in the rateable value of the Table Area to £30,000 has been unsuccessful. The decision notice has been circulated.

A challenge to this decision will be made by 20 June 2019. In addition NABMA (the trade organisation representing market operators) will be consulted regarding experience in other areas.

#### **134.6 Plastic Free Nantwich**

Dr. Sharon George from Keele University will be addressing a meeting to launch the Plastic Free Nantwich campaign at the Leopard, London Road on Wednesday 20 March at 7.30pm.

#### **134.7 Brookfield Allotments drainage**

The contractors have identified the break in the pipe, cleared the blockage and reinstated the pipe. Water is now running from the St Anne's school playing field through to Shrewbridge Road. The pipe will be lined, the new manhole will be completed, and the site tidied to finish the works.

Councillor Moran reported on the road closure at Welshman's Lane which was preventing access to the allotments site. The contractor, TESNI, has offered to install a gate off the public footpath adjacent to Malbank School playing fields.

**135. PLANNING CONTROL**

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendations of the Clerk in respect of the applications listed in Appendix A.

**136. INFORMATION REPORT ON CHESHIRE EAST REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE OF TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS**

Council received an information report on the proposed Cheshire East Review of the governance of town and parish councils.

**137. RISK ASSESSMENT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2018 TO 31 MARCH 2019**

Council received and approved the risk assessment for 2018-19 as required under the Accountancy Regulations for submission to the External Auditor.

**138. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Councillor Groves reported that Cheshire East had approved the budget for 2019/20 on 21 February. The budget increase is 2.99% with 1% ring fenced for Social Care.

At the Special Council the proposed changes to a Committee system had been defeated.

Councillor Moran reported that he had supported the budget but a proposal to divert money from the Communications budget to car parking to avoid the increase in parking costs had been defeated.

**139. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Councillor Kirkham reported that Pancake Day at the Museum has raised £300. The coffee morning raises about £100 each month.

Councillor Martin reported that three chefs had been engaged for demonstrations at the Civic Hall during the Food Festival.

Councillor Bostock reported that the AGM of the Nantwich in Bloom committee is to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> April when it is expected that all three officers will resign. The Clerk was asked to prepare a paper for Policy Committee on possible help for the Nantwich in Bloom Committee.