



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON 16th DECEMBER 2019.

PRESENT: Councillors: Arthur Moran (Mayor), Stuart Bostock, Penny Butterill, David Greaves, Peter Groves Pam Kirkham, David Marren, Andrew Martin, Philip Staley, John Statham, Carole Thomas and Stephanie Wedgwood with the Facilities Manager and the Town Clerk.

Also Present: members of the public and one member of the press

95. PUBLIC FORUM

95.1 Representations from the Police

PC Matt Stonier advised that they police were working on the Youth Forum and Pledge Partnership with the aim of preventing future anti-social behaviour from youths. He added that there had been some instances of shoplifting which is expected this time of year. The Facilities Manager asked about the spray paint issue and was advised that the police had been unable to identify the offenders from the CCTV footage.

95.2 Representations from members of the public.

A resident commented on the continued considerations by the Town Council on the Fur Policy and suggested that there had been a lot of time wasted on the issue.

A resident advised that there is to be a walk-around the Barony Park in February with the portfolio holder for Communities Councillor Mick Warren, and there is a desire to link with the Youth Forum.

95.3 Representations from the public on planning applications - None.

95.4 Questions submitted in advance in writing - None.

96. APOLOGIES There were no apologies for absence

ABSENT: none

97. DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests expressed.

98. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

98.1 Resolved: That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7th November 2019 be confirmed as a correct record, approved and signed by the Mayor.

98.2 That the minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 21st November 2019 are noted, and that the recommendaitons contained within the minutes are approved.

99. MAYORS REPORT

The Mayor's report on his list of engagements since the last meeting was received.

Fri 8th Nov	Malbank School & 6th Form College Armistice Day
Sat 9th Nov	Choral Concert, St Mary's PC
Sun 10th Nov	Remembrance Sunday from Civic Hall
Sun 10th Nov	Remembrance Sunday, Willaston
Mon 11th Nov	Royal British Legion, Nantwich Square
Mon 11th Nov	CANTA AGM, Civic Hall
Thurs 14th Nov	Soroptimist photo shoot
Fri 15th Nov	Nantwich Library, Open day
Fri 15th Nov	Nantwich Foodbank
Fri 15th Nov	Christmas lights switch on, Town Square
Mon 25th Nov	Macmillan Bingo, Civic Hall
Wed 27th Nov	Citizens Advice 80th Anniversary, Nantwich library
Thurs 28th Nov	Nantwich Volunteers Fayre, Civic Hall
Thurs 28th Nov	Mill House, Nantwich
Mon 2nd Dec	Santa's Dizzy Day, Civic Hall Millfield's School attending
Tues 3rd Dec	Christmas CAP Celebration, Market Street Church
Tues 3rd Dec	Nigel Slater- Toast, Crewe Lyceum Theatre
Wed 4th Dec	Smart Bright coffee morning in aid of Food Bank Elmscot Day Nursery
Wed 4th Dec	RBL Coffee Morning, Welch's Cafe
Wed 4th Dec	NSPCC Carol Concert, St Mary's Church
Thurs 5th Dec	Gables Christmas lunch
Tues 10th Dec	Players, Great Expectations
Thurs 12th Dec	Clarendon Court Care Home, Stapeley
Thurs 12th Dec	Nantwich in Bloom, Wilbraham Arms
Fri 13th	100th Birthday celebration, Clarendon Court Care Home
Sun 15th Dec	Camm Street Gym, Gymnastic display
Sun 15th Dec	St Mary's Church Carol Service

The Mayor advised members that he had attended St. Mary's carol service which was recorded and would be broadcast on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

100. THE PUBLIC SECTOR BODIES (WEBSITES AND MOBILE APPLICATIONS)(No.2) ACCESSIBILITY REGULATIONS 2018

Members considered the previously circulated report providing details on the requirements of the new legislation. The Clerk informed members that she had already sought proposals from three website providers and the cost would be in the region of £1500. The Clerk advised that introducing a new website would also address several other areas including consultation and GDPR.

Councillor Thomas asked about the training requirements for a new website and the demand on staff time to introduce the website. The Clerk advised that any training would be provided, and the cost would come from the training budget approved by Council. The time taken would be predominately to ensure that the information migrated by the new provided was up to date and relevant.

Resolved: It was resolved:

- a) To approve the development of a new website at a cost of approximately £1500;
- b) To approve that the Clerk choose a suitable website provider to develop the new site.

101. PLANNING CONTROL

Resolved: It was resolved that there were no objections in respect of the applications listed in Appendix A.

102. SALE OF FUR POLICY

Members considered the previously circulated report providing further information and examples on the changing national approach by local authorities and councils on the sale of real fur. Some members expressed concern over the ability to police a ban on the sale of real fur and commented on vintage furs and how they would be disposed of if not recycled and reused. Whilst other members expressed concern relating to the national approach and public views. The Clerk informed members that since being involved in the research she had become aware of the changing views nationally on the sale of real fur and she advised members to consider the reputational risk of any decision they may take.

Resolved: It was resolved that the Town Council would develop a policy on the prohibition of the sale of real fur, which would be written into the terms and conditions of market stall holders.

103. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT- QUARTER TWO 2019/20

Member considered the previously circulated report from the new internal auditor. The Clerk informed members that she had provided written responses to each of the recommendations of the auditor for members to consider. The Clerk sought support for the actions she was proposing to ensure all the recommendations are addressed.

Resolved: It was resolved to approve the actions proposed by the Town Clerk to address the recommendations of the internal auditor.

104. STANDING ORDERS/FINANCE REGULATIONS

Members consider the previously circulated report together with the draft documents. The Clerk advised members that a working group had considered the draft documents and made amendments to meet the needs of the Town Council.

Resolved: It was resolved to approve the draft Standing Order and Financial Regulations.

105. CHESHIRE EAST- PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATION 2020-2024

The Clerk advised members that the consultation period is open until 6th January and suggested that if members wish to provide a response, she would be happy to meet with members between Christmas and New year.

Resolved: It was resolved that a working group with an open invitation to all members would meet on Friday 3 January 2020.

106. VISION FOR 2019-23

Members considered the previously circulated draft Vision document. The Clerk informed members that she would like support to consult with residents on the Vision document with the aim of developing a Strategy and action plan for the next 3-4 years.

Resolved: It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the Vision Document for 2019-23;
- b) Consult with residents on the document to develop a strategy and action plan.

107. DRAFT BUDGET PROPOSALS 2020/21

Members considered the draft budget proposals prepared by the Finance Committee, containing proposals for additional revenue and capital spend items together with draft budget proposals. The additional revenue items including provision for a Town Ranger, with additional Capital costs proposed to come from Capital reserves for LED lighting, additional CCTV, market tables and professional fees. The budget also detailed proposals for general reserves, revenue reserves and other income streams through fees and charges. The Clerk advised members that following publication of the proposals for future allotment charges she had received comments and observations from the Allotments Association. Following consideration of the allotment fees it was agreed to defer this element to the next meeting of the Town Council in January. Councillor Marren then proposed acceptance of the draft budget subject to future allotment considerations, which was supported by members.

Resolved: It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the budget for the coming year, noting that regular reviews will be undertaken; and
- b) Note the current capital reserves held and approve the proposed spend from Capital during 2020/21.
- c) Approve the revenue reserve proposals for 2020/21
- d) Approve a precept of 7.5% for the year 2020/21.
- e) Approve the fees and charges as proposed for the Civic Hall, Brookfield Hall and Market stalls.

108. CAT RADIO - TRANSMISSION RELAY INSTALLATION REQUEST

The Facilities Manager provided members with details of the request from CAT radio to erect an aerial transmitter on the Civic Hall. He advised there would be little impact on the Town Council and suggested members approve the request with a view to requesting free promotion in exchange.

Resolved: It was resolved to approve the erect of a transmission relay by CAT radio at the Civic Hall.

109. NANTWICH PLEDGE PARTNERSHIP

Members considered the previously circulated information about the Nantwich Pledge Partnership. The Clerk advised that the Partnership were requesting representatives from Nantwich Town Council to sit on the partnership board.

Resolved: It was resolved that Councillor David Greaves and the Town Clerk would represent the Town Council on the Partnership.

110. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

The Mayor advised members that he had received correspondence from Nantwich Food Festival advising that Cheshire East would not be permitting the use of Love Lane and Bowling Green car parks for next years' festival. The Clerk advised that for the Council to agree an action then the item would need to be detailed in the next meeting of the Town Council. Councillor Groves expressed his disappointment and agreed that the item should be considered at the next council meeting.

111. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Facilities Manager advised members that he had attended a meeting to discuss next years' Nantwich Pride which would be going ahead on the Square.

The meeting ended at 7.26pm

Signature of Chair :.....

Date :.....