

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

Minutes of the Four Hundred and Sixty Fifth Meeting of Middlewich Town Council, held in the Wych Centre, Civic Way, Middlewich on Monday 15th June 2015, commencing at 6.30pm

Part One

Present

The Town Mayor, Councillor JK Kingston and Councillors CL Bulman, J Eaton, MA Hunter, D Latham, SN McGrory, SL Moss, B Walmsley, W Walmsley and DA Williams

Council Officers:

JPA Williams, Town Clerk, DJ French, Assistant Town Clerk and N Antoney, Administrative Assistant

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence

An Apology for Absence was received and approved from Councillor PJ Farrell.

Feedback and Reports

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

The Mayor updated on a number of events he attended since the last meeting including: Middlewich Vision AGM and presentation; events and activities for the Town Council Great War Event “The Battle of Middlewich”; officially opened Cledford House, a service for young adults with learning difficulties; Middlewich High School Community Choir Summer Concert; and meeting and greeting participants of Pedal Power cycle event between Northwich and Middlewich.

Resolved 7613

That the Mayor’s announcements be received.

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

In relation to the Open Forum at which a question had been raised regarding the temporary single lane on Lewin Street, Councillors Bulman, Hunter and Williams declared personal interests on the grounds that they had been involved in campaigning regarding the Eastern Bypass; in relation to item 14 (c) (ii), Councillor DA Williams declared a personal interest on the grounds that he was a member of the South East Cheshire Cycle Action Group; in relation to item 19, Planning Application for a Waste Transfer Station, Ideal Standard Site – Councillor D Latham declared a disclosable pecuniary interest on the grounds that he owned property opposite the site; Councillors Hunter and Williams declared personal interests on the grounds that they had been sent consultee letters as near neighbours to the site; Councillor McGrory declared an interest as a Member of Cheshire East Council and Member of the Strategic Planning Board; and Councillor B Walmsley declared an interest on the grounds that she was a Member of Cheshire East Council and a Member of the Southern Planning Committee.

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

Resolved 7614

That

- (a) the Surgery rota be approved; and
- (b) Councillors SN McGrory and S Moss host the next Surgery on 27th June at the Town Council stall at the Makers Market.

5. To consider any written questions submitted to the Open Forum

R Pendleton asked the following question:

“With the imminent removal of the temporary single lane on Lewin Street and in light of public safety concerns will Middlewich Town Council call on Cheshire East Council to immediately explore the options for traffic calming along the road?”

Resolved 7615

That Middlewich Town Council calls on Cheshire East Council to produce an engineer's report of options for traffic calming on Lewin Street, in consultation with Town and Borough Councillors and Lewin Street residents.

All options should ensure there is a minimum 1.2 m wide pavement on each side of the length of Lewin Street and another pedestrian crossing.

6. To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Meeting of Middlewich Town Council held on Tuesday 19th May 2015

Resolved 7616

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th May 2015 be received and adopted.

7. To consider any written Members' questions on the Minutes

The Town Clerk reported that he had received a question from Councillor MA Hunter regarding whether a response had been received from Cheshire East Council regarding the Town Council's representations about the Eastern by-pass. The Town Clerk reported that no response had been received as yet but he would send a reminder and try to get a response shortly. The Town Clerk reported that he had also received a question from Councillor DA Williams requesting a progress report on the development of the new website for the Town Council and whether a date had been set for the website to go live. The Town Clerk explained that a meeting had been arranged on 26th June with the website design company, Bare Bones Marketing to discuss these matters.

8. To receive the Minutes of Meetings of Middlewich Town Council's Events and Communications Committee held on 19th May and 3rd June 2015

Resolved 7617

That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Events and Communication Committee be received as a correct record.

9. To receive the Minutes of a Meeting of Middlewich Town Council's Finance, Policy and Governance Committee held on 1st June 2015

Resolved 7618

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance, Policy and Governance Committee be received as a correct record.

10. To receive the Minutes of a Meeting of Middlewich Town Council's Planning Committee held on 2nd June 2015

Resolved 7619

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee be received as a correct record.

11. To receive the report of the Town Clerk and any correspondence for information

Resolved 7620

That the verbal update be noted.

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

Resolved 7621

That the reports from Members of Cheshire East Council be received.

10. To receive a written report from Middlewich Vision

Resolved 7622

That the written report from Middlewich Vision be received.

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

The following Members' Items had been submitted:

(a) Councillor D Latham has submitted the following item:

Highways issue – Lawrence Avenue and Webbs Lane – Middlewich Town Council is requested to contact Cheshire East Council Highways Team to discuss the issue of vehicles using this route as a cut through/rat run and seek to provide a satisfactory resolution.

(b) Councillor CL Bulman has submitted the following items:

(i) Youth Council:

“Prior to the election, members stated that they were working on the creation of a Youth Council. What progress has been made?”

(ii) Motion regarding Committees & Meeting Times:

“This Town Council resolves to hold a full consultation with all members about the committee structure, to ensure that the work of the council fully reflects the key issues and concerns of Middlewich residents. The consultation will also seek views on meeting times and venues to maximise participation by the public and councillors.”

(c) Councillor D Williams has submitted the following items:

(i) Magna Carta motion: “Today, Monday 15 June, marks the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta, which laid the foundations for the rights and representation that we enjoy today. This anniversary could not be more timely as the public’s trust and engagement in our political structures and institutions is at an all-time low. Middlewich Town Council celebrates the anniversary of this important document and the developments over the last 800 years that have shaped our democratic society. We therefore commit to strengthen our Town’s democracy by ensuring that our business is conducted in a transparent, democratic and inclusive manner that always seeks to reach out to the wider community beyond the elected representatives, as is expected of a Quality Council.”

(ii) Cheshire East Council Cycling Strategy Consultation motion: "Middlewich Town Council will organise and promote a public consultation event on the draft Cheshire East Cycling Strategy between 15 June and 24 July."

(d) Councillor SN McGrory has submitted the following item:
“The Middlewich Rail Link Campaign has received support from this Council over the years. Previous councillors have attended meetings as representatives, and our previous Assistant Town Clerk Stephen Dent is well known for his connections to it. Currently discussions are taking place with the Cheshire and Warrington Local Transport Body (CWLTB), but it appears the next stage has stalled because Network Rail have yet to agree full support.
Will this Council re-affirm its support for the reopening of the Middlewich Station as a critical part in the improvements to the infrastructure, and call upon Cheshire East Council to establish the reopening of the Station as an agenda item for the next meeting of the CWLTB”.

Resolved 7623

That:

- (a) the Town Clerk contact Cheshire East Council Highways regarding a resolution to the issue of vehicles using Lawrence Avenue/Webbs Lane as a cut through to St Michael’s Way, such as barriers, bollards or fencing;
- (b) the Town Clerk contact Cheshire Police and the PCSO regarding the issues raised at the meeting at the subway;
- (c) the Town Clerk liaise with Councillors Bulman, Eaton and McGrory regarding the matter of creating a Youth Council;
- (d) there will not be a consultation on committee structures, meeting times and venues;
- (e) the Town Council commits to strengthen the Town’s democracy by ensuring that business is conducted in a transparent, democratic and inclusive manner that always seeks to reach out to the wider community beyond the elected representatives, as is expected of a Quality Council;
- (f) the Town Clerk will contact Cheshire East Council to offer support for Cheshire East Council’s consultation on the draft Cycling Strategy through supplying information at the Town Council’s stall on the Makers Market and at other venues and provide any other additional support as the Town Clerk thinks is appropriate; and
- (g) the Town Council re-affirms its support for the reopening of the Middlewich Station as a critical part in the improvements to the infrastructure, and calls upon Cheshire East Council to establish the reopening of the Station as an agenda item for the next meeting of the Cheshire and Warrington Local Transport Body.

Finance

12. To receive and approve the Monthly Town Council Financial and Monitoring, Cashbook and Income & Expenditure reports for the month of May 2015

Resolved 7624

That the Financial reports be received and approved..

Policy Consideration

13. CCTV

Resolved 7625

That consideration of this matter be deferred to the next meeting.

14. To receive any update from the PCSO

There was no update from the PCSO.

15. Committee Membership

Resolved 7626

That Councillor MA Hunter be appointed to the following bodies: Cemetery Board; Community, Environment and Assets Committee; Planning Committee and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Highways and Transportation

None

Planning and the Environment

16. Application 15/2355W - The construction and operation of a waste transfer station and refuse derived fuel processing facility, the refurbishment of existing site buildings to provide offices, a vehicle maintenance workshop, an MOT Test Centre, environmental services accommodation and ancillary development including car parking. Ideal Standard, Cledford Lane, Middlewich, Cheshire

Resolved 7627

That

(a) the Town Council asks Cheshire East Council to withdraw this application for a period of 13 weeks from 15th June to allow Cheshire East Council (CEC) to facilitate the following:

(i) Allow RSK Environment Ltd (RSK) to give a presentation with a Question and Answer section on the Transport Assessment and WYG Planning and Environment to do the same for their report on Air Quality Assessment, Noise Assessment and their other reports on this Planning application to both Middlewich Councillors and Residents;

(ii) With regard to the demolition which is planned to take place, a withdrawal of the application will allow a comprehensive risk assessment to be done by an independent company on the risks posed to the site's immediate neighbours. The demolition is most of the current buildings but is all of the asbestos roof and that is a lot of roof and a lot of asbestos. Cheshire East Council has a responsibility to ensure the safety of those who live next to the development site and it is not unreasonable for Cheshire East Council to make sure they leave no stone unturned;

(iii) CEC and Ansa should provide transport to a Waste Transfer Centre which is equivalent to the proposed development on Cledford Lane so Middlewich Councillors and residents can see how these sites operate, see how they affect the immediate area; CEC insist that the plant will not affect the immediate area with regard to traffic, smell or noise, this visit may allay such fears; and

(b) The application be considered at a Special Meeting of the Council on Monday 29th June at 6.30pm.

Notice of Future Meetings

20. To note the dates of forthcoming Meetings

Resolved 7628

That the dates for future meetings be noted.

Part Two

None

The next ordinary Meeting of the Town Council will be on Monday 20th July.

The meeting concluded at 7.15 pm.

Councillor JK Kingston
Town Mayor

Signed.....2015

