

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 5th SEPTEMBER, 2022

Present:

Cllr G. Emmett - Town Mayor

Councillors:

Cllr. Mrs. A. Lockett
Cllr. L. Siddall
Cllr. B. Holland
Cllr. Ms A. Gerrard
Cllr. S. Bennett
Cllr. Miss C. Fox

Cllr. D. Bowden
Cllr. Mrs K. Cernik
Cllr. R. (Bob) Cernik
Cllr. Ms J Macdonald
Cllr. Ms. R Waterman
Cllr. Ms. J. Thomas

Also present: Chris Shaw
Liza Clansey
Theresa Cash

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

NTC 22/36 PRESENTATION OF GRANT CHEQUE

The Town Mayor presented Rudheath Senior Academy with a Grants cheque.
Ms. Laura Pym attending gave an update on how the Grant monies will be spent on musical instruments for pupils and replacing those that are worn.

NTC 22/37 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. A. Cooper, O. Dean, J. Illidge, M. McNamee and S. Naylor. Cllrs. A Stott, G. Edwards and T. Melville did not attend.

NTC 22/38 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interest under the following categories:

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

Cllr. R. Cernik declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council.
Cllr. Mrs. K Cernik declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council.
Cllr. Ms A Gerrard declared an interest in any matters relating to Rudheath Parish Council

NTC 22/39 OPEN FORUM

There were no speakers.

Date.....

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Cllr. G. Emmett Town Mayor

NTC 22/40 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 4th July, 2022 be confirmed and approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr. Holland wished a small amendment to be made to his comments on Agenda item 22/27 which has now been altered.

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

NTC 22/41 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- 6.1 To note the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Monday 18th July, 2022. Noted by Cllr. Emmett.
- 6.2 To note the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Monday 15th August, 2022. Noted by Cllr. Fox.
- 6.3 To note the Planning and Environment Committee Meeting held on Monday 25th July, 2022 was noted by Cllr. Emmett.
- 6.4 To note the Planning and Environment Committee Meeting held on Monday 22nd August, 2022 was noted by Cllr. Emmett.
- 6.5 To note the Grants Committee meeting held on Thursday 21st July, 2022 was noted by Cllr. B. Cernik.

NTC 22/42 TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

There were 12 events attended by the Town Mayor and Deputy during July and August.

Friday 1 st July	Brio Leisure	Dinner and show informal event
Friday 1 st July	Daneside Mews Care Home	Open Day
Friday 1 st July	Daneside Court Care Home	Open Day
Saturday 2 nd July	Northwich Carnival Committee	Official opening of the Carnival
Saturday 9 th July	N'wich Rotary Club	River Festival
13 th July	Winnington Primary School	Sports Day
Sunday 17 th July	NTC	Queens Baton Relay
Friday 29 th July	Knutsford T/C	Mayor's Charity BBQ
Sunday 31 st July	146 Sqdn. ATC	Graduation at Memorial Court Deputy Mayor attended
Wednesday 10 th August	NTC	Launch Krazy Races 2023
Wednesday 10 th August	Canal & River Trust	Performance by the Delta Music Makers Concert Band Canada
Saturday 20 th August	NTC	Pina Colada Festival

Updates were given by both Town Mayor and Deputy on the events they have attended.

Date.....

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Cllr. G. Emmett Town Mayor

Youth Provision

Youth Provision We are still working with our partners to deliver events for the local youths and these include the Party in the Park event which was very popular. We are also supporting with Cinema nights, gym sessions and starting the monthly disco again in September. With financial support from Cllr Kate Cernik and Cllr Bob Cernik we staged three football sessions at Moss Farm for local children. All these sessions are having a real impact on local ASB and the Police have said there has been a dramatic reduction in reporting especially in the town centre. Cllr. Lockett asked about raising awareness to the Junior Park Run and would like this highlighting.

Church Walk Paddling Pool

The paddling pool is now only open at weekends and will close at the end of September.

Vickersway Park

Vickersway Park shop is now only open at weekends, thanks to all our staff at both sites for working so hard over the summer.

Northwich Skate Park

The funding application has now been submitted for the new skate park at Vickersway, the overall cost will be in the region of 200k. Funding for the project will come from various partners and funding bodies and we should receive a decision by December.

Accessible Roundabout Church Walk.

Now in the process of applying for funding to install an accessible roundabout in Church Walk and new surfacing which will be carpet. Total cost will be £9500 with application to Awards For All.

Proposed by Cllr. Fox, seconded by Cllr. Thomas that NTC go ahead with the application. All in favour.

Approved

In-Bloom

On Friday 2nd September we were judged by In-Bloom judges at various sites throughout the town. We are hoping for a gold this year to better our silver gilt in previous years.

Pina Colada Festival

On Saturday 20th August staged the 2nd Pina Colada Festival, this festival was led by Northwich BID with financial support from NTC, CW&C & Barons Quay. The day was fantastic with very positive feedback received from both visitors and businesses. A big well done to Adam Gerrard from the BID who organised the event. The Town Mayor wished to express his thanks to NTC, Northwich BID the Rotary Club and Councillors who all helped to make the day a memorable and successful one. Cllr. Bennett suggested maybe a 2 day event in the future. Town Clerk pointed out that a 15 hour plus day was worked by staff and others, starting at 4.00 a.m. and 2 days would be too much expectation of staff, however with more volunteers it may be do-able.

Date.....

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Cllr. G. Emmett Town Mayor**

Artisan Market

Next market will be Saturday 10th September Members attending as follows:-

11.00 am Cllrs. Emmett and Waterman

12.00 noon Cllr. Fox

1.00 pm Cllr. K. Cernik

2.00 pm Cllr. Thomas

Cllr. Fox considers that Councillor presence is not good. Better signposting is needed to direct residents who need practical help especially in the current climate, together with informative leaflets. Cllr. K Cernik finds enquiries are variable but can be useful with conversation. Cllr. Macdonald had received favourable feedback from the public for the Town Council. Cllr. Waterman feels more dynamic advertising, and advised that Active Cheshire is holding a Fun Day in October with NHS colleagues taking park. Leaflets advertising this will be placed on Councillors stand at the Artisan Market. Cllr. Siddall considers it more important for people to know what we do. Town Mayor reminded Members that they need to attend on the day. All suggestions will be taken forward.

Cllr. Bowden added that it should be acknowledged all the time and work given by NTC to all activities in Town is appreciated and all positive feedback received from residents is welcome.

NTC 22/44 ZURICH INSURANCE RENEWAL

NTC insurance premium was due for renewal on 1st September. Premium has risen by 2.3% due to index linking of our sums insured for buildings, contents and all risks. We have agreed a 3 year deal with Zurich in 2020 and receive a 10% reduction each year. Proposed by Cllr. B. Cernik, seconded by Cllr. K. Cernik to accept. All in favour.

Approved

NTC 22/45 GRANTS COMMITTEE

As these Committee meetings are scheduled for a Thursday evening, Cllr. Gerrard is unable to attend due to work commitments, and therefore has duly agree to step down to allow Cllr. McNamee to be added to the Committee, as he had requested. Proposed by Cllr. B Cernik, seconded by Cllr. Thomas to accept.

Resolved

NTC 22/46 HS2 PETITION

The HS2 petition was discussed and a copy of submission representing NTC was previously distributed to Members.

Date.....

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Cllr. G. Emmett Town Mayor

NTC 22/47 CW&C UPDATES

Cllr. K Cernik attended the opening of the new Unit at Victoria Infirmary (VIN) which now offers a range of services including CT Scanners, X-Rays, cardio vascular etc. More funding is available and it is hoped for a new surgical hub to deliver day/minor operations. The future is secure for VIN and is much valued by Service Users.

CW&C is now a Breast feeding friendly Borough. There are a lot of new NHS initiatives taking place, but it is unlikely to be a Maternity Unit at VIN. These services available at Leighton and Countess of Chester Hospitals.

There are plans to address the issue of Dental NHS provision in this area. Cllr. Cernik will be taking this forward when she speaks to the Commissioner and will report back to NTC.

Mental Health Scrutiny – there are 2 areas for children and Improving Access to Psychological therapies (IAPT) for adults under the Cheshire and Wirral Trust. 24 hour helpline available but huge bottlenecks in the Service, due to shortage of Mental Health beds generally within the U.K. NHS are struggling to get medical Professionals.

Cllr. Lockett commented these are great points to bring up particularly with Dental and Mental Health. Many thanks to Cllr. K Cernik for her good work. Cllr. Siddall echoed her comments.

Cllr. B Cernik commented the distribution of Healthcare – VIN is now a key location for Services.

In respect of Moss Farm, there were a lot of reports of ASB over the Summer. Community Safety Partners, the Police, CW&C and Youth Service workers have an action plan to hire Security of the site from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.. This will include Youth Workers talking to ASB offenders, Streetcare also brought into place, extra activities, problem solving. Recent findings show this is working with the Youth activities being put into place. Community Safety Partnership is looking successful. Town Mayor commented about cars accessing the site late at night. Gates are locked now preventing access. Cllr. Bennett added he is aware of drug use among younger children at the site, but security now in place to address. Town Clerk commented that the Youth scheme was sceptical at first by many but over the last 6 months has seen to be a massive success. Reduction in Town Centre ASB massive. Lots of work put into this scheme.

Cllr. B Cernik advised of the Accommodation strategy for Children in Care currently running at 500 children across the Borough, the majority of which are fostered. Properties are being purchased for use as Care Homes across the Borough for up to 4 children.

NTC 22/48 OUTSIDE BODIES UPDATES

Cllr. Gerrard spoke about the problems being experienced with vandalism etc on play areas within Rudheath. Rudheath Parish Council is also looking at funding for Security. HS2 petition has been sent on behalf of Rudheath Parish Council as Rudheath will be affected more than others.

Cllr. Waterman gave a reminder about Food Banks in relation to our Artisan Market stand. Cllr. K Cernik suggested a session at next Full Council meeting to discuss Food Banks, initiatives for fuel and food poverty.

Town Mayor, Cllr. Emmett wished to draw the attention to Members in respect of the Northwich Youth Centre Open Day on Sunday 18th September and encourage all to attend. Refurbishment on a large scale to take place.

NTC 22/49 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of the next Full Council Meeting will be held on Monday 3rd October, 2022 at 6.00 pm.

Meeting ended at 7.10 p.m.

Date.....

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Cllr. G. Emmett Town Mayor