

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 14th MARCH, 2022

Present:

Cllr S Naylor - Town Mayor

Councillors:

Cllr. G. Emmett
Cllr. Mrs K Cernik
Cllr. A Cooper
Cllr. A. Stott

Cllr. Mrs A. Lockett
Cllr. R. Cernik
Cllr. L. Siddall

Also present: Chris Shaw Town Clerk
Liza Clansey Assistant Town Clerk
Theresa Cash Council Secretary/Mayor's P.A.

NTC 21/131 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. A Gerrard, C. Fox, G. Edwards, J. Illidge, J Thomas, and M. McNamee. Cllrs. T Melville and D. Bowden did not attend.

NTC 21/132 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. A. Cooper declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council
Cllr. A. Stott declared an interest in any matters relating to Winnington Youth Club

NTC 21/133 OPEN FORUM

There were no speakers.

NTC 21/134 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 7th February, 2022 be confirmed and approved as a true and accurate record.

Proposed by Cllr. Emmett seconded by Cllr. K. Cernik. Minutes to be signed by the Mayor.
All in favour.

Date.....

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Cllr. S. Naylor
Town Mayor

NTC 21/135 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- 5.1 To note Planning and Environment Committee who held a virtual discussion on Tuesday 15th February 2022. Noted by Cllr Stott.
- 5.2 To note Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Thursday 24th February, 2022. Noted by Cllr. K. Cernik

NTC 21/136 TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

There was 1 event attended by the Town Mayor during February

Saturday 5 th February	The Zodiac Theatre Club	Flashdance.
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NTC 21/137 TOWN CLERKS REPORT

Northwich Skate Park

We have been working with the local skate group to come up with plans for the new skate park in Vickersway Park and we were working towards submitting a March Funding bid. We have completed the consultation and this has had over 300 responses.

We are struggling to find contractors to give us costs and to carry out the works and this seems to be an issue throughout the country.

Due to not being able to obtain designs and costs we have decided to now submit the funding bid in September when we will have a better idea of costs.

Wildflower Areas

Work has now commenced on the wildflower areas in Witton Cemetery, St Helens Churchyard and Verdin Park. We will be working with local schools to sow the wildflower seeds and this will give a fantastic display in the summer.

St Helens Churchyard Wall

The collapsed wall in St Helens Churchyard is now repaired. Cllr. Emmett enquired who was responsible for the wall at Trinity Church which is in need of repair. Cllr. Cooper agreed to contact CW&C for inspection. David Street wall has also been reported to Cllr. Siddall but advised that this lies with residents to repair.

Date.....

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Cllr. S. Naylor
Town Mayor

NTC 21/138 CEMETERY AND AMENITIES FEES 2022/23

Finance Committee recommendations were reported to Members prior to this meeting. It was agreed to approve these en-bloc. Proposed to accept recommendations by Cllr. Emmett and seconded by Cllr. Siddall. All in favour.

Approved

NTC 21/139 CO-OPTION

Co-option Policy was distributed among Members prior to this meeting. To approve Co-option Policy and advertisement of Vacancies.

Proposed by Cllr. Stott, seconded by Cllr. R. Cernik. All in favour

Approved

NTC 21/140 WINNINGTON YOUTH CLUB

Cllrs. R Cernik and L Siddall gave update to Members. Have applied to P.C.C. for a Grant, CW&C also to make a contribution. Would like to introduce a Boxing Club and Trustees were spoken to regarding if this would be available for various activities. Groups of volunteers would be needed for extra sessions. Cllr. R Cernik is responsible for Youth Services within his role as CW&C Councillor. Explained the new Youth strategy, training volunteers to work with young people. Currently don't have capacity for extra sessions. It was agreed to set up a sub-committee for forward planning. A representative from a Boxing Club in Northwich then addressed Members to speak about the impact the Club has had on children needing somewhere to go, and he now needs a suitable premises to extend the Boxing Club for the numbers that are attending. He is a professional Coach and has all safeguarding standards in place. Dealing with children from all backgrounds, some difficult backgrounds and has found boxing gives them an interest. Cllr. K Cernik agreed it provides a safe place, and asked specifically what is being looked for. Advised that sessions need to be housed in the same building, and had looked at the Jubilee area in Winnington. Cllr. Siddall asked if boxing will be inclusive for both male and female. This was confirmed. Town Mayor agreed there is a need for a sub-committee, to look at possible empty premises etc, and an opportunity to discuss what's needed. Proposed to set up a sub-committee by Cllr. R Cernik, seconded by Cllr. Emmett. Councillors interested consisted of Cllrs. Emmett, Stott, Lockett, Siddall and R Cernik.

Regarding the Youth Club, Cllr. Stott advised it is well used, with various activities, but is in need of a revamp.

Resolved

NTC 21/141 COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION

Councillors noted the resignation of Shelley Eastwood.

NTC 21/142 NTC SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE

TC gave background and update. Flags are being flown at various locations. A Vigil was held in Barons Square with several members of the community including the Town Mayor, Mike Amesbury M.P. and faith leaders. Jo Garner of Changing Lives Together was then introduced to Members as the main Organiser of the drop in collection point at Barons Quay for humanitarian aid. Jo spoke about her experience over the last week or two and the mammoth task this whole operation is. 52 pallets have already been sent out to Poland for the Ukraine and a van has also arrived in Warsaw with urgent supplies. As an emergency item to this Council Meeting, it was recommended that NTC donate £1500 to fund an articulated vehicle in addition to those having already left delivering aid. Town Mayor gave a heartfelt thanks for the hard work of all 120 + volunteers, involved and others, including NTC, Barons Quay, Rotary and Northwich BID.

Date.....

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Cllr. S. Naylor
Town Mayor

Postcards are being prepared by local school children to send out with the Aid truck. Town Mayor asks that we do all we can to help with the re-settlement of refugees. It was moved by Cllr. Cooper and seconded by Cllr. K Cernik to accept the recommendation of the donation by NTC.

Approved.

NTC 21/143 WINNINGTON MEADOW TREES

TC gave background to the report distributed to members, in respect of the unauthorised trees recently planted in Winnington. Following a meeting with the CWAC Tree Officer these have been replanted in a more suitable location and an additional 7 Oak trees will be planted by NTC and Transition Northwich. Cllr R Cernik added that help and advice is always available from CW&C in relation to these matters.

NTC 21/144 OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr. K Cernik mentioned her meeting with TC and Town Mayor as to how we can get help for a number of 'Friendly benches' and walking and statue trails around the town. There is funding available for other projects and initiatives.

NTC 21/145 CW&C MEMBERS UPDATES

Cllr. R. Cernik spoke about the response to the Ukrainian refugees. Housing needs, and there could be in excess of 100 children needing school places, which are available in our area, and there is a specific group set up for this. CW&C website details of how to volunteer.

NTC 21/146 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of the next Full Council Meeting will be held on Monday 4th April 2022 at 6.00 pm.

Meeting ended at 7.05 p.m.

Cllrs. Lockett and Illidge gave their apologies for next meeting.

Date.....

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**Cllr. S. Naylor
Town Mayor**