

**Middlewich Town Council
Victoria Building
Lewin Street
Middlewich
CW10 9AT**

Minutes of the Four Hundred and Eighty Fourth Meeting of Middlewich Town Council, held in the Wych Centre, Civic Way, Middlewich on Monday 20th March 2017, commencing at 6.30pm

Part One

Present

The Town Mayor, Councillor PJ Farrell and Councillors CL Bulman, MA Hunter, JK Kingston, DJ Latham, SN McGrory, S Moss, JD Parry, B Walmsley and W Walmsley

Council Officers:

JPA Williams, Town Clerk, and N Antoney, Administrator

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Councillor DA Williams (work) and J Eaton (illness)

Feedback and Reports

2. To receive any announcements to be made by the Mayor

The Town Mayor, Councillor PJ Farrell, reported that she had attended various events including the Elvis Tribute night, baking contest at the High School, the Holywell and Congleton Civic Balls, and a Mayor's evening in Northwich

Resolved 7907

That the Mayor's report be noted.

3. To note any declarations of Members' Interests on any agenda item

The following declarations were made:

- Councillors MA Hunter, D Latham and JD Parry declared interests in any matters relating to the Ansa Waste Transfer Station as members of the Action Against Ansa Group and near neighbour consultees;
- Councillor B Walmsley declared an interest as a Member of Cheshire East Council.
- Councillor W Walmsley declared an interest in any matters relating to advertising.

4. Rota for the Town Council Surgery to be held at the Makers Market

Resolved 7908

That Councillor CL Bulman and Councillor DJ Latham host the next Surgery on 25th March at the Town Council stall at the Makers Market.

5. To consider any items raised during the Open Forum

Mr G Williams asked a question about the Town Council's level of reserves at the end of the financial year, in the context of Council Tax being higher than last year.

The Clerk provided a detailed response, explaining that the previous Council Tax support grant at 9,334 was no longer granted by Cheshire East Council, hence the Council Tax was higher when the budget was lower. The reserves were in place to mitigate the risk of owning and managing assets such as the Victoria Building. There was also uncertainty over an outstanding insurance claim and over the take-up of the Workplace Pension entitlement.

6. To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Middlewich Town Council held on Monday 20th February 2017

Resolved 7909

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th January 2017 be approved as a correct record.

7. To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of Middlewich Town Council's Planning Committee held on 21st February 2017.

Resolved 7910

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 21st February be received.

8. To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of Middlewich Town Council's Events and Communications Committee held on 1st March 2017.

Resolved 7911

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Events and Communications Committee held on 1st March be received.

(Note: In accordance with Standing Order 3 (o) a request was made for a named vote on this resolution and the voting was as follows:

For the Resolution: Councillors Farrell, Moss, Bulman, Kingston, Latham, McGrory, B Walmsley, W Walmsley

Against the Resolution: Councillors Hunter and Parry.

9. To receive written reports from Members of Cheshire East Council

Resolved 7912

That the report from the Cheshire East Councillor be received and noted.

10. To consider any Members' Items previously submitted in writing

Members' items had been received as follows:

- Councillor W Walmsley had submitted a question asking for the Council to set up an Air Quality Group for Middlewich
- Councillor Parry had submitted questions requesting the designation of Lewin Street as an Air Quality Management area and requesting a strategy to reduce MO2 levels on Chester Road.

Resolved 7913

That: The Town Clerk contact Environmental Health Officer Phil Mason and raise these questions with him, and seeking his assistance in setting up an Air Quality Group with the Town Council..

Finance

11. To receive and approve the Monthly Town Council Financial and Monitoring, Cashbook and Income & Expenditure reports for the month of February 2017

Resolved 7914

That the Financial report for February 2017 be received and approved.

(Note: in accordance with Standing Order 3 (o) a request was made for a named vote on this resolution and the voting was as follows:

For the resolution: Councillors Farrell, Kingston, McGrory, Moss, B Walmsley and W Walmsley

Against the resolution: Councillors Hunter and Parry

Abstention: Councillors Bulman and Latham.

Policy Considerations

12. PCSO – to consider the update from the PCSO

Resolved 7915

That the update from the PCSO be received and he be thanked for his comprehensive report.

Highways and Transportation

13. To consider submitting to Cheshire East Council a letter of support for the Middlewich Eastern Bypass so that CEC can include it with the business case for the Bypass

Resolved 7916

That this be done

Planning and the Environment

Notice of Future Meetings

14. To note the dates of forthcoming Meetings

Resolved 7917

That the dates for future meetings be noted.

Part Two

None

The next ordinary Meeting of the Town Council will be on Tuesday 18th April 2017.

The meeting concluded at 7.35 pm.

Councillor PJ Farrell
Town Mayor

Signed.....2017

