

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 7th OCTOBER 2024

Present:

Cllr Kate Cernik

Deputy Town Mayor

Councillors:

Cllr Andy Kent

Cllr Bob Cernik

Cllr Catriona Stewart

Cllr Andy Stott

Cllr Joanne Callaghan

Cllr Rachel Waterman

Cllr Arthur Neil

Cllr Tom Melville

Cllr Julie MacDonald

Cllr Alison Gerrard

Cllr Patricia Parkes

Also present:

Chris Shaw

Chief Officer

Cath Kirwan

Deputy Chief Officer/Responsible Finance Officer

NTC 24/38 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Sam Naylor, Cllr Lee Siddall, Cllr Amy Lockett, Cllr Olwyn Dean, Cllr Graham Emmett, Cllr Jane Thomas and Cllr Janet Illidge.

NTC 24/39 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interest under the following categories:

Pecuniary Interest

Outside Bodies Interest

Family, Friend or Close Associate interest

Cllr Arthur Neil, Cllr Rachel Waterman declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council. Cllr Alison Gerrard declared an interest in Rudheath Parish Council

NTC 24/40 OPEN FORUM

There were no speakers

Date.....

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Cllr Kate Cernik
Town Mayor

NTC 24/41 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

4.1 The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd September 2024 be confirmed and approved as a true and accurate record.

Proposed by Councillor Arthur Neil and seconded by Councillor Bob Cernik

All agreed.

Minutes to be signed by the Mayor.

NTC 24/42 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

5.1 To note the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Monday 16th September 2024.

5.2 To note the Planning and Environment Committee Meeting held on 23rd September 2024

Members noted the minutes of the meetings.

NTC 24/43 TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor's diary – September 2024

Town Mayor's Communications	
5 th September	The Daniel Adamson
7 th September	Super Box Boxing Club
14 th September	Davenham RBL Veterans
20 th September	Northwich Beer Festival
22 nd September	Northwich Rowing Club Awards
26 th September	St. Lukes Open Day

NTC 24/44 CHIEF OFFICERS REPORT

Members received a report from Chief Officer.

Belmont Road Play Area Improvements

Chief Officer updated members as the funding is now in place.

Date.....

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ClIr Kate Cernik
Town Mayor

Rose Meadow Play Area

Chief Officer updated members as the site relates to the Urban Forest and have some concerns over flooding.

Councillor Andy Kent commented that this is very disappointing as the time it has taken has been very long. Residents have also felt disappointed with the outcome so far. Hopefully this can still go ahead, and works can start. Chief Officer will continue to chase Bellway and Cheshire West and update members.

Dates for Diary

Chief Officer updated members with upcoming events.

Letter to be written to Cheshire Police thanking all the PCSOs for the great work they do.

NTC 24/45 INSURANCE POLICY

Annual Insurance of £14,148.61 to be approved for 2024/2025.

Proposed by Councillor Julie McDonald seconded by Councillor Tom Melville

All agreed

NTC 24/46 BIODIVERSITY

Members received a report from Councillor Catriona Stewart about the Butterfly Conservation. Councillor Catriona Stewart commented on how indicative the population of invertebrates and amphibians is and how we have a responsibility to act on the climate crisis. Northwich Town Council does have natural planting and would like the council to support this group with a medium and long-term plan.

Members received a report from Rupert Adams about how insects are at the bottom of the pyramid and Rupert works with various groups on this. Rupert talked about the project Wildspace [Let's Create Wild Spaces - Wild Spaces \(wild-spaces.co.uk\)](https://wild-spaces.co.uk) and is part of this team.

Chief Officer commented that we do have areas that can be developed and will look at the bedding and start to incorporate pollinators.

Rupert Adams said Northwich Town Council can fill the gaps and create a landscape for the insects.

Stephen Hardcombe mentioned that he is part of Marbury Wildlife where there is a substantial amount of work being done. There is also a very active bird group in Marbury.

Councillor Julie McDonald mentioned the field where the orchard near Greenall Road is we could plant something there.

Councillor Kate Cernik talked about how Northwich Town Council will work in partnership with other groups to create this. Chief Officer will meet with Rupert Adams and create a plan and report back to council with a proposal.

NTC 24/47 CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OPENING TIMES

Members to approve Christmas opening hours.

Proposed by Councillor Julie Macdonald and seconded by Councillor Catherine Fox

All agreed.

NTC 24/48 OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Andy Kent updated members on the improvements at Northwich Railway Station, but nobody is claiming ownership outside the Workzone area to remove the flytipping there. Litter picking will continue to be done at the station and around the area. There are now school posters that have been installed and are very impressive. Northwich Town Council will also be installing copies of them in Vickersway Park. The official opening of Northwich Station Schools Art Trail will be opening on the 18th October. Unfortunately, there are still no public toilets at the station. Chief Officer will be instructing Northwich Town Council staff to go in and have a tidy up of the area ready for the opening of the Art Trail and members fully support this.

Proposed by Councillor Julie Macdonald and seconded by Councillor Arthur Neil

Councillor Rachel Waterman thanked Northwich Town Council for their support in Leftwich with the recent ASB. Also, if anyone would like to volunteer in Asda on the RBL Poppy stall then contact Councillor Rachel Waterman.

NTC 24/49 CWaC MEMBERS

Councillor Arthur Neil has managed to engage with the owners of the land near the Blue Barrel Pub and has also managed to get CWaC to cut the grass at Jubilee Field and children can now play on the field. He is in regular contact with CWaC in getting improvements to happen. Councillor Arthur Neil is also working with the residents in Winnington and has quarterly meetings.

NTC 24/50 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Council meeting will be Monday 4th November 2024 at 6.00 pm

Councillor Alison Gerrard left at 7.10pm

Meeting closed 7.35pm.

PART B

In accordance with the Local Government Act – Public Admission to Meetings Act 1960, the following agenda item is to be considered in the absence of press or public.

NTC 24/51 TOWN AWARDS

Members discussed a Town Awards Scheme.

Proposed by Councillor Julie McDonald and seconded by Councillor Catherine Fox

All agreed

Date.....

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Cllr Kate Cernik
Town Mayor