



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON 26th SEPTEMBER 2019.

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

Also Present: members of the public, PC Marc Harley and one member of the press.

55. PUBLIC FORUM

55.1 PC Marc Harley welcomed the new Clerk to Nantwich. PC Harley reminded members to report incidents or issues to the police as they happen, as leaving it to report at the monthly council meetings would leave it late to investigate. PC Harley reported that there were no specific issues during the school summer holidays, with almost no anti-social behaviour reported. PC Harley reported that incidents during the Food Festival were also very low considering the number of people attending.

Following a question from Councillor Staley relating to an accident on Waterloo Lane, PC Harley confirmed that the police have been targeting the area for speeding and will continue to monitor.

55.2 Representations from members of the public.

A resident from South Crofts Road had handed the Mayor a petition from residents relating to the poor road surface condition, stating that it had not been resurfaced since the mid 1990's. Councillor Groves advised that he had received a report in the condition of the road in July and a highways safety inspection had been carried out, with defects being corrected. He had been advised that the road is on the schedule for resurfacing for next year but would present the concerns of residents to the Area Highways group meeting the following Monday. Councillor Thomas added that the road was also dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists and was not just unsightly.

A member of the Town Concert Band raised concerns relating to busking in the town. The Concert Band had performed the previous weekend with permission but unfortunately had experienced issues with a busker also performing at the same time. The Concert Band member asked if these buskers do have a licence to perform and if so, what arrangements are in place between Nantwich Town Council and Cheshire East to ensure performers do not clash.

55.3 Representations from the public on planning applications - None.

55.4 Questions submitted in advance in writing - None.

55.5 Representation from Mr Stuart Deeley, Chair of Crewe and Nantwich Gymnastics and Community Activities Association.

Mr Stuart Deeley from the Crewe & Nantwich Gymnastics and Community Activities Association gave a presentation on proposals to relocate to a new build at the Vagrants site. Mr Deeley recognised the proposed development was outside of Nantwich town, but many of

the club members were residents of Nantwich, and so he sought support from members for the proposals. Members supported the proposals, with the Mayor suggesting that the Finance Committee consider them further, particularly as the Association will be seeking funding for the project.

56. APOLOGIES: Councillors Andrew Martin

ABSENT: none

57. DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests expressed.

58. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING - 11rH JULY 2019 AND 1orH SEPTEMBER 2019

Council **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 11rH July and 10th September 2019 be confirmed as a correct record, approved and signed by the Mayor.

59. MAYORS REPORT

The Mayor's report on his list of engagements in May and June was received.

Friday 12 July	Nantwich in Bloom judging
Friday 12 July	Nantwich Pride Judge bestdressed window
Sat 13 July	Nantwich Pride Presentation to winners
Tues 16 July	Reaseheath College, Presentation awards
Sat 20 July	Societies Spectacular, Town Square
Sun 21 July	Middlewich Mayor & RBL Opening Brunner Mold Memorial Garden
Sun 21 July	Emergency Services day, Football Stadium
Tues 30 July	Nantwich Cheese Show
	Nantwich Pre-show reception, Dorfold Park
Wed 31 July	Nantwich Show, Dorfold Hall
Wed 28 August	Police Fishing match, Gorsty Hall Lakes
Friday 30 August	Police Presentation, Nantwich Library
	Food Festival opening, Civic Hall
Sat 31 August	Food Festival judging stands, Town Square
Sat 7 Sept	High Sheriff's Garden Party, Willaston Grange
	South Cheshire Model Engineering Society Open Day, Peacock Hotel
Sun 8 Sept	Dean Jill Taylor service of welcome, Nantwich Methodist Church
Mon 9 Sept	Players 'Steel Magnolias'
Tues 10 Sept	Summer Reading Challenge, Nantwich Library presentation
Friday 20 Sept	California Blue, Civic Hall
Sat 21 Sept	North West UK kids fund Duathlon, Barony Park
	Knutsford Mayor's cycle of East Cheshire, Nantwich Square
	Nantwich Food Festival awards, Civic Hall
Sun 22 Sept	Cheshire RBL Service of Commemoration, St. Mary's Weaverham
Tues 24 Sept	Junior Police Support Officers (Primary Schools), Civic Hall
Wed 25 Sept	50+ Club celebrating 40 years, Civic Hall

The Mayor paid particular reference to his engagements relating to young people and how involved the young people of Nantwich are. The Mayor also advised that he had written to

Nantwich Cricket Club congratulating them on their achievements in reaching the final at Lord's.

60. CLERKS REPORT

Members considered the previously circulated report by the new Town Clerk, where she had provided her initial observations during the first two weeks of employment. The Clerk sought support from members to take forward a number of recommendations including the appointment of new Internal Auditors, the review of the Town Council's Financial Regulations and Standing Orders with other relating documents, a review of the terms of reference for committees, the review of the current HR policies and for the Town Council to seek to obtain the Quality or Gold status within the Local Council Award Scheme.

Councillor Marren sought clarification that the internal auditor would be a competent qualified auditor within the Town and Parish Council sector. The Clerk assured members that the quotes sought from internal auditors to carry out the work, were auditors recommended by ChALC, the Cheshire Association of Local Councils.

Resolved: It was resolved that the Council support the recommendations of the Clerk within the report.

61. PLANNING CONTROL

Resolved: It was resolved to approve the recommendations of the Clerk in respect of the applications listed in Appendix A.

62. ANNUAL RETURN 2018/19 - REPORT OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR

Members considered the previously circulated report of the External Auditor noting that in their opinion the information in Section 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. The Clerk advised members that she had posted the conclusion of the audit on the website and notice boards as required by legislation.

Resolved: It was resolved to note the report of the External Auditor and that no other matters were drawn to the attention of the Town Council by the Auditor.

63. THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETANCE

Members considered the previously circulated report of the Town Clerk recommending the support of the Town Council to use the General Power of Competence. The Clerk advised members that as the Town Council has over 213^d of its members elected and that the Clerk holds one of the qualifications required then the Town Council could approve the use of the General Power of Competence as the go to power of first resort to act, this includes the power to spend money on activities

Resolved: It was resolved that the Town Council meets the criteria for eligibility to use the General Power of Competence.

64. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

The Mayor reported that he had spoken with the Cabinet Member for Communities at Cheshire East, and if members wish to refer to the Forward Work Programme of the Cabinet

it will show that on 8 October 2019 there is a report relating to Everybody Leisure, seeking approval to go out to tender for improvements at Knutsford, Poynton and Nantwich leisure facilities.

Councillor Peter Groves raised concerns relating to transit site allocations and to potential loss of Cledford as a site following objections. Councillor Groves had also written to Stapley Parish Council with these concerns. He added that there is a need to have a number of transit sites not just relying on the one.

64. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor Stuart Bostock advised members that he had been in contact with the Allotments Society who are seeking a meeting with the Town Council's Allotments Panel. He also advised that he would be attending the AGM on ?th October at Brookfields. Councillor Bostock advised he had spoken with the Civic Society who are concerned with issues relating to the maintenance of the public realm. The Clerk advised members that she had also been in contact with representatives from the Allotment Associate and had assured them that she would look to arrange a meeting before the end of October. In addition, the Clerk had arranged a meeting with representatives from the Civic Society, Councillor Groves and an officer from Cheshire East to discuss the issues of the public realm.

Councillor Bostock gave an update on Nantwich in Bloom and their plans for winter planting, advising that the community awards would be held on the 1^Qth October .

The meeting ended at 7.10pm

Signature of Chair:.....

Date:.....