

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

**Minutes of the Four Hundred and Seventy Eighth Meeting of Middlewich Town Council, held in the Wych Centre, Civic Way, Middlewich on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016, commencing at 6.30pm**

## **Part One**

### **Present**

The Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor S Moss (in the Chair) and Councillors J Eaton, MA Hunter, JK Kingston, DJ Latham, SN McGrory, JD Parry, B Walmsley, W Walmsley and D Williams

Council Officers:

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

#### **1. To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received and approved from the Town Mayor, Cllr PJ Farrell (due to a family funeral) and Cllr CL Bulman (due to holidays)

### **Feedback and Reports**

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

The Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor S Moss welcomed Councillor Jonathan Parry to his first meeting of the Town Council following his election in August. She reported that she had attended the Middlewich Town Mayor's Civic Service on 11 September and the Mayor of Winsford's Civic Service held during the Salt Fair.

#### **Resolved 7825**

That the Deputy Mayor's report be noted.

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

The following declarations were made:

- Councillor DJ Latham declared an interest in item 20 Waste Transfer Station as a member of the Action Against Ansa Group;
- Councillor MA Hunter declared an interest in item 20 Waste Transfer Station as a member of the Action Against Ansa Group; a member of the Community Hub Liaison Committee and a near neighbour consultee ;
- Councillor JD Parry declared an interest in item 20 Waste Transfer Station as a near neighbour consultee;

- Councillor B Walmsley declared an interest as a Member of Cheshire East Council and in item 15 Grant to Middlewich Clean Team, as a member of the Clean Team; and
- Councillor DA Williams declared an interest in item 20 Waste Transfer Station as a near neighbour consultee.

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

##### **Resolved 7826**

That Councillors CL Bulman and SN McGrory host the next Surgery on 24<sup>th</sup> September at the Town Council stall at the Makers Market.

#### **5. To consider any items raised during the Open Forum**

##### **(a) Mrs J McKay submitted the following question:**

“I have recently had a HGV reverse into my garden causing damage to my property and potentially causing a danger to my family and myself. This is caused by HGV drivers ignoring signage and ending up stuck at the aqueduct. This is almost a daily occurrence. It is quite common for the Mill Lane where i live to be used as a turning circle even though it is not suitable. My neighbours have also suffered damage to their front properties, and we all want it to end. Please can the Town Council raise with Cheshire East the seriousness of this problem and ask them to ensure that the message is clear to HGV drivers that they do not have access via Nantwich Road. I believe that the big “flashy” sign positioned at the junction of Glastonbury drive is beyond the point of safe return and should be positioned much earlier to stop them entering Nantwich Road at all.”

##### **(b) Mr Gareth Williams submitted the following question:**

“As Cheshire East’s position is that they will not consider a Middlewich bypass until at least 2020, and that the opening of the ANSA depot on Cledford bridge will be considerably earlier than that, what can the Town Council do to ensure that CEC address the continuing issue of public safety along the length of Lewin St? There are two main areas of concern for residents:

1) The inappropriate public footpath (on both sides of Lewin St), which prevents people from safely walking or travelling. This is at its worst, but is not limited to, the White Horse pub. Some residents have been hit more than once by passing HGVs, and other residents have reported feeling trapped in their houses by the constant, inappropriate and (often) speeding traffic. Given that some people have wheelchairs or pushchairs with them, this is an increasingly dangerous and unacceptable situation.

2) Access to Lewin St businesses is severely restricted by the lack of suitable crossing points. These businesses include a chip shop, a post office, a hairdressers and Middlewich Narrowboats. Some residents have reported giving up their intended purchases due to being unable, or too scared, to cross the road.

I would like to see the Town Council stand up to Cheshire East and make sure that the safety of Middlewich residents is made a priority in the short term.”

**Resolved 7827**

- (a) That the Town Clerk contact Cheshire East Council to request that the warning sign on Nantwich Road be moved back to nearer the gyratory and for a signposted “escape route” for any HGVs who continue down Nantwich Road; in addition, an update be requested on what can be done to address the issues raised previously by the Town Council about the Nantwich Road area including the problems around parking, a safe crossing/safe routes to school and the lack of suitable signage for road speed and HGVs; and
- (b) That the Town Clerk contact Cheshire East Council to clarify what their plans are for the section of road on Lewin Street in the vicinity of the White Horse Pub given the concerns brought to and raised by the Town Council; in addition, to ask for the early release of the report on highway matters in this area; and a response be requested within 14 days.

**6. To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Meeting of Middlewich Town Council held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

**Resolved 7828**

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016 be received and adopted.

**7. To consider any written Members’ questions on the Minutes**

None

**8. To receive the Minutes of a Meeting of Middlewich Town Council’s Community, Environment and Assets Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2016.**

**Resolved 7829**

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

(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 Eaton, Kingston, Latham, McGrory, B Walmsley and W Walmsley

Against the resolution: Councillors Hunter, Parry and Williams)

**9. To receive the Minutes of a Meeting of Middlewich Town Council's Events and Communications Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

**Resolved 7830**

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

(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 Eaton, Kingston, Latham, McGrory, B Walmsley and W Walmsley

Against the resolution: Councillors Hunter, Parry and Williams)

**10. To receive the Minutes of a Meeting of Middlewich Town Council's Finance, Policy and Governance Committee held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

The Town Clerk explained that the minutes had not been finalised and would be emailed to all Members and circulated with the next Town Council agenda pack.

**11. To receive written reports from Members of Cheshire East Council**

**Resolved 7831**

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

**12. To receive a written report from Middlewich Vision**

**Resolved 7832**

That the report from Middlewich Vision be received and noted.

**13. To consider any Members' Items previously submitted in writing**

None

**Finance**

**14. To receive and approve the Monthly Town Council Financial and Monitoring, Cashbook and Income & Expenditure reports for the months of July and August 2016**

**Resolved 7833**

That the Financial reports be received and approved.

**15. To consider payment of the annual grant to Middlewich Clean Team**

**Resolved 7834**

That the annual grant of £500 be paid to Middlewich Clean Team.

**Policy Considerations**

**16. To receive any update from the PCSO**

**Resolved 7835**

That:

- (a) the report of the PCSO be noted;
- (b) Councillor McGrory follow up the point raised by the PCSO regarding the barrier on the Southway car park and report back to the Town Council; and
- (c) future PCSO funding be considered as part of the budget process.

**17. Committee Membership**

**Resolved 7836**

That Councillor Parry be appointed onto Finance, Policy and Governance Committee and Personnel Committee.

**18. CCTV**

**Resolved 7837**

That the quarterly monitoring report be received.

**Highways and Transportation**

**19. Wheelock Street parking time limits**

**Resolved 7838**

That Cheshire East Council (CEC) be advised that the Town Council supports the undertaking of a survey of local businesses on Wheelock Street regarding a possible change to parking time limits; CEC to be asked to also seek views of local residents

**Planning and the Environment**

**20. Waste Transfer Station – to receive a verbal update from the Liaison Group**

**Resolved 7839**

That the Town Clerk writes to CEC and ANSA, as appropriate, expressing the views raised at the meeting regarding increased traffic over Brooks Lane bridge, safety issues as a result of increased traffic particularly in view of the dark nights and lack of a footpath on the bridge; lack of prior notice to the Town Council; lack of communication with local businesses particularly the 2 day nurseries located on Brooks Lane and Booth Lane; seeking information as to the route that vehicles will take into the Pochins site ; asking if a weight restriction can be put on the bridge and if not can a sign be put on saying “unsuitable for HGVs”; and seeking a solution to stop traffic going the wrong way over the bridge from Brooks Lane into Booth Lane; the Canal and River Trust to be copied into the communication.

**Notice of Future Meetings**

**21. To note the dates of forthcoming Meetings**

**Resolved 7840**

That the dates for future meetings be noted.

**Part Two**

**None**

The next ordinary Meeting of the Town Council will be on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

The meeting concluded at 7.35 pm.

Councillor S Moss  
Deputy Town Mayor

Signed.....2016

DRAFT