

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Chief Officer: Chris Shaw

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Northwich
town council

DATE: 26th May 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 1st June 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 13th April 2026 (Minutes attached)

[Members are required to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record.](#)

5. Reports of Committees

5.1 To note Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 18th May 2026.

5.2 To note Annual General Meeting held on Monday 18th May 2026.

5.3 To note Finance, Amenities & General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 19th May 2026.

5.4 To note Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 26th May 2026

[Members to note the minutes.](#)

6. Town Mayors Communications

List of Civic Events that the Town Mayor has attended during April and May 2026 (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.
[Members to note the report.](#)
- 9. Town Centre Pollinator Planting**
To receive a report outlining background and timetable (attached)
[Members to note the report.](#)
- 10. Northwich Music Festival**
To receive an update on the festival (attached)
[Members to note the report.](#)
- 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 6th July at 6.00pm

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 13th APRIL 2026

Present:

Cllr Julie Macdonald Town Mayor

Councillors:

Cllr Joanne Callaghan	Cllr Kate Cernik
Cllr Bob Cernik	Cllr Catherine Fox
Cllr Emma Guy	Cllr Stephen Harcombe
Cllr Brian Holland	Cllr Andy Kent
Cllr Rachel Waterman	Cllr Andy Stott
Cllr Olwyn Dean	Cllr Catriona Stewart
Cllr Andy Stott	

Also present:

Chris Shaw	Chief Officer
Cath Kirwan	Deputy Chief Officer/RFO

NTC 25/143 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Sam Naylor, Cllr Arthur Neil, Cllr Alison Gerrard, Cllr Graham Emmett, Cllr Lee Siddall, Cllr Janet Illidge. Cllr Patricia Parkes and Cllr Tom Melville were not present.

NTC 25/144 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 Olwyn Dean declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council.

NTC 25/145 OPEN FORUM

Kevin Gardner has made a kind donation towards an AED which will be installed in Leftwich. This has been donated in memory of his late wife Barbara Gardner. Councillor Julie Macdonald thanked Mr Gardner for his kind donation.

NTC 25/146 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 3rd March 2026 be confirmed and approved as a true and accurate record with the following amendments noted.

Cllr Emma Guy requested to be removed from the Declarations of Interest

Additionally, an amendment is required to Part B, NTC 25/128 (Northwich Town Council Services Costs). The record currently shows Cllr Emma Guy as voting “against” and “unable to make a decision.”

The correct position is that Cllr Emma Guy stated she was unable to make a decision due to not having access to the previous cost information.

Date.....

.....
Cllr Julie Macdonald
Mayor

Cllr Emma Guy requested that the precept increase be added to the minutes as a percentage.

The precept rise was 10.9% for 2026/27

Proposed by Catriona Stewart and seconded by Andy Stott

All Agreed

NTC 25/147 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Finance, Amenities & General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 16th March 2026.

Noted

Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 23rd March 2026.

Noted

NTC 25/148 TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor's diary – March 2026

Town Mayor's Communications	
5 th March	Visit Cheshire Tourism Awards
14 th March	Theos 21 Bags Litter Picking Challenge
21 st March	Rotary Swimathon, <i>attended by Deputy Mayor</i>
22 nd March	Davenham Dads Club
27 th March	Winsford Town Mayors Charity Race Night
5 th March	Visit Cheshire Tourism Awards

NTC 25/149 CHIEF OFFICERS REPORT

Members noted the Chief Officers Report

NTC 25/150 POLICE UPDATE

No Police Update

NTC 25/151 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Members to approve the Community Engagement Policy

Proposed by Cllr Catherine Fox and seconded by Cllr Robert Cernik.

All agreed

Date.....

.....
Cllr Julie Macdonald
Mayor

NTC 25/152 EQUALITY DIVERSITY POLICY

Members to approve the Equality Diversity Policy

Proposed by Cllr Olwyn Deans and seconded by Cllr Jo Callaghan.

All agreed

NTC 25/153 SCHEME OF DELEGATION

Members to approve the Scheme of Delegation

*Proposed by Cllr Rachel Waterman and seconded by Cllr Jo Callaghan.
All agreed*

NTC 25/154 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Members to approve the Financial Regulations.

*Proposed by Cllr Kate Cernik and seconded by Cllr Cathrine Fox.
All agreed*

NTC 25/155 HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Members to approve the Health and Safety Policy

*Proposed by Cllr Jo Callaghan and seconded by Cllr Robert Cernik.
All agreed*

NTC 25/156 FIREFEST 2026

Members received a report from the Chief Officer regarding a proposed ticketed bonfire and firework event. All ticket sales would be used to cover the cost of the event, with any surplus carried forward to the 2027 event.

Councillor Rachel Waterman asked why there is a need for the event. The Chief Officer explained that organising an official firework event would help reduce anti-social behaviour associated with fireworks and bonfires in the area, based on discussions with local police.

Councillor Emma Guy asked whether the £16,000 cost was included in the budget. The Chief Officer confirmed that £7,000 has been allocated within the Northwich Town Council budget, and that ticket sales would make the event cost-neutral. Councillor Guy also asked whether any profit would be carried forward; the Chief Officer confirmed that any surplus would go towards next year's event.

Councillor Robert Cernik expressed reservations, similar to Councillor Waterman, noting concerns that poor weather could impact ticket sales. The Chief Officer acknowledged that weather is always a risk but confirmed that tickets would be sold in advance.

Councillor Catherine Fox expressed support for the event, stating it would bring enjoyment to many members of the public.

Date.....

.....
Cllr Julie Macdonald
Mayor

Councillor Catriona Stewart also supported the idea, commenting that a festival-style event at this time of year would be beneficial and that she would like to see a firework event in the town.

Councillor Rachel Waterman asked whether silent fireworks could be considered. The Chief Officer responded that these would be too expensive and noted that other firework events are available.

Councillor Olwyn Dean suggested using quieter fireworks—retaining some noise but avoiding very loud displays and expressed a preference for a broader festival atmosphere rather than solely a fireworks event.

The Chief Officer confirmed that quieter fireworks accompanied by music could be explored. Councillor Emma Guy stated that she did not support the event, questioning how it would be perceived if the Rotary Club could not afford to run it, but the Town Council could. The Chief Officer clarified that the issue was not solely financial but also related to a lack of volunteers and the increased requirements for security and medical provision at events.

Councillor Stephen Harcombe raised concerns about the timing of the event, noting the distress fireworks can cause to pets. He also commented that there is insufficient evidence to determine whether the event would be beneficial, suggesting the Council could choose not to proceed and observe public reaction. However, he expressed general support for a well-regulated organised firework event.

Councillor Kate Cernik commented that a town of this size should have a firework event and that it would provide a safer, controlled environment for the public.

The Chief Officer confirmed that, as with all Council events, full medical cover and security would be in place throughout. The estimated cost of the event is £16,000.

Council to approve the above proposal for Northwich Town Council to deliver the 2026 Bonfire and Firework display at Verdin Park, date to be confirmed. To continue the Northwich tradition.

Proposed by Cllr Andy Kent and seconded by Cllr Catherine Fox

6 For
5 Against

Resolved that Northwich Town Council deliver the 2026 Firefest Event at Verdin Park.

NTC 25/157 OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Andy Kent expressed his thanks to Northwich Town Council in advance for working in partnership with Grozone and Friends of Northwich Train Station on the installation of three new large planters, which will include a planting scheme.

It was noted that the project has been funded by Northern Railway and will be managed by Northwich Town Council.

Members were also informed that a wildflower meadow will be planted on the embankment near the station, which is expected to make a positive difference to the area.

Date.....

.....
Cllr Julie Macdonald
Mayor

NTC 25/158 CWAC MEMBERS

Cllr Rachel Waterman raised concerns about the current library at Weaver Hall Museum but there is still no date of the new library opening. VINCI are having a meet them in the next few weeks.

Cllr Olwyn Dean updated members on the Peak Cluster and the consultation. Also, if you need a speed limit reduced and a 20mph reduction can't be put in place if the traffic is going to fast.

NTC 25/159 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Council meeting will be Monday 18th May 2026 at 6.00 pm

Meeting closed at 6.45pm.

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.

18. Discretion Policy

Report to be given at the meeting.

[Members to note the report.](#)

Council resolved to accept the discretion policy.

Proposed by Cllr Catriona Stewart and seconded by Cllr Kate Cernik

All agreed

Date.....

.....
Cllr Julie Macdonald
Mayor

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN MEETING FOR THE PARISH OF NORTHWICH
MONDAY 18th MAY 2026

Present: Cllr Julie Macdonald – Town Mayor

Councillors Present: Cllr Rachel Waterman
Cllr Kate Cernik
Cllr Robert Cernik
Cllr Jo Callaghan
Cllr Olwyn Dean
Cllr Graham Emmett
Cllr Emma Guy
Cllr Stephen Harcombe
Cllr Sam Naylor
Cllr Brian Holland
Cllr Janet Illidge

Also Present: Cath Kirwan – Deputy Chief Officer/RFO

26/01 PRESENTATION OF SCHOOL ADVANTAGE FUND

Cheques presented to the following schools, Charles Darwin Street Primary School and Witton Church Walk Primary School.

26/02 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Please see Annual Report.

26/03 AFFAIRS OF THE PARISH OF NORTHWICH

Kate Cernik congratulated Northwich Town Council on becoming a Butterfly Friendly Council. Chief Officer Chris Shaw updated members of the public on what this entails. Pollinator-friendly plants will be planted to attract butterflies, with approximately 20 schools expected to take part in planting activities in June.

Olwyn Dean expressed her support for the initiative and would like to see it advertised in the town centre. She also confirmed that she would be happy to support the activities through her members' budget.

Meeting closed 5.40pm.

Date.....

.....
Cllr Kate Cernik
Town Mayor

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MONDAY 18TH MAY 2026

Present: Councillor Julie Macdonald – Town Mayor

Councillors:

Cllr J Callaghan	Cllr K Cernik
Cllr B Cernik	Cllr R Waterman
Cllr J MacDonald	Cllr G Emmett
Cllr S Naylor	Cllr J Illidge
Cllr O Dean	Cllr S Harcombe

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

Guests: Invited guests of the incoming Mayor

The Town Mayor opened the meeting at 6.30 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the Council.

26/01 TOWN MAYOR CHARITIES CHEQUE PRESENTATION

Councillor Julie Macdonald award cheque to her chosen charities this year to Changing Lives Buddy and Befriending and The Joshua Tree.

26/02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr T Melville, Cllr C Fox, Cllr P Parkes, and Cllr A Neil, Cllr L Siddall, Cllr C Stewart and Cllr A Kent.

26/03 NOMINATIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF TOWN MAYOR

The Town Mayor, Cllr Julie Macdonald called for nominations for the Office of Town Mayor for the forthcoming year. Cllr Rachel Waterman proposed the Motion that Cllr Robert Cernik be elected as Town Mayor for the coming year. Cllr. Jo Callaghan seconded the Motion. The Town Mayor called for any other nominations, and the Motion was put to the vote. There were no further nominations. Motion carried, All in favour.

RESOLVED

That Cllr Robert Cernik be elected as Town Mayor of Northwich for the ensuing year. The Town Mayor, Cllr Julie Macdonald, Town Mayor elect, and the Deputy Chief Officer then left the meeting to exchange Mayoral Robes and Chain of Office. The new Town Mayor then returned to the meeting, read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

All agreed

Date.....

.....
Cllr Robert Cernik
Town Mayor

26/04 TOWN MAYOR - VOTE OF THANKS

Councillor Sam Naylor proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Town Mayor, Councillor Julie Macdonald Cernik, stating that it had been both a privilege and an honour to deliver the vote of thanks. Councillor Naylor commented that Councillor Macdonald had blossomed in her role during her year of office and had achieved a great deal throughout her term. He added that this was a credit to her family, the Town, and most importantly to herself. He also thanked all those attending. Cllr Graham Emmett seconded the vote and added her thanks. Cllr Julie Macdonald responded to the vote of thanks, and delivered her own closing speech, in which she highlighted some of the main functions and events she had attended during her year in Office.

26/05 ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR 2025-2026

The Town Mayor called for nominations for the office of Deputy Town Mayor for the forthcoming Civic Year. Cllr Sam Naylor proposed the Motion that Cllr Rachel Waterman be elected Deputy Town Mayor for the coming year. Cllr. Olwyn Dean seconded the Motion. The Town Mayor called for any other nominations before putting the Motion to the vote. No further nominations made. Motion carried. All in favour.

It was proposed by Cllr Jo Callaghan that Kate Cernik become the Mayors Consort and Cllr Emma Guy seconded the proposal. All agreed.

RESOLVED

That Cllr Rachel Waterman be elected for the Deputy Mayor of Northwich for the ensuing year. Cllr Rachel Waterman was then presented with the Chain of Office, read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, and gave thanks for her election.

Cllr Kate Cernik to become the Mayors Consort and proposed by Cllr Jo Callaghan and second by Cllr Janet Illidge.

All agreed.

25/06 MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES

List of Members of Committees and Representatives on Outside Bodies had been previously circulated to members and are as follows. These were proposed by Councillor Emma Guy and seconded by Cllr Graham Emmett. Approved en bloc. All in favour.

Approved

Date.....

.....
Cllr Robert Cernik
Town Mayor

Northwich Town Council Committees 2026-2027

Finance, General Purpose & Amenities Committee

This meeting is to be held the third Monday of each month at 5.30 p.m.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Julie MacDonald | 2. Catherine Fox |
| 3. Kate Cernik | 4. Bob Cernik |
| 5. Andy Kent | 6. Catriona Stewart |
| 7. Sam Naylor | 8. Rachel Waterman |
| 9. Tom Melville | 10. Olwyn Dean |

Planning & Environment Committee

This meeting will be held every fourth Monday of the month at 5.00 p.m.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Olwyn Dean | 2. Graham Emmett |
| 3. Emma Guy | 4. Andy Stott |
| 5. Robert Cernik | 6. Brian Holland |
| 6. Stephen Harcombe | 8. Patricia Parkes |
| 9. Joanne Callaghan | 10. Janet Illidge |

Grants Committee

Meetings will be held on the following dates at 5.30 p.m.

Dates to be confirmed (2 meetings each year)

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Andy Kent | 2. Catriona Stewart |
| 3. Julie MacDonald | 4. Kate Cernik |
| 5. Cathrine Fox | 6. Patricia Parkes |
| 7. Janet Illidge | 8. Brian Holland |
| 9. Sam Naylor | 10. Emma Guy |

Date.....

.....
Cllr Robert Cernik
Town Mayor

Policy & Operations Committee

Chair & Vice from all the above Committees, meetings as requested.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Town Mayor | 2. Deputy Town Mayor |
| 3. Chair of Planning & Environment | 4. Vice Chair of Planning & Environment |
| 5. Chair of Grants | 6. Vice Chair of Grants |
| 9. Chair of Finance & Amenities | 10. Vice Chair of Finance & Amenities |

Personnel Committee to be agreed at first meeting of Policy & Operations

- | | |
|----|----|
| 1. | 2. |
| 3. | 4. |

Chairs and Vice Chairs of all Committees to be elected at their first Committee meetings.

26/07 GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

The General Power of Competence (GPC) was introduced by the Localism Act 2011 and took effect in February 2012. In simple terms, it gives councils the power to do anything an individual can do provided it is not prohibited by other legislation. It applies to all principal councils (district, county and unitary councils etc). It also applies to eligible¹ parish and town councils. It replaces the wellbeing powers in England that were provided under the Local Government Act 2000.

The scope – and some limitations – of the General Power are set out in sections 1 to 6 of the Localism Act 2011.

In summary, the GPC enables councils to do things:

- an individual may generally do
- anywhere in the UK or elsewhere
- for a commercial purpose or otherwise, for a charge or without a charge
- without the need to demonstrate that it will benefit the authority, its area or persons resident or present in its area (although in practice councils will want to realise such benefits).

But there are some limitations on General power, either because they are not things which an individual can do or because they are excluded by the Act. The GPC will not:

- provide councils with new powers to raise tax or precepts or to borrow
- enable councils to set charges for mandatory services, impose fines or create offences or byelaws, over and above existing powers to do so
- override existing legislation in place before the Localism act 2011, so-called 'pre-commencement limitations' (however powers enacted after commencement of the GPC will only limit the GPC if this explicitly stated in the legislation).

Date.....

.....
Cllr Robert Cernik
Town Mayor

Where using the GPC for charging or trading purposes, the recipient should agree to the service being provided, the income from charges should not exceed the cost of provision and, where things are done for commercial purposes, this must be done through a specified type of company.

Notwithstanding the limitations outlined above, the GPC remains a broad power.

As part of the Government's wider localism agenda, the GPC is intended not only to increase local authority powers but to give greater confidence in the scope of those powers and to signal that how those powers are used is a matter for local authorities (Department for Communities and Local Government, November 2011).

It should encourage more managed risk taking by councils. In enacting the GPC, the Government intended to remove the uncertainty which had arisen around the scope of the previous wellbeing powers – to promote the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of a council's area – where the courts had found that these powers did not enable councils to enter some arrangements such as a mutual insurance company across several councils – the so-called London Authorities Mutual Ltd (LAML) case in 2009.

Cllr Emma Guy proposed that we adopt the General Power of Competence, and this was seconded by Cllr Stephen Harcombe

All agreed
Approved

26/08 ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL MEETINGS 2025/2026

Schedule of Councillor's attendances was submitted for members information, previous to this meeting, and were noted.

26/09 MEETING CALENDAR 2025/2026

Members were requested to agree the Calendar of Meetings for the forthcoming year, Cllr. Julie Macdonald proposed a Motion to accept; this was seconded by Cllr Kate Cernik.

All agreed.

Approved

26/10 SECOND INTERIM INTERNAL AUDIT – JDH BUSINESS SERVICES

DCO/RFO discussed the AGAR figures with members which were approved to be sent off to the External Auditors.

Proposed by Cllr. Julie Macdonald this was seconded by Councillor Sam Naylor

All agreed
Approved

Date.....

.....
Cllr Robert Cernik
Town Mayor

26/11 YEAR END AUDIT – JDH BUSINESS SERVICES

The internal audit from JDH Business Services for 2025/26 issues, recommendations and follow ups were discussed in detail with members, which were accepted.

Proposed by Cllr Julie Macdonald seconded by Councillor Jo Callaghan

All agreed

Approved

26/12 AGAR 2025/2026

Members approved Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/2026

Proposed by Cllr Councillor Sam Naylor seconded by Councillor Catroina Stewart

All agreed

Approved

At the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting, and Mayor making ceremony, the newly elected Town Mayor joined fellow members, family and friends for celebratory refreshments in the Council Chambers.

Meeting Closed at 7.35pm.

Date.....

.....
Cllr Robert Cernik
Town Mayor

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE FINANCE, AMENITIES AND GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 19th MAY 2026 at 6.00pm

Members Present : Cllr J Macdonald
Cllr S Naylor
Cllr R Waterman
Cllr C Fox

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

FIN 27/01 **TO APPOINT A CHAIRMAN & VICE CHAIRMAN FOR 2026/2027**

Cllr J Macdonald to be Chair of Finance

Proposed by Cllr R Waterman and Cllr S Naylor

All Agreed

Cllr C Fox to be Vice Chair of Finance

Proposed by Cllr R Waterman seconded Cllr J Macdonald

All Agreed.

RESOLVED

FIN27/02 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr O Dean, Cllr A Kent, Cllr C Stewart, Cllr B Cernik, Cllr K Cernik and Cllr T Melville.

FIN 27/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of interest were given by Cllr J Macdonald to Northwich Metals. Cllr R Waterman and Cllr S Naylor to Cheshire West and Chester.

FIN 27/04 **SIGNING OF THE MINUTES**

Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 20th April 2026 and to be noted at Full Council meeting on Monday 1st June 2026.

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

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Date

.....

Cllr Julie Macdonald
Chair

FIN 26/05 DETAILED INCOME & EXPENDITURE BY BUDGET

RFO answered various members questions relating to budget headings.

Proposed Cllr C Fox, seconded Cllr S Naylor, all agreed

FIN 27/06 BACS DUE FOR PAYMENT

Bacs payments and direct debit figure approved £123,948.45.

Members also approved payments to: Npower £681.52 and VC (grave sold back) £510.00

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

FIN 27/07 FINANCE COMMITTEE TO CHECK PAYMENTS

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

Morrel Play - £792.00
Palintest - £206.40

FIN 27/08 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of the next meeting Monday 15th June 2026 at 5.30pm.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 5.55 pm.

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Date

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**Cllr Julie Macdonald
Chair**

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 26TH MAY 2026

PL 27/01 TO ELECT A CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR

Cllr Andy Stott to be Chair of Planning and Environment

Proposed by Cllr Bob Cernik and seconded by Cllr Emma Guy

All Agreed

Cllr Emma Guy to be Vice Chair of Planning and Environment

Proposed by Cllr Olwyn Dean seconded by Cllr Andy Stott

All Agreed

RESOLVED

PL 27/02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, OR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Janet Illidge

Cllr Graham Emmett arrived 5.03pm

PL 27/03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were given in relation to any CW&C matters from Cllr Olwyn Dean and Cllr Patricia Parkes

PL 27/04 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

Of the Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 27th of April 2026 and to be noted at the Full Council meeting on Monday 1st June 2026 to be approved

Proposed by Cllr Emma Guy and seconded by Cllr Olwyn Dean, all agreed

PL 27/05 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 1 Site Address: **323 London Road Northwich CW9 8HA**
Proposal: **Single story rear extension (retrospective)**
Reference Number: **26/00713/FUL**
No comment

Date

Cllr Andy Stott.....
Chair

- 2 Site Address: **1 - 3 High Street Northwich CW9 5BX**

Proposal: **Installation of defibrillator and bleed kit cabinets to external wall of Nationwide Building Society branch**
Reference Number: **26/01295/LBC**
Does this impede on pedestrian access

- 3 Site Address: **9 Dahlia Crescent Northwich CW8 4FB**
Proposal: **Two storey rear extension**
Reference Number: **26/01160/FUL**
No comment
- 4 Site Address: **77 Moss Road Northwich CW8 4BH**
Proposal: **Oak (T1) - Proposed removal of Oak tree to ground level. In the alternative, permission is sought for a significant crown reduction and reduction of lateral spread to an appropriate level as advised by the Local Authority Tree Officer/arboriculturally contractor.**
Reference Number: **26/01415/TPO**
Refer to tree officer, is it possible to retain the tree
- 5 Site Address: **91 Chester Road Northwich CW8 1HH**
Proposal: **Alterations to existing outbuilding to include partial rebuild and conversion to Accommodation**
Reference Number: **26/00772/FUL**
Concerns regarding parking issues
- 6 Site Address: **105 Carlton Road Northwich CW9 5PG**
Proposal: **Garage conversion, alterations to garage roof including hip to gable and raising of the roof**
Reference Number: **26/01107/FUL**
No comment
- 7 Site Address: **120 Chester Road Northwich CW8 4AN**
Proposal: **Single storey side extension - variation of condition 2 (approved drawings) of 25/01192/FUL**
Reference Number: **26/01080/S73**
No comment
- 8 Site Address: **Land At Environmental Health Depot Leicester Street Northwich**
Proposal: **Erection of New Foodstore (Class E) with Associated Parking and Landscaping**
Reference Number: **26/01064/FUL**
Some concerns regarding the loss of parking spaces. Accessibility, including active travel and public transport
- Date Cllr Andy Stott.....
Chair
- 9 Site Address: **Rene science Northwich Griffiths Road Lostock Gralam Northwich CW9 7NU**
Proposal: **Extension of the Northwich Biogas Facility Anaerobic Digestion plant**

including new infrastructure for biogas conversion to biomethane for injection to the gas grid

Reference Number: 26/01251/FUL

There is insufficient evidence regarding the overall impact of the proposal. Numerous complaints have already been received from residents concerning odours and noise, together with concerns relating to travel and traffic impacts.

Whilst we note that a flood management plan has been provided, could we please have clarification on what measures would be implemented should flooding actually occur.

Could consideration also be given to restricting working hours to Monday–Friday only, to provide residents with some respite from noise and odours at weekends?

- 10 Site Address: **Weaver Shipyard Saxons Lane Northwich CW8 1LB**
Proposal: **Seeking a deed of variation to vary the legal agreement signed for the 2018 permission at Weavership yard**
Reference Number: **26/01073/106**
Could we please receive an explanation as to who will benefit from this proposed change?

We would also welcome clarification on the precise details of the amendments and the reasons why the original plans have been altered.

In addition, can confirmation be provided that the Section 106 funding will remain safeguarded?

PL 27/06 APPEAL DECISION

11 Sandeman Crescent – appeal decision.
Noted

PL 27/07 NEXT MEETING

The next Planning and Environment Committee meeting will be held on Monday 22nd June 2026 at 5pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.40pm.

Date

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

Report to : Full Council

Meeting Date : 1st June 2026

Agenda Item : 6

Prepared By : Cath Kirwan

Subject : Town Mayors Communications



Town Mayor's Communications	
8 th April	Northwich Now and Then, Weaver Hall Museum <i>attended by the Deputy Mayor</i>
17 th April	Witton Street Dentist Easter Competition <i>attended by the Deputy Mayor</i>
24 th April	Charter Night Dinner
6 th May	Winsford Mayors Charity Dine with Us
7 th May	Agora 6 Northwich AGM
11 th May	Knutsford Town Council AGM
23 rd May	We Will Rock You, <i>attended by new Mayor, Councillor Robert Cernik</i>
24 th May	Chester Civic Ceremony <i>attended by new Mayor, Councillor Robert Cernik</i>

Report to : Full Council

Meeting Date : 1st June 2026

Agenda Item : 7

Prepared By : Chris shaw

Subject : Chief Officers Report



Town Centre Lion

We have now installed a new addition to our planters in the town centre, over the past few months local artist Jim Stanley has been stripping, re painting and varnishing the lion which now stands pride of place outside boots on Witton Street. We will be refurbishing another lion in the next few weeks which will be installed in Verdin Park to replace the one that was removed at the end of last year.

It will be installed in another part of the park as we have plans to eventually refurbish the flower bed that the lion was positioned in. As the lions are outside all the time, they are now requiring refurbishment so we will be working through the remainder in due course.

Church Walk Paddling Pool

The pool is now fully open and has been extremely busy due to the recent heatwave which has seen the pool at capacity most days. We understand that some people do not like the booking system as you can not just turn up and use the facility but having the booking system in place ensures that we can manage numbers, keep the water crystal clear and clean. Also, by working at the maximum capacity for the pool area this ensure that visitors have a more enjoyable time while visiting the pool due to reduced numbers.

Vickersway Park

Vickersway Park is fully open, but we find when the weather is hot fewer people visit the park, so the facility is currently quiet, the shop is still open for visitors to purchase drinks and ice creams.

Whalley Road Trees

We were recently contacted by Network Rail regarding unsafe trees on Whalley Road that could potentially cause issues in high winds if branches fell onto the line. Our tree surgeon has attended site and removed the damaged tree, we will inform Network Rail that the issue is now resolved.

Summer Bedding, Hanging Baskets and Barrier Baskets

All summer bedding will be installed in June including the hanging baskets and barrier baskets in and around the town centre. We will also be installing in other towns and villages through our contract services which has you know generates additional income which is used to improve our services.

Wildflowers

Our staff have been busy preparing multiple sites with wildflower areas which will add a burst of colour throughout the summer. Sites included are Witton Cemetery, Verdin Park, Northwich Railway Station and Sainsburys.

Town Centre Signage

You may have noticed the signage from the black and white finger posts around the town have been removed, this is a joint partnership approach with CW&C Council to refurbish the signage and remove ant signs that ,

are out of date, Signage will be shot blasted, powder coated white and the lettering re blacked, they will then be re installed in the correct locations and pointing in the correct position for visitors.

Alley Way Clean Ups

We have joined forces with FCC Communities to tidy up some rear alley ways within the town that have come to our attention through complaints and member feedback. Our staff will be working alongside FCC staff and Cllrs that wish to volunteer to help. Any waste removed will be disposed or recycled by FCC Communities.

Report to : Full Council

Meeting Date : 1st June 2026

Agenda Item : 9

Prepared By : Chris Shaw

Subject : Town Centre Pollinator Planting



Background

For several years Northwich Town Council have been installing Wildflower areas across the town centre supporting butterflies and insects. The wildflower areas have been extremely successful not only supporting wildlife but producing a splash of colour throughout our areas.

We have been in conversations with Rupert Adams from Butterfly Conservation about Northwich becoming a Butterfly Friendly Town, one of only four in the country. We have held a couple of meetings and we come up with a plan to engage with local schools and plant pollinator plants throughout the town centre.

Project

Twenty-five schools will now be involved in the planting on Thursday 4th June, which is an amazing achievement, each school will have a dedicated area to plant and a plaque will be installed on each planter highlighting the schools involved.

The schools will be helped by NTC staff, Cllrs, and volunteers alongside representatives from the Butterfly Conservation.

Planters will be a mix of Pollinator plants and standard bedding plants and will give another fantastic display throughout the summer.

Could members please let me know if they will be attending to help with the planting,

Chris Shaw

Chief Officer

Report to : Full Council

Meeting Date : 1st June 2026

Agenda Item : 10

Prepared By : Chris Shaw

Subject : Northwich Music Festival Update



Northwich Music Festival 13th June – 14th June 2026

Preparations are being finalised for the upcoming music festival in Northwich Town Centre, this will be its first year situated in the town centre following on from previous years when it has been held at Verdin Park.

The event aims to bring in additional footfall and support local businesses, this will be the first large scale event of the summer with the River Festival and Pinacolada to follow.

The event will run from 1.00 pm – 9.00 pm each day and see acoustic acts throughout the day and then the main headline acts from 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm, these include Dolly Parton, Whitney Houston, George Michael and Lionel Richie.

We encourage visitors to then support local pubs and restaurants after the main event comes to an end.

Along with the music, there will be fairground rides, boxing exhibitions, face painting and a small stage in Barons Quay with local artists performing.

The Artisan market will also be trading over both days to again increase footfall and support businesses.

Thankyou to members that have already confirmed their attendance at the event and offer of help throughout the weekend.

Chris Shaw

Chief Officer



Northwich
town council

NORTHWICH MUSIC FESTIVAL 2026

13TH & 14TH JUNE
IN THE TOWN CENTRE

**SAT
13TH**

**SUN
14TH**

Tributes to

WHITNEY HOUSTON
Sunday 8-9pm

DOLLY PARTON
Sunday 7-8pm

LIONEL RITCHIE
Saturday 7-8pm

GEORGE MICHAEL
Saturday 8-9pm

PLUS ACOUSTIC ACTS
Music from 1pm

Family Friendly • DJs • FOOD STALLS • FAIRGROUND
2 stages of LIVE music in the Town Centre

Artisan Market **ALL WEEKEND**

**FOLLOW NORTHWICH TOWN
COUNCIL ON FB FOR UPDATES**

**FREE
TO
ATTEND**