

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 10TH JANUARY, 2022

Present:

Cllr S Naylor - Town Mayor

Councillors:

Cllr. B Cernik
Cllr. Mrs K Cernik
Cllr. A Cooper
Cllr. Mrs. A Lockett
Cllr. Miss C. Fox

Cllr. G. Emmett
Cllr. Mrs J. Illidge
Cllr. L. Siddall
Cllr. M. McNamee
Cllr. A. Stott

Also present: Chris Shaw
Liza Clansey
Theresa Cash

Town Clerk
Assistant Town Clerk
Council Secretary/Mayor's P.A.

NTC 21/92 PRESENTATION FROM JOHN HESELWOOD, CHESHIRE COMMUNITY ACTION

Mr Heselwood was welcomed by the Town Mayor and commenced giving a background to what CCA as a Charity do for the Community. In particular Community Led Housing, covering areas Cheshire East, Cheshire West, Halton and Warrington. A slide presentation was given, the full programme of which has been made available to all Councillors for information. Members were invited to ask questions. Some of these were in relation to costings, engagement process with Town and Parish Councils, commercial development sites, structure of borrowing to finance projects, access to sites at reasonable costs, shared approach to design, occupancy, rentals etc. Mr Heselwood gave several examples of projects already completed and the challenges faced. Mr Heselwood was thanked by the Town Mayor for his informative presentation.

NTC 21/93 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. S Eastwood. (Leave of absence granted), A Gerrard, D. Bowden and J. Thomas. Cllrs. G. Edwards and T Melville did not attend.

NTC 21/94 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interest under the following categories:

- Pecuniary Interest
- Outside Bodies Interest
- Family, Friend or Close Associate interest

Cllr. S. Naylor declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council
Cllr. K. Cernik declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council.
Cllr. B. Cernik 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

Date.....

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Cllr. S. Naylor
Town Mayor

NTC 21/95 OPEN FORUM

Alison Alum representing Transition Northwich addressed Members as a follow up to her previous visits. Thanked NTC, residents and CW&C for their opposition to the LSEP Plant and letter sent. Spoke about the ongoing Climate change initiative and how NTC could support TN for Northwich to 'lead the way'. Less plastics, less waste, recycle as a priority.. Suggested that relevant information should be shared and the possibility of meeting outside Council Chambers to see a way forward. Town Mayor agreed that working together is desirable and asked if TN could send in ideas and NTC could possibly consider setting up a sub-committee. TN would like to recognise businesses who radically reduce waste footprint. NTC have already reduced and eliminated plastic use in our Park Shops. Town Mayor suggested an accreditation to businesses from NTC. Ms. Alum was thanked for her presence.

NTC 21/96 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 6th December, 2021 be confirmed and approved as a true and accurate record.
Proposed by Cllr. Stott seconded by Cllr. Lockett. Minutes to be signed by the Mayor. All in favour.

NTC 21/97 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- 5.1 To note Planning and Environment Committee who held a virtual discussion on Tuesday 21st December, 2021. Noted by Cllr Stott.
- 5.2 To note Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Thursday 16th December, 2021. Noted by Cllr. Emmett.

NTC 21/98 TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

There were 2 events attended by the Town Mayor during December		
Tuesday 7 th December	Your Housing Group	Light switch on at Waters Cross
Sunday 21 st December	The Grange Theatre	Pantomime Aladdin

The Mayor updated members on all events attended.

Date.....

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Cllr. S. Naylor
Town Mayor

NTC 21/99 TOWN CLERKS REPORT

Christmas Trees and Lights

Removal of Christmas trees and lights should be completed by Tuesday 11th January.

Vickersway and Church Walk Play Areas

Beginning to get these prepared for the summer season with some decorating and improvements. Depending on work loads, it may be necessary to obtain quotes from Contractors so as not to delay opening.

Skate Park

Work has now started to obtain funding for the new skate park at Vickersway Park, we are working with the community group and will send out a consultation in the coming weeks for feedback. I will keep members informed on progress.

NTC 21/100 FINANCE DECISION FOR APPROVAL

RBS Loyalty Scheme

ATC gave background to report already distributed among Members regarding a discount on our Accounts package fee. Finance Committee have approved this scheme for the next 3 years.

Mandate for Local Authorities

The current Bank signing mandate is out of date, which authorises Finance Members to sign cheques and make approvals on behalf of the Council. Various Members signed the Mandate at the last Finance Meeting. The decision of the Council is required. Proposed by Cllr. Cooper, seconded by Cllr. Illidge. All in favour.

RBS Loyalty Scheme and Mandate Approved.

NTC 21/101 AED's (DEFIBRILLATORS)

A report outlining up to date information on the installation of 20 AED's was distributed to Members prior to this meeting. Cllr. Cooper asked about registration and process to follow. All defibrillators are now registered on the British Heart Foundations database 'The Circuit'. Any member of the Public needing to make use of a Defibrillator will call 999 immediately and if they are unsure where the nearest AED is, they will be informed and given further instructions. Cllr. Illidge asked the location of an AED in the Castle Street area. It will be considered by NTC to install one close to Queensway Allotments.

Date.....

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Cllr. S. Naylor
Town Mayor

NTC 21/102 CHURCH WALK PADDLING POOL

A lengthy report regarding the Paddling Pool was distributed among members prior to this meeting. Information was contained as to the overall running costs and how the online booking system worked last summer. Several questions were asked by Members, and suggestions were made as to a nominal entrance fee, but to offer free vouchers through schools for vulnerable and children from low-income homes. It was noted that statistics showed visitors came from a wide area outside Northwich. Town Mayor had conducted his own survey at the Pool when he visited last summer and everyone he spoke to would be happy to pay a small fee, as it is considered a tremendous facility. Cllr. Cooper wished to raise a Motion as to how we may mitigate the cost for children from within the Northwich Parish, as a further amendment to the above suggestion. NTC will look at ways that vulnerable families could benefit. This was proposed by Cllr. Cooper and seconded by Cllr. Stott.

Resolved

NTC 21/103 CW&C UPDATES

Cllr. K Cernik mentioned a consultation on Wildflower and suitable areas identified to plant. One such area is at Beeston Street, Castle. Cllr. Siddall suggested benches in the area similar to those in Pocket Park.

Cllr. R Cernik mentioned CW&C Cabinet meeting in respect of Children in Care on the ongoing support they need when time comes for them to leave Care. These can include Work Experience and Apprenticeships to obtain necessary skills.

There is extra funding to deal with the COVID pandemic in an effort to get homeless people off the streets.

There is a shortage of Foster Parents in the Cheshire West area with approximately 500 children in Care. Residents are not aware of the costs the Council face in Adult and Children Social Care.

Cllr. Siddall has received many enquiries regarding maintenance by the Council, such as leaf clearance etc. Cllr. Cooper explained the process of reporting online and the need for residents to realise the pressures placed on the Council especially during the current pandemic. Staff and budget cuts are inevitable and residents need to give some leeway and be patient. Maintenance is ongoing.

NTC 21/104 OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr. Cooper voiced his frustrations in relation to Rail services and the Northwich Station rebuild.

Town Mayor added he would like to see the Government's 'Levelling Up' evidence for Northwich.

NTC 21/105 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of the next Full Council Meeting will be held on Monday 7th February 2022 at 6.00 pm.

Meeting ended at 7.45 p.m.

Date.....

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Cllr. S. Naylor
Town Mayor