

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Chief Officer: Chris Shaw

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Northwich
town council

DATE: 24th February 2026

To: The Members of Northwich Town Council

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend the meeting of the **Full Council** at the **Council Chamber, 78 Church Road, Northwich, CW9 5PB** to be held on **Monday 2nd March 2026 at 6.00pm.**

Yours Sincerely

Chris Shaw

Chief Officer

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declaration of interest

Members to declare any interest under the following categories:

- *Pecuniary interest
- *Outside bodies interest
- *Family, friend, or close associate interest

3. Open Forum

Members of the public will be allowed to speak at the Open Forum section of this meeting on the understanding that any topics raised will have been forwarded in writing to the Chief Officer at the above address prior to the date of the meeting. Public Question Time to be a maximum of 10 minutes.

4. Signing of the Minutes

4.1 Of the Town Council meeting held on Monday 2nd February 2026 (Minutes attached)

Members are required to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record.

5. Reports of Committees

5.1 To note Finance, Amenities & General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 16th February 2026.

5.2 To note Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 23rd February 2026

Members to note the minutes.

6. Town Mayors Communications

List of Civic Events that the Town Mayor has attended during December 2025 (attached)

Members to note the report.

7. Chief Officers Report

To receive a report from the Chief Officer (attached)

Members to note the report.

- 8. Police Update**
To receive a report from our PCSO on local issues.
- 9. Northwich Active Travel**
To receive an update on the proposed work, timescales, and locations.
[Members to note the update.](#)
- 10. Northwich Music Festival 2026**
To receive a report on the Festival (attached)
[Decision of the Council is requested.](#)
- 11. Outside Bodies**
To receive an update from any member attending meetings of outside bodies.
(This item is for Outside bodies only)
[Members to note the updates.](#)
- 12. CW&C Members**
To receive an update from CW&C ward members
[Members to note the updates.](#)
- 13. Date of next meeting**
The next meeting will be on Monday 5th February 2026 at 6.00pm

Part B

In accordance with Local Government Act—Public Admission to Meetings Act 1960, the following agenda items are to be considered in the absence of press and public.

- 14. Verdin Park Car Park Proposal**
Report to be given at the meeting.
[Members to note the report.](#)

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2026

Present:

Cllr Robert Cernik Deputy Town Mayor

Councillors:

Cllr Emma Guy	Cllr Kate Cernik
Cllr Stephen Harcombe	Cllr Rachel Waterman
Cllr Catriona Stewart	Cllr Andy Stott
Cllr Graham Emmett	Cllr Alison Gerrard
Cllr Janet Illidge	Cllr Patricia Parkes

Also present:

Chris Shaw	Chief Officer
Cath Kirwan	Deputy Chief Officer/Responsible Finance Officer

NTC 25/106 PRESENTATION OF GRANTS AWARD

Councillor Robert Cernik presented the Grants Award to:

- Boxing Fit Academy - £580.00
- Changing Lives Together - £1500.00
- Cheshire 7s Cup - £500.00
- Cheshire School FA - £300.00
- Witton Church Walk CE Primary School & Nursery - £832.50

NTC 25/107 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Joanna Callaghan, Cllr Lee Siddall, Cllr Sam Naylor, Cllr Tom Melville, Cllr Andy Kent, Cllr Arthur Neil, Cllr Julie Macdonald and Cllr Catherine Fox.

NTC 25/108 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interest under the following categories:

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

Councillor Rachel Waterman and Councillor Patricia Parkes, declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council.

Councillor Alison Gerrard declared an interest in any matters relating to Rudheath Parish Council.

Councillor Catriona Stewart declared an interest in Love Music Trust.

Councillor Kate Cernik declared an interest in Health Watch Cheshire West.

Date.....

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Cllr Robert Cernik
Deputy Mayor

NTC 25/109 OPEN FORUM

Members received a presentation from

NTC 25/110 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

- 5.1 The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 6th January 2025 be confirmed and approved as a true and accurate record.

Cllr Emma Guy requested an amendment to the minutes confirming that Cllr Sam Naylor would take on Cllr Olwyn Deans' workload during her absence.

Cllr Emma Guy requested an amendment to the minutes stating she had requested a steering group to be set up going forward to hold Cheshire West & Chester Council accountable for the cleansing within the town centre.

Proposed by Cllr Catriona Stewart and seconded by Cllr Kate Cernik

All agreed.

NTC 25/111 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- 6.1 To note Finance, Amenities & General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 19th January 2026
6.2 To note Grants Committee meeting held on Wednesday 21st January 2026
6.3 To note Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 26th January 2026

Members noted the minutes of the meetings

NTC 25/112 TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor's diary – January 2026

Town Mayors Communications	
14 th January	The Joshua Tree, Open Event
28 th January	Comedy of Errors, Sir John Deanes College
30 th January	Community ReAwards

Cllr Cernik praised Northwich Town Council for receiving an award from BID Northwich, The Unsung Heroes

NTC 25/113 CHIEF OFFICERS REPORT

Members received the report from the Chief Officer.

Cllr Harcombe asked about the legality advice from the solicitors, noting that four weeks had elapsed and a response had been expected. The Chief Officer advised that a detailed response was expected by the end of the week.

Members noted the Chief Officers Report

Date.....

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Cllr Robert Cernik
Deputy Mayor

NTC 25/114 POLICE UPDATE

Chief Inspector Leeroy Moss introduced himself and advised that he has been based in Northwich for the past three years. He provided an update on the PCSO position and current policing performance.

All 999 calls are answered within five seconds and attended within 15 minutes. While some areas nationally are seeking to extend response times, Cheshire aims to further improve them. On average, officers arrive at incidents within 6.9 minutes, with 999 calls answered in an average of 8.7 seconds.

Recorded crime has reduced from 1,100 to 750 incidents, covering both Winsford and Northwich, with 55% relating to Winsford and 45% to Northwich. Officers continue to be proactive, and the Residents' Voice is an effective tool used to help shape local policing priorities.

A dedicated town centre police officer, PC Jack Kirkbride has been appointed and is highly visible. His key priorities include improving shop safety and providing support to local businesses.

Inspector Paul Heatley of Northwich LPU updated members on shoplifting within the town centre. He explained that while a £100 shoplifting offence may have limited impact on large retailers such as Tesco or Sainsbury's, it can have a significant effect on small independent businesses.

Cheshire has nine Local Policing Units, and Northwich was the top-performing unit last month. So far this year in Northwich, there have been 30 shoplifting offenders, all of whom have been dealt with, and 18 domestic burglaries have been successfully closed. Currently, 60–70% of shoplifting offences are being resolved.

Work is ongoing to obtain Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs) for individuals committing offences. A recent arrest has been made, and any breach of a CBO will be taken into account by the courts. Subject to legal powers, offenders' photographs may also be shared with local shop owners.

Inspector Heatley also provided an update on homelessness in Northwich, outlining the support available to individuals' experiencing homelessness.

Chief Inspector Moss praised the high standard of PCSOs in the area, making specific reference to PCSO Faulkner. He highlighted the positive work undertaken by PCSOs at local events, noting that young people increasingly view PCSOs and police officers as positive role models.

He confirmed that all letters of concern have been forwarded to the Chief Constable's Office. Discussions are ongoing with Unison regarding potential redundancies, and members will be updated once further information becomes available.

At present, the Constabulary is awaiting publication of the Chief Constable's budget. Once finalised, this will provide clarity on the number of PCSOs that will remain in post. Chief Inspector Moss stated that Northwich remains an exceptionally safe area, with crime at its lowest level to date and response times the fastest they have ever been. He also noted that criminal activity entering Northwich is being effectively disrupted. Should PCSO numbers reduce, consideration would be given to replacing them with police officers.

Date.....

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Cllr Robert Cernik
Deputy Mayor

PCSO Nic Faulkner updated members on ongoing vehicle-related antisocial behaviour (ASB). While incidents are still occurring, several vehicles have been seized. Numerous individuals have been spoken to by local beat officers, and close partnership working is taking place with Barons Quay to help identify those involved.

Social media footage has also been reviewed, which shows instances of dangerous driving. Police are working closely with Barons Quay, and reassurance was given that support will be provided when Barons Quay security ask individuals to leave the site. Inspector Heatley added to the anti-social driving that additional support from officers will be tasked with this.

Levels of ASB have slightly increased. A young person has been spoken to in the presence

of their parents, and joint work is ongoing to address and improve the behaviour. It was made clear that if offences are committed, those responsible will be charged, as this behaviour will not be tolerated.

Verbal abuse towards shop owners has been reported and is being actively addressed through a range of enforcement and partnership measures.

Cllr Parkes asked about reassurance visits from PCSOs that mean so much for residents and is concerned if this service would be lost if PCSOs go. Chief Inspector Leeroy Moss replied that this will continue under Operation Shield.

Cllr Guy asked about additional funding, Chief Inspector Moss replied with he isn't too sure on the details and commented that clarification in the press has been released. Also, a resident has contacted Cllr Guy regarding a sponsored Facebook post. Chief Inspector Moss said this is a PCC Survey and his understanding has been done in three options: pay the same, pay a little more or pay nothing. This has been directed from the PCC office and asked Cllr Guy to contact the PCC office direct for an answer.

Councillor Harcombe queried why, given that Northwich is a low-crime town centre and PCSOs have a significant positive impact on crime levels, there is a proposed reduction in PCSO numbers. Chief Inspector Moss responded that the Chief Constable has set a strategic ambition for Cheshire to become the number one force in the country for crime prevention. He explained that the issue of PCSO numbers forms part of a wider discussion around police funding. Despite these challenges, he emphasised that Cheshire has a strong police force that continues to perform at a very high level.

With specific reference to PCSOs, Chief Inspector Moss explained that funding levels are determined by allocations from the Home Office, based on submitted funding bids. Additional funding has been sought to account for rising costs.

Councillor Waterman commented on the issue of homelessness and said it was encouraging that the police act as the "eyes and ears" in relation to this matter. He asked whether Police PR could further promote the Residents' Voice survey, as increased resident engagement would be beneficial. He noted that many residents question the value of completing the survey and felt that its importance needs to be communicated more strongly.

Chief Inspector Moss responded that Inspector Paul Heatley oversees police social media and will ensure that the Residents' Voice survey is promoted more widely. He emphasised that the survey is reviewed very closely and that policing decisions are intelligence-led, based on feedback received through the Residents' Voice.

Inspector Heatley also advised that residents could visit the Cheshire Constabulary website to view local policing updates, which are directly informed by the Residents' Voice survey. He added that local newsletters are also available and provide useful information.

Website: [Northwich | Cheshire Constabulary](https://www.northwichcheshireconstabulary.co.uk/)

Date.....

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Cllr Robert Cernik
Deputy Mayor

Cllr Bob Cernik thanked them attending the meeting.

Councillor Alison Gerrard left the meeting at 7.05pm.

NTC 25/115 PRECEPT 2026/2027

Members were presented with the Precept for 2026/2027.

Cllr Robert Cernik gave background to the increase. With public sector pay increases, materials increase, increase in the cost of delivering events throughout the town, additional enhancement works within the town centre and we have no alternative but to increase the precept for 2026/27. Finance Committee were presented with the 2026/27 draft budget and have recommended that Full Council approve the precept figure of £741,203 for 2026/27.

This budget gives value for money for residents with an increase to a band D property from **£85.68** to **£94.98** which equates to an increase of **£9.30** per year (77 pence per month per band D household). Members to approve Band D charge of **£94.98** for 2026/27 and to precept CW&C Council **£741,203**

Cllr Graham Emmett commented that this is the highest precept that he has seen.

Cllr Emma Guy asked about a budget on last year's Income and expenditure, RFO will update Cllr Guy with an answer on this. Cllr Guy also asked about Town Centre enhancements and why additional staff should be working in the town centre delivering these additional services Cllr Guy suggested to go back to Cheshire West & Chester Council as they should be accountable for this service.

Councillor Stewart commented that costs increase year on year and noted that previous precepts had not been raised and observed that while freezes may be beneficial in the short term, they can make future increases more challenging and significant when they do occur. Cllr Guy commented that salaries have not gone up by this amount.

Cllr Kate Cernik would like this to be looked at over a 5-year period for comparison. The increase costs have come from certain investments such as electric vehicles which will save on fuel costs this year. Northwich Town Council has a good reputation, and this benefits the local businesses.

Cllr Waterman commented that costs are going up and is concerned that people will look at the percentage increase instead of the actual figure of 77p a month, Cllr Waterman commented on the high standard of service that Northwich Town Council delivers.

Chief Officer commented that as Officers we work hard to keep costs down and that we always deliver our services to a high standard. The precept is kept low due to our staff carrying out additional contract services for other Town & Parish Councils which generates additional income.

Cllr Patricia Parkes feels torn on this as the work Northwich Town Council deliver great work but is concerned what residents will feel.

Date.....

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Cllr Robert Cernik
Deputy Mayor

7 in favour – Cllr K Cernik, Cllr R Cernik, Cllr Illidge, Cllr Emmett, Cllr Waterman, Cllr Stewart, Cllr Harcombe, Cllr Stott.

2 against – Cllr Guy and Cllr Parkes

Northwich Town Council to Precept Cheshire West and Chester Council £741,203 for 2026/27

Proposed by Cllr Stewart and seconded by Cllr Cernik

Approved

NTC 25/116 **TO APPROVE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ON ALL 2026/27 FEES**

Members were presented with 2026/2027 fees.

NTC 25/117 FIRST INTERNAL AUDIT – JDH BUSINESS SERVICES

Members were presented with First Internal Audit.

Cllr Guy asked on who will oversees the comments for this report, Chief Officer responded that the internal auditor will review and we will be than be issued with a 2nd internal Audit.

NTC 25/118 CODE OF CONDUCT

Members were presented with the Code of Conduct to approve.

NTC 25/119 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Members were presented with the Complaint Procedure to approve.

NTC 25/120 PRIVACY NOTICE

Members were presented with the Privacy Notice to approve.

NTC 25/121 BIODIVERSITY POLICY

Members were presented with the Biodiversity Policy to approve.

*Proposed by Cllr Stott and seconded by Cllr Emmett
All agreed*

NTC 25/122 TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Members were presented with the Training and Development Policy to approve.

Cllr Stewart would like to add childcare cover for councillors and council to pay these costs

Date.....

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**Cllr Robert Cernik
Deputy Mayor**

NTC 25/123 EMPLOYEES HANDBOOK

Members were presented with the Employers Handbook to approve.

NTC 25/124 DATA PROTECTION

Members were presented with the Data Protection policy to approve.

Councillor Emma Guy raised concerns regarding the publication of councillors' home addresses and expressed a wish for town council addresses to be used instead, in order to better protect councillors. The Chief Officer agreed to raise this matter with CWaC for confirmation.

Deputy Town Mayor Cllr Robert Cernik proposed the following agenda items be approved En Bloc.

*Proposed by Cllr Kate Cernik and seconded by Cllr Stewart
All agreed*

NTC 25/126 OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Emmett provided an update on the Lime Beds, Wallerscote Road, noting that developers are importing soil from various locations to spread on the site. He confirmed that

vehicles will be cleaned before leaving the site to minimise impact.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place at the Tata office on 10th February. Councillor Emmett also noted that the solar farm will not be connected to the grid until 2032.

NTC 25/127 CWAC MEMBERS

Councillor Parkes updated members on the work at Moss Farm and the new cycle path

Councillor Rachel Waterman updated members regarding Navigation Road, noting that it did not receive Asset of Community Value (ACV) status. She added that the site does hold community value, but after meeting with the new owner, she believes they have a positive approach.

Councillor Waterman proposed inviting CRT Jonathan Horsforth to discuss the path. Councillor Stewart provided an update that CWaC will be repairing the site and noted that the local MP had met with CRT and was assured that the work would be completed. The path is well used, and the repairs are expected to take place within three months.

*Proposed by Cllr K Cernik and seconded by Cllr Illidge
All agreed*

NTC 25/127 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Council meeting will be Monday 2nd March 2026 at 6.00 pm

Meeting closed at 7.55pm

Date.....

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Cllr Robert Cernik
Deputy Mayor

Part B

In accordance with Local Government Act—Public Admission to Meetings Act 1960, the following agenda items are to be considered in the absence of press and public.

NTC 25/128 NTC CONTRACT SERVICES FEES

Members approved revised NTC Contract Service Fees

NTC 25/129 VERDIN PARK CAR PARK UPDATE

Members received an update from the Chief Officer

Date.....

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Cllr Robert Cernik
Deputy Mayor

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE, AMENITIES AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16th FEBRUARY 2026 at 6.00pm

Members Present : Cllr R Cernik
Cllr K Cernik
Cllr C Fox
Cllr R Waterman
Cllr J Macdonald
Cllr A Kent
Cllr S Naylor
Cllr T Melville

Also Present : Chris Shaw – Chief Officer
Cath Kirwan – Deputy Chief Officer/RFO

FIN26/79 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr C Stewart and Cllr L Siddall.

FIN 26/80 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Sam Naylor and Councillor Rachel Waterman declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester.

Councillor Julie Macdonald declared an interest in any matters relating to Northwich Metals.

FIN 26/81 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of the Finance, Amenities and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 19th January 2026 and noted at Full Council meeting on Monday 2nd February 2026.

Proposed Cllr C Fox, seconded Cllr J Macdonald, all agreed

FIN 26/82 DETAILED INCOME & EXPENDITURE BY BUDGET

RFO answered various members questions relating to budget headings.

Members expressed concerns about the opening of the new market, particularly in relation to the planned events.

Proposed Cllr J Macdonald, seconded Cllr R Cernik, all agreed

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Date

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**Cllr Kate Cernik
Chair**

FIN 26/83 BACS DUE FOR PAYMENT

Bacs payments and direct debit figure approved £100,175.43

Proposed Cllr J Macdonald, seconded Cllr R Cernik, all agreed

FIN 26/84 FINANCE COMMITTEE TO CHECK PAYMENTS

Members chose two payments from both January 2026 payments. DCO/RFO provided the evidence for:

Jaroslav Wawryk Wooden Urns - £130.00
The Columbaria Company - £808.80

FIN 26/85 EARMARKED RESERVES

Earmark Reserves were presented to members prior to the meeting.

Members proposed the £2000.00 for Teenwheels to be used for an event in summer.

Proposed Cllr R Waterman, seconded Cllr J Macdonald, all agreed

FIN 25/86 FIXED ASSET REGISTER

Members were presented with the Fixed Asset Register prior to the meeting.

Proposed by Cllr S Naylor and seconded by Cllr J Macdonald, all agreed

FIN 25/87 YOU MANAGE PREMIER SOFTWARE

Members were presented with a report prior to the meeting.

Members agreed to accept the new You Manage Premier Software.

Proposed by Cllr A Kent and seconded by Cllr J Macdonald, all agreed

FIN 26/88 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of the next meeting Monday 16th March 2026 at 6.00pm.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 6.45pm.

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Date

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**Cllr Kate Cernik
Chair**

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 23rd FEBRUARY 2026

Members Present

Cllr Bob Cernik
Cllr Patricia Parkes
Cllr Janet Illidge
Cllr Andy Stott
Cllr Stephen Harcombe
Cllr Graham Emmett
Cllr Emma Guy

Also present Liza Brander - Cemetery Registrar & Wellbeing Manager

PL 26/46 TABLEY STREET – PROPOSED PLANNING SITE

Sophie Cragg (Planning Agent) and Peter Disley (Applicant/Landowner) delivered a presentation regarding the proposed development at Tabley Street.

Members were advised that the plans have been revised since the original application, as previous costings were not viable. The updated outline proposals now comprise a four/five-story block of 84 one and two bedroom apartments, providing 55 parking spaces. Of these, 43 spaces would include EV charging points and 2 would be designated disabled spaces. The scheme also incorporates green areas and land sculpting.

The five-storey element of the building would be positioned to the north of the site, facing Barons Quay. The formal planning application is expected to be submitted at the end of this month.

Members queried whether the incorporation of external public toilets or a community area could be considered within the plans. Members also sought clarification regarding the intended market for the apartments. Mr Disley advised that a range of tenures are being considered, including build-to-rent, shared ownership, open market sale, and private rental.

Members requested a 3D Skyland image of the site to be forwarded to them.

Andy Stott thanked Ms Cragg and Mr Disley for their time and presentation.

PL 26/47 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, OR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Olwyn Dean, Cllr Catherine Fox. Jo Risle was not present.

PL 26/48 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest given.

Date

Cllr Andy Stott.....
Chair

PL 26/49 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 26th January 2026 and noted at the Full Council Meeting on Monday 2nd February 2026 be confirmed and approved as true and accurate.

Proposed by Cllr Graham Emmett and seconded by Cllr Emma Guy, all agreed.

PL 26/50 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1. Site Address: 35 High Street, Northwich, CW9 5DD

Proposal: Removal of 3 No. condenser units and associated services, retaining 1 No. existing condenser, and installing 5 No. new split system AC condenser units on the first-floor roof deck, as well as removing all redundant ductwork, AHU and air conditioning plant from the upper roof.

Reference Number: 26/00055/FUL

No comments

2. Site Address: Eastwood House Princess Street Northwich CW9 7NJ

Proposal: Conversion and extension of existing unit to two dwellings and the erection of one dwelling

Reference Number: 26/00071/FUL

Agree with residents' concerns regarding the traffic

3. Site Address: Land North of Dane House Adjacent to River Dane Chester Way, Northwich

Proposal: Erection of a building providing self-storage and shared work and meeting space, and a separate drive through coffee shop, together with parking including electric vehicle charging bays and associated infrastructure.

Reference Number: 25/00889/FUL

Members noted that NTC's original comments do not appear to be recorded on the Cheshire West and Chester Council website.

Members maintain its concerns regarding the proposed development and consider the site to be overdeveloped and have significant concerns about potential traffic issues arising from the scheme.

Members also raised concerns that, depending on the final orientation and angle of the building, there may be an adverse impact on light to the neighbouring properties, particularly in relation to the 45-degree rule.

Further concerns were expressed regarding the ease and suitability of site access and the protentional flood risk associated with the development.

4. Site Address: 14 Western Way, Northwich, CW8 4YL

Proposal: Installation of air source heat pump

Reference Number: 26/00247/FUL

This application failed its own sound test. Reject plans

Date

**Cllr Andy Stott.....
Chair**

5. Site Address: 7 King George Avenue, Northwich, CW9 5PT

Proposal: Installation of external wall insulation with render to all elevations. The total thickness of the installation will not exceed 160mm.
Reference Number: 26/00273/FUL

No comment

6. Site Address: Bridge Town Bridge, Northwich, CW9 5BX

Proposal: Raise the height of the rectangular opening in the cabin ground floor south wall to allow unobstructed passage of the realigned operating cable between the electrical motor drive in the cabin ground floor and the bridge pivot.
Reference Number: 26/00044/LBC

No comment

PL 26/51 LAND OFF HARGREAVES ROAD, NORTHWICH

Members were updated with correspondence from Cheshire West & Chester.

Noted

PL 26/52 APPEAL BY MSP CAR CUSTOMERS – 201-203 MIDDLEWICH ROAD

Members were updated with the dispatch cover letter and decision.

Noted

PL 26/53 APPEAL – 11 SANDERMAN CRESCENT, NORTHWICH

Members were updated with planning appeal.

Noted

PL 26/45 NEXT MEETING

The next Planning and Environment Committee meeting will be held on Monday 23rd March 2026 at 5pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6pm.

Date

**Cllr Andy Stott.....
Chair**

Report to : Full Council

Meeting Date : 2nd March 2026

Agenda Item : 6

Prepared By : Cath Kirwan

Subject : Town Mayors Communications



Town Mayor's Communications	
11 th February	Warm Welcome Group - Northwich/Changing Lives Together
11 th February	Mayor of Knutsford Quiz 2026
17 th February	Cheshire Constabulary Armed Forces Community Network
19 th February	MCMTTC/Wizard of Oz
22 nd February	Crewe Civic Service
26 th February	Mayors Meal at Kanya Restaurant

Report to : Full Council

Meeting Date : 2nd March 2026

Agenda Item : 7

Prepared By : Chris Shaw

Subject : Chief Officers Report



Electric Vehicles

We have now received our additional two electric vehicles bringing the total EV's to four.

Dane Valley Cemetery

Improvements are continuing within our cemeteries including the installation of a baby memorial and bench in Dane Valley Cemetery in the designated baby/children's section. This was very kindly funded through Cllr Olwyn Deans members budget, we are sincerely thankful to Cllr Dean for supporting this project.

We are also in the process of receiving quotes to extend both tarmac paths in the lawn section of Dane Valley to enable easy access for loved ones visiting graves, this is following additional concrete plinths being installed last year. Once quotes are received, these will be taken to finance Committee for approval.

Winter Maintenance

Our staff are currently undertaking Winter Maintenance in all our areas in preparation for the Spring, all areas are being pruned, debris removed and cultivated.

CCTV

Unfortunately, we have had two intruders enter Council premises at 1.00 am a couple of weeks ago, intruders scaled the fencing and proceeded to look around the yard and at one point entering a shed to look around. Our sites are protected by CCTV and also have live monitoring, intruders were challenged by the monitoring station, and they then proceeded to leave site.

CCTV footage has been handed over to the Police and they have identified the intruders, we have given a statement and will wait to hear the outcome.

Butterfly Conservation and Town Centre Planting.

As you know we are working with Rupert Adams and the Butterfly Conservation to create a corridor of pollinator plants throughout the town centre, 27 local schools will be planting the pollinators within the town centre aided by NTC staff, butterfly conservation staff and volunteers.

We are also in discussion with the Community Rail Partnership to plant perennial wildflower at Northwich Station on the grass bank which will look amazing as you walk through the gates from the station. The raised planters at Sainsburys will also be looked at and we are working with Northwich BID to see if we can plant wildflower and pollinators into these planters to improve the appearance and also encourage wildlife into this part of the town centre.

Vickersway Park and Church Walk Paddling Pool

Preparations are underway to open our parks for the Spring, recruitment will take place in the next couple of weeks and maintenance work on the pool and shops will be undertaken prior to opening.

Dementia Bus

Following a successful one-day event last year and working in partnership with Home Instead we will be bringing the Dementia bus back to Northwich for three days in Barons Quay on 16th 17th 18th June. This will be funded by Home Instead, Northwich Town Council, Members Budgets and Local partners, we will be meeting closer to the event to allocate places and decide on day-to-day management of the event. The Dementia bus gives people an insight into what it is like to suffer from Dementia and is beneficial for carers, care home staff and local businesses looking after patients with this terrible disease.

Chris Shaw – Chief Officer

Report to : Full Council

Meeting Date : 2nd March 2026

Agenda Item : 7

Prepared By : Chris Shaw

Subject : Northwich Active Travel



Background

Following on from Consultation in 2024 the Northwich Active Travel Plan is now being implemented, please see timetable and schedules below which was sent via CW&C Council.

We have also uploaded these onto the Northwich Town Council website.

I write to advise that the Active Travel England funded work in Northwich, to improve walking, wheeling and cycling in the town centre; will commence shortly. It will start on 2 March 2026 for five months. The route was identified through previous consultation on our adopted Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan which sets how we plan to develop our walking and cycling networks across the borough.

The scheme is funded by Active Travel England and includes improved pedestrian crossing points at side roads; reduced speed limits to make on-road cycling safer; a signalised crossing for pedestrians and cyclists over Chester Way and improved public realm and crossings at the Venables Way junction with Witton Street.

The works are programmed to take place in the following 4 phases*:

- Chester Way and Church Road - Monday 2 March to Thursday 16 April 2026
- Witton Street, Old Warrington Road and Station Road - Thursday 16 April to Thursday 14 May 2026
- Venables Road, Albion Road, and Witton Street - Friday 15 May to Friday 19 June 2026
- Station Road, Manchester Road, Victoria Road, Kingsway, Church Road & Princes Avenue - Wednesday 17 June to Wednesday 22 July 2026

***All work is weather dependant and will require some temporary road closures and diversions to be in place.**

We recognise there will be disruption during this time. Updates will be provided on our website [Improving walking, wheeling and cycling access in Northwich | Cheshire West and Chester Council](#)

The full provisional programme is listed here, although this could be subject to change:

- Chester Way, lane closure Monday 2 March to Thursday 16 April
- Church Road closure – Wednesday 8 April to Wednesday 15 April
- Witton Street, road closure and removal of parking bays Thursday 16 April to Thursday 30 April
- Old Warrington Road and Station Road closed - Thursday 30 April to Thursday 14 May
- Venables Road, road closed - Friday 15 May to Tuesday 2 June
- Albion Road, temporary traffic signals – Wednesday 3 June to Tuesday 16 June
- Venables Road, road closed - Wednesday 17 June to Friday 19 June
- Manchester Road, road closed - Wednesday 17 June to Friday 26 June
- Manchester Road, Station Road 4-way temporary traffic signals - Friday 26 June to Thursday 25 June
- Victoria Road, Kingsway & Church Road - Tuesday 7 July to Monday 20 July

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact kristy.litter@chesirewestandchester.gov.uk

Chris Shaw – Chief Officer

Report to : Full Council

Meeting Date : 2nd March 2026

Agenda Item : 10

Prepared By : Chris Shaw

Subject : Northwich Music Festival 2026



Background

Northwich Town Council have organised and funded a Music Festival for over 10 years which has been mainly held in Verdin Park. The event has evolved over the years which started as a one-day event and eventually became a three-day event over the last few years. The budget for the event has increased mainly due to additional days but also additional infrastructure, security, and medical requirements.

This has always been a free event for the community, and over the past three years we have run a bar to help with funding the event. Attendance at the music festival is low considering it is a free event, it is also weather dependant for attendance.

Proposal

To move the event into Northwich Town Centre (Apple Market Place) and work with the local businesses to create a fringe festival around the main stage on the weekend of 13th /14th June 2026. The main stage will run from 1.00 pm until 9.00 pm at the latest to then encourage people to then visit our local bars and restaurants for the rest of the evening.

There will be small fairground rides, children's entertainment and limited food traders around the main stage. Security, medical, and toilets will all be on site throughout the event along with NTC staff and volunteers.

The acts will be acoustic throughout the day, with the last two acts each night being tribute acts to finish the evening.

We are currently working with the Artisan Market as this will be taking place on the Saturday and potentially on the Sunday if traders are available.

Funding

The cost will be met by Northwich Town Council, Northwich BID and Members Budgets and we are actively looking for a main sponsor. The event will cost approximately £20,000 which includes all acts, stage, barriers, security, medical toilets and waste removal.

By staging this event in the town centre, Northwich will see large scale events throughout the Summer months which supports our local businesses and makes the town a desirable place to be.

Recommendation

Council to approve holding the Northwich Music Festival in Apple Market Place on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th June 2026

Decision of the Council is requested.

Chris Shaw – Chief Officer