



Northwich
town council

2023 Annual Report



www.northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk



Chief Officer, Chris Shaw Year Overview

**"Another remarkable year
for Northwich!"**

It's with great pride that we reflect on yet another remarkable year for Northwich. Once again, we've proven ourselves to be a beacon of excellence in the Northwest, showcasing a diverse range of events that enrich the lives of our residents and invigorate our local businesses. None of this would be achievable without the outstanding spirit of partnership that thrives in Northwich.

We extend our sincerest gratitude to our invaluable collaborators, including Northwich BID, Barons Quay, Cheshire West and Chester Council, Rotary Clubs, and numerous others. Together, we've achieved remarkable feats, enhancing the fabric of our community and fostering an environment of prosperity and growth.

This year, our commitment to enhancing local amenities reached new heights with the introduction of the state-of-the-art skatepark at Vickersway Park. Through collaborative efforts with Rudheath & Witton Together, Cheshire West and Chester Council, and FCC Communities, we've unveiled a facility that not only meets but exceeds the needs of our local skating community.

Furthermore, our dedication to maintaining pristine parks and play areas remains unwavering. Thanks to the tireless efforts of our grounds maintenance teams, our community can enjoy these spaces at the highest standard, fostering a sense of pride and belonging among residents.

As we look ahead to 2024, our enthusiasm knows no bounds. With a plethora of exciting initiatives on the horizon, we're poised to make this upcoming year nothing short of spectacular. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all our councillors, staff, partners, and volunteers whose unwavering dedication continues to propel Northwich as the best town in Cheshire.

**Here's to a future filled with boundless opportunities
and unparalleled success. Bring on 2024 – together,
we'll make it an extraordinary year for Northwich!**





Northwich Town Mayor 23-24 Cllr. Jane Thomas

"I have enjoyed meeting and working with you all and I extend my heartfelt thanks to all for your ongoing work."

I have been proud to serve as Northwich Town Mayor supported by my wonderful consort, Beth, my daughter and my fantastic Deputy Mayor, Cllr Kate Cernik and the team at Northwich Town Council.

As a town, we are so lucky to have such a phenomenal team at Northwich Town Council who work tirelessly but also seamlessly with other local organizations to provide the very best for our residents.

Our local Councillors, MPs, The BID, The Rotary Groups, Radio Northwich, The local Police, The Plaza, Barons Quay, 146 Squadron, Toppers of Northwich, Community React, Dementia Friendly Northwich, The Very Green Grocery, Rudheath and Witton Together, local Support Groups as well as our incredible dignitaries – are just some of the outstanding groups and individuals who play a vital role in creating and supporting this vibrant and unique town where we all live and thrive. I have enjoyed meeting and working with you all and I extend my heartfelt thanks to all for your ongoing work.

I have had the privilege to attend some tremendous events and celebrations. I have had the pleasure of enjoying some musical events – from the wonderful Condante singers to the Verdin Festival; Three superb days of free music! I have watched some exceptional theatre performances, notably the KMT, the local pantomimes and the wonderful Zodiac Theatre. I have had the privilege of meeting Theresa Bazar whilst being interviewed by the incredible Kim Smith from Radio Northwich.

I enjoyed watching the Dragon Riverboats and the "Kraziest" Cars. I celebrated Christmas by leading the local children carrying their artistic lanterns through town. I became a butterfly in the Pina Colada Festival. I have danced with a Pineapple, a very "Salty" woman, a Bear and a Panda!

I lit the largest bonfire in Cheshire and watched some incredible dances during the Now Festival in the town. Where else in the country is this possible?

Northwich has clearly some incredible talent. I have met the most incredible artists, and I enjoyed viewing pieces that are exceptional. I have also spent time with outstanding sportspeople and musicians.

I also have had the opportunity to open many different enterprises. This shows that Northwich is flourishing – despite a cost-of-living crisis and national austerity. I wish the very best of luck to each and every venture.

As I reflect on my wonderful year, some of my fondest memories will be of the people that I have met during the last year and hearing their stories. I have met some incredible people from the young to the not quite so young who are just inspirational. I very much look forward to reading and hearing about future achievements.

I wish Kate every success going forward and I am confident that Northwich Town will continue to thrive.



Northwich Town Mayor 23-24 Cllr. Jane Thomas

**During the Term of Office,
the Town Mayor attended
62 events/functions.**

Within the current Civic Handbook are descriptions of the points scoring system for each event according to its type, the points are allocated as follows:

- Events promoting the Town – 5 points
- Local community groups promoting – 5 points
- Civic hosting – 3 points
- Council/Statutory/Traditional – 3 points
- Business openings inside the parish – 3 points
- Charities – 2 points
- Social – 1.5 points
- Business openings outside the parish – 1 point
- Civic Circuit (The Chain Gang) – 1 point

The Town
Mayor
totalled

156
points

These accounted
for all events
attended mid
May 2023
to present day





EVENT ATTENDANCE

Northwich Town Mayor 23-24. Cllr. Jane Thomas

21.05.2023	Chester Cathedral	Annual Civic Service
26.05.2023	Northwich Rotary	Northwich River Festival Promotion
27.05.2023	Northwich Cricket Club	Afternoon Tea
31.05.2023	Northwich Town Council	Accessible Roundabout Opening
		Church Walk Play Area
02.06.2023	Northwich Town Council	The Friendly Bench Opening
		Vickersway Park
08.06.2023	Northwich Town Council	Krazy Races Launch
13.06.2023	GroZone	Big Green Week
16.06.2023	Northwich Town Council	Freedom Ceremony
16.06.2023	Northwich 146 Squadron	Ceremony
20.06.2023	Northwich Town Council	Sheeran Skate Park Consultation
21.06.2023	Northwich Town Council	Krazy Races Scrutineer Event
22.06.2023	Neuromuscular Centre	Open day
22.06.2023	Sir John Deane's College	Celebration Evening
30.06.2023	Daneside Court Nursing Home	Open Day
01.07.2023	Willow Green, Davenham	Closing Event
06.07.2023	Condote Singers	21st Anniversary
07.07.2023	Victoria Road Primary School	Summer Fair
15.07.2023	Northwich Rotary	The River Festival
16.07.2023	Northwich Town Council	Krazy Races
23.07.2023	Hartford Village Hall	Hartford Village Hall Centenary Event
28.07.2023	Barons Quay	Art Trail Closing Event
31.07.2023	The Prince's Trust	Bridging the Gap
19.08.2023	Northwich BID	Pina Colada Event
03.09.2023	Northwich Town Council	The Butterfly Trail
10.09.2023	Parkinson's Charity	Charity Walk
15.09.2023	Northwich Rotary	Northwich Beer Festival
16.09.2023	Warrington Police Museum	Open Day



EVENT ATTENDANCE CONTINUED

16.09.2023	Northwich Rowing Club	Presentation Evening
22.09.2023	Northwich Town Council	Opening of Sheeran Skate Park
22.09.2023	Butterfly Breast Cancer Charity	Awards Ceremony
23.09.2023	Northwich Rugby Club	Opening of Northwich Rugby Club House
23.09.2023	Macmillians	Coffee Morning and Art Gallery
14.09.2023	Royal British Legion	Breakfast Club
20.10.2023	Brunner Mond and Co	150th Anniversary Weekend
24.10.2023	Warrington Museum of Policing	Meeting with Len Cotterell
28.10.2023	Royal British Legion	Launch of Poppy Day Service
04.11.2023	Northwich Rotary	FireFest
08.11.2023	Cloughwood School	Outdoor Class Opening
11.11.2023	Northwich Town Council	2 Minutes Silence, Remembrance
11.11.2023	Zodiac Productions	The Wedding Singer
12.11.2023	Northwich Town Council	Remembrance Parade and Service
15.11.2023	In Bloom	Presentation
16.11.2023	Sir John Deane's College	Musical Soiree
25.11.2023	B&M	Store Opening
25.11.2023	Northwich Town Council	Northwich Christmas Extravaganza
29.11.2023	La Turka Restaurant	Restaurant Opening
30.11.2023	St Lukes Hospice	Christmas Tree Switch On
08.12.2023	Northwich Town Council	Tree of Lights Ceremony
16.12.2023	Northwich Police	Police Awards
20.12.2023	Boot's Opticians Northwich	Store opening
21.12.2023	St Helen's Church	Community Lunch
20.01.2024	Jodie's Gym	Opening Event
26.01.2024	Community ReAwards	Volunteer Awards
21.02.2024	Northwich Town Council	Town Mayor's Indian
23.02.2024	Rudheath and Witton Together	10 Year Celebration
02.03.2024	No Limits Disability Positive	Showcase
02.03.2024	Zodiac Productions	Beautiful
09.03.2024	Namex Gym	Opening
23.03.2024	Northwich Rotary Club	Swimathon



Chris Shaw
Chief Officer



Cath Kirwan
Deputy Chief Officer/ RFO



Liza Clansey
Registrar/Wellbeing
Manager



Paul Davis
Public Realm and
Contracts Manager



Steph Astbury
Public Realm Officer



Pete Stanway
Public Realm Officer



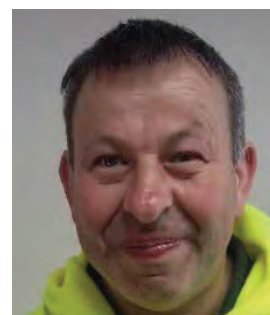
Ian Clarke
Public Realm Officer



Simon Ashbrook
Public Realm Operative



Kevin Spruce
Public Realm Operative



Simon Edgerly
Public Realm Operative



Chris Rowe
Public Realm Operative



George Senior
Public Realm Operative



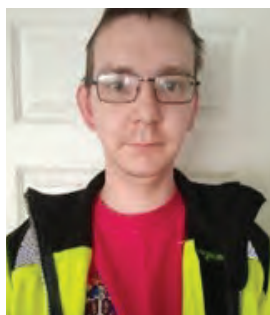
Andy Holmes
Public Realm Operative



Aidan Herrett
Public Realm Operative



Debbie Buck
Leisure Attendant



Mike Munnerley
Park Attendant



Dale Kettle
Park Attendant



Robert Buck
Leisure Attendant



Wendy Harrison
Leisure Attendant



A FEW SPECIAL MOMENTS OF 2024 IN PICTURES

Verdin Park Music Festival



Accessibility Roundabout



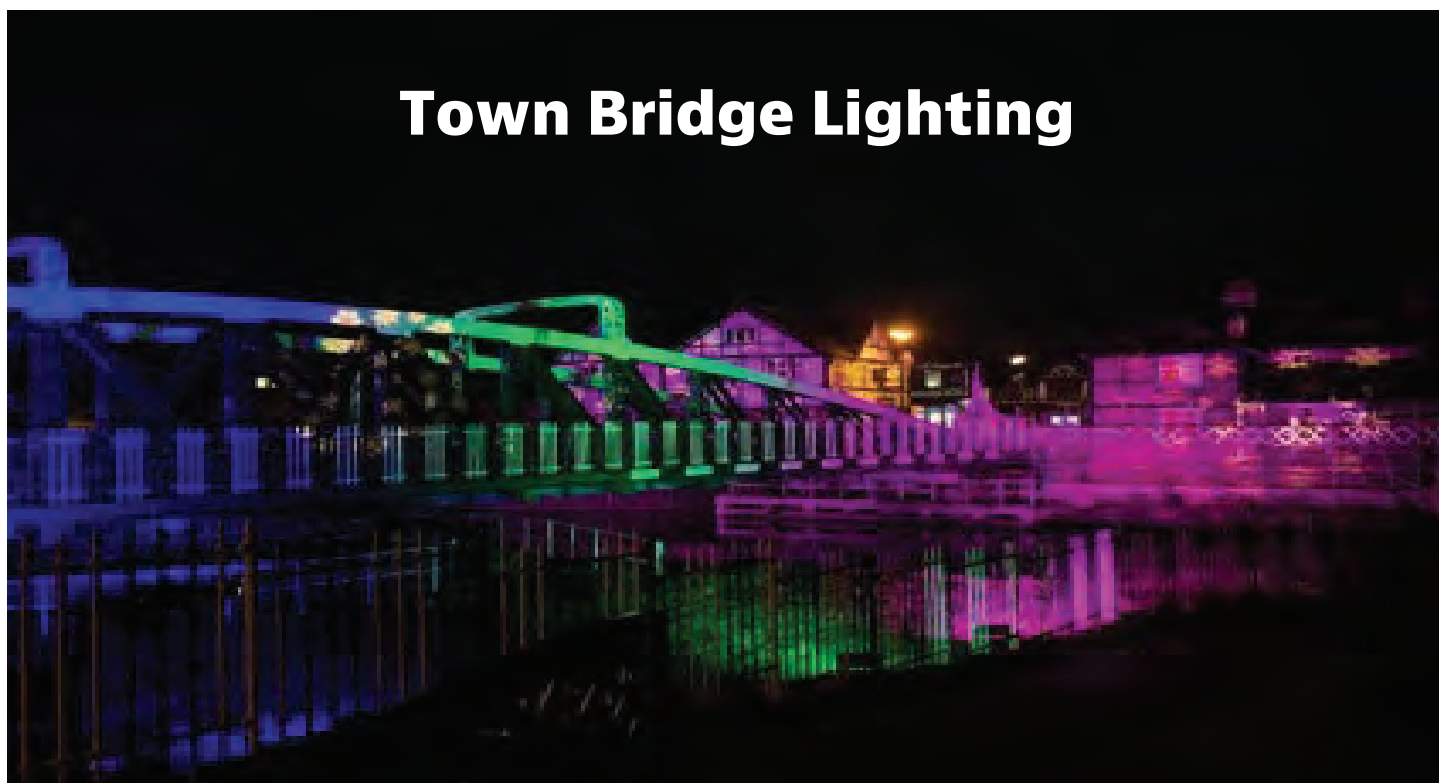
Pina Colada Festival





A FEW SPECIAL MOMENTS OF 2024 IN PICTURES

Town Bridge Lighting



Pina Colada Festival





King Charles III Coronation

Northwich came together to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III on Sunday 7th May in Barons Square. This was well attended with crowds enjoying refreshments and live music from Roberts Bakery Band, who performed a rendition of 'God Save the King' before various acoustic artists and violin and saxophone players continued the entertainment into the afternoon.



Verdin Park Music Festival

2023 saw Verdin Park Music Festival take place over a whole weekend in June. The weekend line up included a wide variety of artists, with additional entertainment on site including a fairground, food stalls and a bar ensured that this weekend was enjoyed by families and friends alike.



Northwich River Festival

The Northwich River Festival took place in July and once again proved an extremely popular event. Many thanks to Rotary Northwich for all their hard work in organising this fantastic event.





Krazy Races

Krazy Races returned to Northwich for another fun filled day. Many teams took their turn to take on the obstacle course down Castle Hill to compete for the fastest time while onlookers cheered on their favourites and enjoyed the other entertainment available throughout Verdin Park. This event brought many people into Northwich and with the weather on our side a brilliant day was had by all.



Remembrance Sunday

Regardless of the weather the Remembrance Parade and service is well attended by the people of Northwich and this year was no different. Many people joined the parade from Crum Hill to St Helen's Church before moving to the Cenotaph for the service.



Christmas Extravaganza

Northwich Christmas Extravaganza took place on Saturday 25th November 2023 and saw the return of many popular attractions including the ice rink, fairground, hot food, games and of course, the man himself, Santa in his grotto, waiting to meet the children of Northwich. The lantern parade, always a highlight of the day, was this year joined by sculptures of the snow queen, an angel and reindeer headed by the Batala Mersey Samba Band leading the procession to Barons Square for the light switch on. The day was topped off with a fantastic firework display from Riverside Park.





Friendly Bench

The Friendly Bench was installed in Vickersway Park and was officially opened on 2nd June by the Town Mayor. This is a great asset to the park and has been well received by visitors.

AED Install (Automated External Defibrillator)

This year we have, along with various partners, successfully installed another 3 defibrillators in and around Northwich. These are at; Northwich Driving Test Centre, Gary's Barbers, and Puddle Ducks, Barons Quay. This takes the current total to 24 AED's, all of which are accessible 24/7 and are checked and maintained by Northwich Town Council.

Town Bridge Lighting

Throughout the year we have been able to light up Town Bridge for various causes including Diabetes day.



Friendly Bench



Defibrillator Installation



Sheeran Skate Park

Wildflower Area

NTC working in partnership with St Helen's Church and local schools prepared areas and planted wild flower seed in Witton Cemetery, St Helen's Churchyard and Verdin Park. When in full bloom these areas looked beautiful and attracted various wildlife.

Sheeran Skate Park

Following multiple public consultations and design ideas, the contract to install a new skate park at Sheeran Skate Park was awarded and work began in September. The weather created some issues in proceeding with the install at times, but finally the work was complete and officially opened by the Town Mayor. The new concrete skate facilities are a significant improvement on the previous equipment and it has been well received by the local wheeled sports community.

Accessible Roundabout Church Walk Play Area

Recognizing the importance of providing accessible play equipment, Northwich Town Council and Oakmere Toyota joined forces to fund this project. The previous roundabout at the Church Walk play area presented accessibility challenges, preventing some members of the community from fully participating in the joy of outdoor play. With the installation of the new accessible roundabout, Northwich Town Council and Oakmere Toyota have taken a significant step towards creating an inclusive environment for all.



Vickersway Park

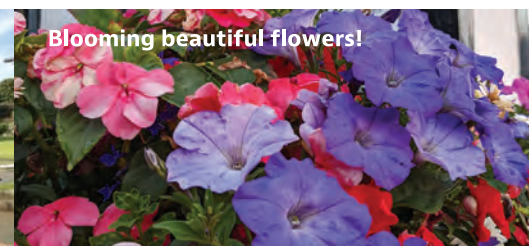
Vickersway Park is enjoyed by adults and children alike throughout the year. During the summer months, many families came down to make the most of the mini golf, tennis courts and play area before indulging in an ice cream and coffee.

Church Walk Paddling Pool

Another successful year was had for families enjoying the free facility at Church Walk Paddling pool. Many people also took advantage of the private hire option available including Tiny Steps, who held sessions for children with additional needs. Unfortunately, the weather into September forced an early closure but we are looking forward to another season at the pool.

In Bloom

Once again, NTC in partnership with Northwich BID took part in Northwest In Bloom. Following successful previous years, this year we achieved Gold at the annual awards, as well as joint 'Best in Category' for Large Town.



Rose Meadow Play Area

Following discussion with the developer and planning officers at Cheshire West and Chester, to asset transfer a piece of land on a new housing development, earmarked for a play area to Northwich Town Council. Consultations will take place with residents to ensure that the play area is suitable for residents, and NTC will then maintain, inspect and manage the play area.

Youth Provision

NTC teamed up with Northwich RUFC and other agencies to provide fully inclusive sports camps to Moss Farm over the Summer. Many children attended the sessions and took part in a variety of sports including dodgeball, cricket, football and rugby. There were also sessions aimed at high school students taking place to keep them active over the summer.

Members Budgets

Thanks to various CWAC members we were able to carry out various works which without we would have been unable to. This includes:

- Cllr. Sam Naylor provided members budget for accessible picnic benches to be placed in Vickersway Park
- Cllr. Andrew Cooper provided members budget for path clearance in Leftwich.
- Cllr. Parkes and Cllr. Loftus provided members budget for additional hanging baskets in Greenbank.



Summary of Accounts 2023/2024

Opening Balance (Inc E-Mark Res) **536,570**

Income

Precept	561,570
Cemetery	69,084
Allotments	18,240
Outside Contracts	370,049
Funding/Projects	152,837
Parks & Leisure	32,714
Community Events	58,775
Room Hire	23,861

Income Sub Total **1,823,700**

Expenditure

Central Establishment Wages	312,691
Parks & Cemetery Wages	77,248
Contract Work Wages	80,332
Events Wages	21,223
Central Establishment	254,807
Parks & Cemetery	28,715
Grants & Donations	9,597
Events	100,442
Contracts Costs	179,312

Expenditure Sub Total **1,064,367**

Closing Balance (Inc E-Mark Res) **759,333**



Your Councillors by Ward

BELMONT

Olwyn Dean	olwyndean@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk	07886 964369
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GREENBANK

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Patricia Parkes	patriciaparkes@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk	07903 394869

LEFTWICH

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WINNINGTON & CASTLE

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Jane Thomas	janethomas@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk	01606 41510
Julie Macdonald	juliemacdonald@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk	07931 302024



Email contact for your Council Officers

Chief Officer :

Chris Shaw: chrisshaw@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Deputy Chief Officer / Responsible Finance Officer (RFO):

Cath Kirwan: cathkirwan@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Cemetery Registrar / Wellbeing Manager:

Liza Clansey: lizaclansey@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Public Realm and Contracts Manager:

Paul Davis: pauldavis@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Public Realm Officer:

Stephanie Astbury: stephanieastbury@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Services

- Play Areas
- Allotments
- Events
- Outdoor spaces
- Councillors
- Outside Contracts
- Cemeteries and Bereavement Services
- Northwich Town Mayor

General Contact



01606 41510 (Mon – Fri, 9am – 5pm)



www.northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk



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