

## **MIDDLEWICH TOWN COUNCIL**

**Victoria Building, Lewin Street,**

**Middlewich, CW10 9AT**

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council's Community, Environment and Assets Committee, held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2016 in the Town Clerk's office at the above address, commencing at 6.30pm**

### **PRESENT**

Councillor S Moss (in the Chair), Councillors CL Bulman, K Kingston, D Latham, SN McGrory, B Walmsley and W Walmsley.

Officer Present:

JPA Williams, Town Clerk, DJ French, Assistant Town Clerk and K Fletcher, Heritage Development Officer

### **APOLOGIES**

Councillor PJ Farrell

### **148 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors S Moss and B Walmsley declared personal interests on the grounds that they were Trustees of the Middlewich Community Trust.

### **149 MINUTES**

### **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015 be approved as a correct record.

### **150 HERITAGE OFFICER UPDATE**

Kerry Fletcher, Heritage Officer, presented the Heritage report. The report listed each Project with details of the work to be undertaken, how the work was funded, significant dates and the outcomes. The Heritage Officer explained that much of her work involved partnership working and external funding. She explained the current position with the Brine Pump – the water tank could not be salvaged and was to be removed; the gantry wall would be stabilised; Historic England had invited the Heritage Trust to submit a funding bid for roof covering to protect the structure. Kerry explained that the Heritage Trust was now operational and she was meeting a representative of Cheshire East Council regarding asset transfer of the Brine Pump site to the Trust.

The Heritage Officer explained that the Town Council owned various school resources and archives. She was also the guardian of the display cases in the library although they were the responsibility of the Cheshire Museums Trust.

A current project was the Battlefield Marker for the Civil War. The Heritage Officer had circulated a design with different options and the final design was due with the design company by the middle of January. The Marker would be situated outside the Victoria Building as this land was in the Town Council's ownership and was also a central point of the battle.

Reference was made to the Venables Screens which were in St Michael's Church. A Conservation Management Plan was needed for the project to reassemble them and display them in the main body of the Church; currently they were located in the Tower.

The lease for the stone sculpture on Salinae Field had now been signed.

**RESOLVED:** that

(a) the update be noted, with thanks to the Heritage Officer; and

(b) future reports be submitted in the same format but any new information to be highlighted.

### **151 MIDDLEWICH COMMUNITY TRUST**

The Community Trust was progressing and some Trustees had made a presentation to Town Councillors as part of the budget considerations. The Trust was now proposing to run the Function Suite only in the first instance as this was where there were the greatest opportunities to increase income. The Victoria Building was fully occupied with 4 tenants now resident in the building. The Town Clerk advised that if the Trust ran the Function Suite it would result in financial savings to the Town Council.

A Grant application had been submitted for work in the garden area outside the Bar.

**RESOLVED**

That the update be noted and the role of the Trust in running just the Function Suite in the first instance be discussed through the Town Council budget process.

### **152 TRANSFER OF CAR PARKS**

The Committee noted that there was no further information from Cheshire East Council on the potential transfer of car parks. The Town Clerk explained that he had a meeting arranged shortly with an officer from Cheshire East Council regarding asset transfer.

**RESOLVED**

That the matter be deferred to the next meeting and an item be placed on the agenda regarding transfer of assets to enable discussion of all assets rather than just car parks.

The next meeting of the Committee will be arranged as part of the calendar of meetings for 2016/17.

The Meeting concluded at 7.20 pm

**S Moss, Chairman of the Committee**

Signed.....