



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020.**

**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 Town Clerk.

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

**122. PUBLIC FORUM**

122.1 Representations from the Police

The Police were not present to provide an update.

122.2 Representations from members of the public.

A representative from the market traders spoke to a prepared statement requesting that the Town Council reconsider the market stall increases for 2020/21. The trader provided historic information relating to previous increases in 2011 of 25% by Cheshire East which following public support was reduce to a 12% increase. The trader commented on individual stall increases for 2020/21 suggesting it was above current inflation. The trader requested that future rent increases are in line with inflation plus 1%.

The Mayor advised the trader that a response could not be given at the meeting, and as per standing orders a decision of the town council can only be reconsidered if a written request from six councillors is received by the Town Clerk.

Councillor Stephanie Wedgwood arrived at 6.03pm.

A local resident, Graham Fenton expressed his thanks to the town council for the support given to the recent events, particularly the Holly Holy Day.

Councillor Andrew Martin arrived at 6.05pm.

122.3 Representations from the public on planning applications – None.

122.4 Questions submitted in advance in writing.

There were no questions submitted in advance.

**123. APOLOGIES:** There were no apologies of absence.

**ABSENT:** none

**124. DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests expressed.

**125. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 be confirmed as a correct record, approved and signed by the Mayor.

## 126. MAYORS REPORT

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

Sun 12th Jan 2020	Airman's Grave Remembrance Service
Sat 25th Jan 2020	Holly Holy Day
Mon 27th Jan 2020	CEC Holocaust Memorial Day
Tues 28th Jan 2020	Best Kept Station Award

The Mayor informed members that the railway station had won the Mersey Rail Award and thanked Nantwich in Bloom for their work at the station. The Mayor also expressed his thanks to the Deputy Mayor for attending the annual Showman's Guide luncheon.

## 127. PLANNING CONTROL

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

## 128. GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS

Members considered the previously circulated report providing details of the data audit carried out by the Clerk together with the resulting action plan. The Clerk sought support from Council to approve the actions details together with approving the draft Data Protection Policy, Subject Access Request policy and form and Data Breach Procedure. The Clerk also advised members that the Policy Committee had recommended the provision of tablets and .gov.uk email addresses to non-Cheshire East councillors to help manage data. The Clerk also advised of the requirement for staff and member training for non-Cheshire East members.

**Resolved:** It was resolved:

- a) To note and approve the requirements detailed within the Data Audit report and Action Plan;
- b) Approve the draft Data Protection Policy, Subject Access Request Policy and Data Breach Procedure;
- c) Approve the purchase and provision of tablets and email addresses from the Town Council IT provider;
- d) Source suitable GDPR training for staff and non-Cheshire East councillors.

## 129. INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Members considered the previously circulated draft Investment Strategy. The Clerk advised members that the strategy meets Statutory Guidance and that the Policy Committee had considered the document and recommend it for approval.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to approve the Investment Strategy for 2020/21.

## 130. INTERIM INTERNAL AUDIT

Members considered the previously circulated report from the internal auditors. The Clerk advised members that the report relating to income transactions only for the period to date. There were four recommendations within the report for which the Clerk has provided responses. The Clerk sought support from Council for the responses provided to the recommendations.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to note the interim internal audit report and approve the actions by the Clerk to address the recommendations.

### **131. CORONATION GARDENS**

The Mayor provided members with some background information relating to perimeter fencing around Coronation Gardens, referring to a recent newspaper article where the Mayor had been quoted. The article referred to Nantwich Town Council being requested to assist in the provision of perimeter fencing around Coronation Gardens when The Barony received substantial investment which had recently been approved by Cheshire East. Councillor Groves suggested that as Coronation Gardens is owned by Cheshire East then it should be Cheshire East that invest in the provision of the perimeter fence, this comment was supported by Councillor Marren. Councillor Marren added that the Town Council should write to Cheshire East asking what its intention is to protect Coronation Gardens when the investment is received at The Barony.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to write to Cheshire East to ask what its intention is to protect Coronation Gardens.

### **132. STAFF SALARY – CERTIFICATE IN HIGHER EDUCATION – COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE**

Members considered the previously circulated information relating to the achievement of the Town Clerk in obtaining her Certificate in Higher Education for Community Governance. Councillor Martin as Chair of Staffing Committee congratulated the Clerk on her achievements.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to approve a one-point increase in the salary scale to take effect from 1 February 2020

### **133. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Councillor Moran advised members that he had recently attend a scrutiny meeting where the Cheshire East budget was considered. It had been reported that the 3.99% increase would be considered at full council on 20<sup>th</sup> February and would be balanced through several measures including a reduction in general reserves and earmarked reserves. meeting Councillor Groves was concerns on the length of time this may take. The Mayor suggested this item should be included on the next agenda for consideration.

Councillor Groves advised that he had correspondence relating to the car park review in Nantwich confirming that the review has commenced, adding that the subsidised bus service is also to be reviewed with stakeholders to be contacted. Councillor Groves has also been communicating with the Environment Agency (EA) relating to the river flooding and the measures being taken by the EA to address the issues.

Councillor Marren advised of the sad passing of Councillor Brian Roberts with details of the funeral arrangements for 17 February 2020.

**134. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Councillor Butterill advised of the sad passing of Sarah Hope from the Museum who had provided over 40 years of service to the Museum. Councillor Butterill informed members that there would be a book of condolence at the Museum.

The Facilities Manager, David Thomas advised members that there had been a 2<sup>nd</sup> Food Festival meeting, where the committee had been informed of the continued support from Cheshire East with the free provision of the car park for 2020.

The meeting ended at 6.55pm

Signature of Chair :.....

Date :.....