

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER, 2019

Present: Cllr. K. Rimmer Town Mayor

Councillors:	Cllr. . Bowden	Cllr. Mrs. J. Illidge	Cllr. A. Cooper
	Cllr. Ms. S Eastwood	Cllr Miss G Edwards	Cllr. A. Stott
	Cllr. Mrs. L. Nelson	Cllr. S. Naylor	Cllr. G. Emmett
	Cllr. Mrs. A Gerrard	Cllr. M Rowley	

Also present:

Chris Shaw	-	Town Clerk
Liza Clansey	-	Assistant Town Clerk/Registrar
Theresa Cash	-	Council Secretary/Mayor's P.A.

NTC 19/30 MINUTES SILENCE

The Council observed a minutes silence in respect of the late Councillor Terry Murphy. The Town Mayor, Cllr. Rimmer, proposed that the 2020 Music Festival be named in Cllr. Murphy's honour. This was seconded by Cllr. Gerrard. All in favour.

Resolved and approved.

Cllr. Naylor wished to thank the Town Mayor for his eulogy delivered at the funeral. Also thanked the Town Clerk and office staff for attending

The Town Mayor then welcomed the new Reporter from the Northwich Guardian who was in attendance..

NTC 19/31 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs T Melville. C. Fox, and G. Edwards

NTC 19/32 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interest under the following categories:

- Pecuniary Interest
- Outside Bodies Interest
- Family, Friend or Close Associate interest
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Cllr. S. Naylor declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council
Cllr. A. Cooper declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council
Cllr Ms H Rowlands declared an interest in any matters relating to Rudheath Parish Council.
Cllr. T Lawrenson declared an interest in any matters relating to Rudheath Parish Council.
Cllr. A Gerrard declared an interest in any matters relating to Rudheath Parish Council.

NTC 19/33 OPEN FORUM

There were no speakers.

Date.....

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Cllr. K. Rimmer
Town Mayor

NTC 19/434 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

- 5.1 The minutes of Town Council Meeting held on Monday 1st July 2019 be confirmed and approved as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. Nelson seconded by Cllr. Stott. Minutes signed by the Mayor. All in favour

NTC19/35 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- 6.1 To note Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on Tuesday 16th July, 2019. Noted by Cllr. Nelson.
- 6.2 To note Policy and Operations Committee meeting held on Friday 26th July, 2019. Noted by Cllr. Stott.
- 6.3 To note Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 5th August, 2019 Noted by Cllr. Rowley
- 6.4 To note Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 20th August, 2019. Noted by Cllr. Nelson.

NTC 19/36 TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended the following events during July and August

Thursday 4 th July	Petty Pool College	Opening of the Music Festival **Deputy Mayor attended
Friday 5 th July	Visual Arts Cheshire	Launch Artists Art Trail Barons Quay
Saturday 6 th July	Northwich Carnival Committee	Northwich Carnival **Deputy Mayor attended
Sunday 7 th July	146 Squadron Northwich ATC	Graduation **Deputy Mayor attended at Memorial Court
Sunday 7 th July	Northwich Scooter Club	Annual Scooter Day **Deputy Mayor attended
Saturday 13 th July	Northwich River Festival	Annual River festival
Sunday 14 th July	Cheshire Police & Fire	Blue Light Community Engagement Day **Deputy Mayor attended
Monday 29 th July	Age UK Cheshire	Falls Prevention awareness

Date.....

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Cllr. K. Rimmer
Town Mayor

Thursday 1 st August	CWAC	Barons Quay Social opening **Deputy Mayor attended
Saturday 3 rd August	Lostock Lodge Care Home	Summer Fair **Deputy Mayor attended
Saturday 10 th August	Transition Northwch	Festival of Film for Climate Emergency
Sunday 11 th August	NTC	Civic Parade and Service
Friday 16 th August	Hays Travel North West	Official opening of Hays Travel in Northwich
Monday 19 th August	Greenbank Station	Visit to volunteers
Thursday 22 nd August	Northwich Festival	Guest of Northwich Festival Committee

The Mayor wished to thank the Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Mrs. L Nelson for deputising for him during the last 2 months.

The Mayor mentioned Transition Northwich films that he attended recently. Regarding the Civic Parade and Service, the Mayor was disappointed with the low turnout but took the opportunity of making the Trip to the Tower currently on offer from St. Helen's.
Greenbank volunteers doing a great job. Have received some funding to assist their project.

NTC19/37

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

1.0 Verdin Park

We await to hear if our funding application is successful for Play area within Verdin Park, works can then commence.

2.0 Makaton Friendly Status

NTC are now registered on this initiative and training dates will be advised when received.

Resolved

3.0 Give and Gain (Alan Street)

We have cleansed and cut back vegetation to the rear of Alan Street for a second time. Will now work with Rudheath and Witton to ensure residents take ownership of the area and keep it maintained to an acceptable standard.

4.0 Give and Gain (Northwich Town Centre)

We recently worked with Roberts Bakery giving the Town Centre a spring clean prior to the In Bloom judges visit. Morning and afternoon sessions undertaken to clean the rear of all businesses on Weaver Way, Albion Road and Sheath Street. Many thanks to the volunteers who took part. The result of the In Bloom Award are expected October/November.

Date.....

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**Cllr. K. Rimmer
Town Mayor**

5.0 Town Council Walk Around

New members were taken for a walk around the area that NTC maintain and are responsible for. Hoping this was informative and a better understanding of what NTC undertake on a daily basis.

6.0 Northwich Carnival 6th/7th July

Held this annual event in Verdin Park. NTC prepared the Park and paid for the stage hire as our contribution towards the event. Parade and Queens retinue held on Saturday, Car Boot sale and Dog Show held on the following day. Cllr. Naylor asked regarding any feedback. Attendance was good and it is understood a subsequent meeting of the Carnival Committee has taken place but we received no invitation to this. It was requested from members that the TC contact the Committee. Cllr. Naylor also mentioned has seen on Social Media to assist with Northwich Pride and Carnival. TC will contact the B.I.D regarding this matter.

7.0 Northwich River Festival 13th/14th July

Hundreds of people attended the event to enjoy activities on offer. NTC assisted with barriers and waste disposal. Town very busy and a very sunny day.

8.0 Northwich Artisan Market

Councilor Surgery was held the same Saturday as the River Festival and members were in attendance to answer any queries from the public.

9.0 Summer Fun

Funding received from EDSential for this initiative over the summer holidays. Funds provided an additional 2 week playscheme based at Victoria Road school and included a free lunch to all children attending. This was in addition to the playscheme that NTC funded where a free lunch was also provided. Second funding was for 4 fun days in Vickersway Park held on Mondays. All games and activities free of charge. Boucy Castle, Mini Dribblers, P.T. on the outdoor gym, Yoga for children and Cheshire Police in attendance to join in the activities. This funding provided free lunch for the first 50 children although each day exceeded this amount as it proved very popular. Feedback has been excellent, with many parents asking if we will repeat again next year. This not only increased the footfall into the Park, more importantly helped those families on low incomes to have a free day out or allow their children to have free fun at the playscheme.

10.0 BT 'Phone Box

NTC now own a disused 'phone box outside the Penny Black P.H. Not sure how this can be utilised. The Guardian Reporter present was asked if readers could come up with suggestions as to its future use. Proposed by Cllr. Nelson, seconded by Cllr. Gerrard. All in favour.

Resolved

10.0 Meetings

Planning and Environment Meeting Monday 2nd September 4.30 p.m.

Full Council Meeting Monday 2nd September, 6.30 p.m.

Finance and General Purposes Meeting, Tuesday 17th September 9.30 a.m.

Date.....

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**Cllr. K. Rimmer
Town Mayor**

The Town Clerk wished to thank all those representing NTC who took part in the Parkrun in memory of Cllr. Terry Murphy. A bench is to be placed on the Course. Sufficient donations have been received to cover the cost of this.

NTC19/38 CO-OPTION

Cllr. Rimmer explained the policy. 2 people have applied and there are 4 vacancies at present. Cllr. Cooper suggested we co-opt during this meeting. Cllr. Naylor added that both candidates should be co-opted, as they are known to NTC. This was proposed by Cllr. Cooper and seconded by Cllr. Nelson. All in favour. Miss Catherine Fox and Mrs Amy Lockett were declared Councillors.

Approved

NTC19/39 UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENTS

TC gave background to several meetings held over the past year, and if any other measures need to be put in place. Cllr. Stott mentioned Cumberland Street car park and the height restrictions in place. Cllr. Naylor has asked for another meeting. He has spoken to the Gypsy Liaison Officer and the local Police. Agreed we have taken the appropriate action this year. Cllr. Rowley mentioned proposed transit site and asked Cllr. Naylor for discussion regarding this with CWAC. Proposed by Cllr. Cooper and seconded by Cllr. Illidge. All in favour.

Resolved.

NTC19/40 CWAC & PARTNERS CORRESPONDENCE

Cllr. Naylor advised regarding the 2 Grade 2 listed statues getting re-sited, at a site already identified near CRS Consultants, formerly known as Parrs Bank, and coincides with the centenary of John Brunner's death. The relevance of this site is that the Brunner business was financed by Parrs Bank in the early days. Miss Fox added her knowledge to this and advised discussions are still ongoing with Historic England, and has been a lengthy process over past years.

Cllr. Rimmer commented on a few items.

- PCSO - report updated members on its contents.
- Greenbank Hub - has now been taken over jointly by Weaver Vale and Snow Angels office.
- PCSO Michelle - is excellent to work with and she is shortlisted to receive a Police award.
- Northern Rail – Explained the 'Promise to Pay' process. Proving very complicated to use, machine is problematic and doesn't always operate correctly. TC will contact to arrange meeting.
- The new Plymouth Brethren school (One School Global) opens on 9th September. Has had tour of the building, but wants to meet the Headteacher again. All the building is being utilised. Students being bused in from several outlying areas.

Cllr. Cooper advised regarding Mid Cheshire Rail Partnership – will be attending a meeting to discuss outstanding issues at Greenbank Station, among other issues that he will bring up on our behalf.

Cllr. Naylor commented regarding a meeting he attended with TC regarding the NOW Northwich Festival taking place on 5th October. A further meeting scheduled to take place to discuss how this event will be bigger and better this year. Wants to build further events in town.

Date.....

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**Cllr. K. Rimmer
Town Mayor**

NTC19/41 MONTHLY COUNCILLOR SURGERY AT THE ARTISAN MARKET

Cllr. Cooper gave update. One resident enquired about English lessons. Northwich Workzone are running free conversation classes, and free to drop in. The next Artisan Market will be held on Saturday 14th September. Councillors agreed the following rota:-

11 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Cllr. Fox and Cllr. Eastwood

NTC19/42 OUTSIDE BODIES UPDATES

Cllr. Emmett attended the East Cheshire Climate Change Group meeting and gave update. Several energy saving measures were highlighted which led to extensive discussion among members. Cllr. Naylor mentioned a meeting he had attended with the objective to turn Northwich Town Centre greener. TC has considered changing maintenance equipment to battery powered. Cllr. Rimmer mentioned the Transition Northwich films recently viewed and although they were 12 years old, the issues are now coming to fruition. Cllr. Bowden recalls these issues were brought up during the 1960's. Cllr. Naylor thanked Cllr. Emmett for attending the meeting

NTC19/43 CWAC WARD COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Cooper updated members.

- Mid Cheshire Rail Link campaign – a study to re-open the Northwich to Sandbach line. Report now published with a very encouraging result. Next stage will be to put a strategic plan in place illustrating costings etc., but looking very positive. In respect of new stations at Gadbrook Park and Middlewich, this campaign is moving forward.
- Active Travel Forum – this is a CWAC initiative Cycling /Walking strategy across the Borough. Will be attending meeting, and several issues to highlight.
- Cllrs. Naylor and Edwards are representatives on the Mid Cheshire Development Board. Nothing of major importance to pass on to members. They are also on the Northwich and Winsford Advisory panel, where the next meeting will look at ongoing issues in relation to educational needs.
- Cllr. Edwards mentioned the Playstreet initiative. Working with Police which will involve road closures for 2 hours for community activities, with Parents supervising.

Cllr. Bowden mentioned at this point the letters that were sent several months ago to local schools offering support in the light of the Mid Cheshire Campus closing. There was little or no response. Has suggested sending a follow up letter which he will compose suggesting a working group to support them. This was proposed by Cllr. Nelson and seconded by Cllr. Illidge. All in favour.

Resolved

NTC19/44 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of the next Full Council Meeting will be Monday 7TH October, 2019 at 6.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.

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Cllr. K. Rimmer
Town Mayor