

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

Minutes of the Four Hundred and Sixty Ninth Meeting of Middlewich Town Council, held in the Town Hall Function Suite, Civic Way, Middlewich on Monday 16th November 2015, commencing at 6.30pm

Part One

Present

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

Council Officers:

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

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence

None.

Feedback and Reports

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

The Mayor updated on a number of events he had attended since the last meeting including:

- 20th October he had attended a Civic Meal at Northwich Town Council;
- 22nd October he had attended the High School Presentation Evening;
- 23rd October he had opened the Beer Festival;
- 29th October he had welcomed delegates to the Cheshire Association of Local Councils AGM held in the Town Hall Function Suite;
- 8th November he had hosted the Remembrance Day Service; and
- 11th November he had attended the Armistice Commemoration at the Memorial.

Resolved 7690

That the Mayor's announcements be received.

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

The following declarations were made:

- In relation to item 21, Application 15/2355W, application for a Waste Transfer Station and other matters, Councillor D Latham declared a disclosable pecuniary interest on the grounds that he owned property opposite the site; and Councillors MA Hunter and D Williams declared interests as near neighbour consultees; and
- Councillor B Walmsley declared an interest in any items relating to her role as a Cheshire East Councillor.

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

Resolved 7691

That Councillors PJ Farrell and SN McGrory (substitute) host the next Surgery on 28th November at the Town Council stall at the Makers Market.

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

Mr J Parry asked the following question:

“I request that Middlewich Town Council asks Cheshire East Council to redo the traffic and speed survey on Warmingham Lane. The previous survey is invalid as it was done in conjunction with roadworks and temporary traffic lights. To get accurate data, the survey should be carried out over a period when the road is functioning normally. This view is shared by numerous residents living on and around Warmingham Lane.”

A question from Mr P Melody was withdrawn.

Resolved 7692

That the Town Clerk requests Cheshire East Council to re-apply the traffic and speed survey recently carried out on Warmingham Lane. In the letter the Town Clerk will explain that this is due to the earlier survey being carried out during roadworks and temporary traffic lights and the Town Council does not feel that an accurate picture would have been gathered and therefore requests that the survey is carried out again when there are no roadworks taking place.”

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

Resolved 7693

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

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

Councillor CL Bulman had submitted a question asking for an update on Resolution 7683 (a) (iii) regarding seeking a report from Cheshire East Highways addressing the issues around the Nantwich Road area. The Town Clerk advised that he had contacted Cheshire East Highways and had sent a reminder but there was nothing to report at the moment.

Resolved 7694

That the response from the Town Clerk be noted.

8. To receive the Minutes of a Meeting of Middlewich Town Council's Planning Committee held on 20th October 2015

Resolved 7695

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee be received as a correct record subject to the Town Clerk liaising with the Chairman about the resolution regarding Croxton Lane to ensure the correct wording has been used regarding open space, play area and the contributions requested from the Section 106 agreement.

9. To receive the Minutes of a Meeting of Middlewich Town Council's Events and Communications Committee held on 4th November 2015

Resolved 7696

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Events and Communications Committee be received as a correct record.

10. To receive the Minutes of Middlewich Town Council's Community, Environment and Assets Committee held on 4th November 2015

Resolved 7697

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Community, Environment and Assets Committee be received as a correct record.

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

Resolved 7698

That the Town Clerk's report be received and noted.

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

Resolved 7699

That the reports from Cheshire East Councillors be received and noted.

13. To receive a written report from Middlewich Vision

Resolved 7700

That a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Town Council.

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

Resolved 7701

That

(a) the Town Clerk provides a report to the next Town Council meeting on what measures the Town Council would need to take to become an accredited Living Wage employer by the Living Wage Foundation;

(b) the Town Clerk contacts Cheshire East Council raising concerns about the continual issues with street lighting which have been raised on a number of occasions by both Borough and Town Councillors; and seeking all lighting issues to be resolved as a matter of urgency particularly now it is winter;

(c) the Town Clerk urges Cheshire East Council to clarify ownership of street lighting in Middlewich;

(d) in relation to the junction at Town Bridge/Leadsmythy Street with the A54 the Town Clerk urges Cheshire East Council to provide information on the outcome of the report into the state of the road surface, kerb detailing, pavement conditions and the remodelling of the junction, including providing a copy of the report to the Town Council;

(e) a timetable for when remodelling and repair works will be carried out to the junction including start date;

(f) clarification regarding the financing of the work at the junction including whether any funding will be allocated as a result of the planning permissions at Glebe Farm and Cledford Lane Waste Transfer Station; and

(g) the Town Clerk contact the Executive Director of Economic Growth & Prosperity, Cheshire East Council, urging information regarding the programme of work to bring forward the Eastern By-Pass which was due to be provided in autumn as advised in her email of 30th July 2015.

Finance

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

Resolved 7702

That

- (a) the Financial reports be received and approved; and
- (b) the Town Clerk notify Members of the timetable for the budget setting process.

Policy Consideration

16. To receive any update from the PCSO

There was no update from the PCSO for this meeting.

17. Public Open Forum

Resolved 7703

That a new procedure be introduced with immediate effect to enable members of the public to speak at Town Council meetings as set out below:

“Public Open Forum – procedure

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Town Council. Each ordinary meeting will include a 15 minute Public Open Forum. This will be held within the meeting after the item on Declaration of Interests. Within a total period of 15 minutes, Members of the Public can raise any issue relating to Middlewich. The item will not be discussed but Councillors may ask questions or seek clarification. If a number of people wish to raise the same topic they are asked to appoint a spokesperson. All items raised are at the discretion of the Mayor or person presiding at the meeting.

If a member of the public wishes to, they can raise a question in advance of the meeting; this must be submitted to the Clerk and Assistant Clerk in writing in the form of a question by 10.00am on the Monday of the week prior to the next Town Council meeting ie 7 days prior to the meeting. This will enable the Council to discuss and make a decision on the item.”

18. Transport and Infrastructure Committee

Resolved 7704

That the recommendation of the Community, Environment and Assets (CEA) Committee be endorsed and a separate Committee to deal with Highways and Transport matters is not established but the Terms of Reference of the CEA Committee be amended to include public transport, waterways and railway matters.

Highways and Transportation

None

Planning and the Environment

19. Land off Warmingham Lane – to consider the letter from Gladman Homes

Resolved 7705

That the Town Clerk arrange a meeting for Members of the Town Council with representatives of Gladman Homes to discuss proposals at Warmingham Lane.

20. Consultation on the proposed diversion of Public Footpath no 19 Middlewich – to consider a letter from Cheshire East Council

Resolved 7706

That the proposed diversion of Public Footpath no 19 be supported.

21. 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 – to consider the letter from Cheshire East Council

Resolved 7707

That the letter from Cheshire East Council Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer be received and noted.

Notice of Future Meetings

22. To note the dates of forthcoming Meetings

Resolved 7708

That the dates for future meetings be noted.

Part Two

None

The next ordinary Meeting of the Town Council will be on Monday 21st December.

The meeting concluded at 7.35 pm.

Councillor JK Kingston
Town Mayor

Signed.....2015

