

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

**Minutes of the Four Hundred and Ninetieth Meeting of Middlewich Town Council, held in the Wych Centre, Civic Way, Middlewich on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017, commencing at 6.30pm**

## **Part One**

### **Present**

The Town Mayor, Councillor SL Moss and Councillors CL Bulman, J Eaton, MA Hunter, JK Kingston, DJ Latham, SN McGrory, JD Parry, B Walmsley and W Walmsley

Council Officers:

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

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor PJ Farrell (family commitments), DA Williams (work commitments) and the Town Clerk, Mr JPA Williams (medical reasons)

### **Feedback and Reports**

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

The Town Mayor, Councillor SL Moss, advised that she had attended Cheshire East Mayor's Civic Service and was attending a quiz night this Saturday (21<sup>st</sup> October) which was a fund raiser for her charities.

#### **Resolved 7980**

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, DJ 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 in item 14 'outline planning application on land at Centurion Way and Byley Lane' on the grounds that she was a member of Cheshire East Council's Southern Planning Committee.

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

(a) Mr Finch raised an issue relating to highways issues on Warmingham Lane, referring to a recent road traffic accident (RTA) by the shops and making reference to on-going additional traffic arising from increasing residential development. It was reported that following the RTA Cheshire East Council had been asked to undertake a road safety audit. A safety audit would also be conducted on the roundabout but this would not take place until the estate was completed; it was noted that there were some issues with sight lines. There was funding through Section 106 towards traffic calming; some had been spent on the traffic light junction on Cross Lane. Town Councillors were shortly to meet with CEC highways officers and the issue would be discussed there, noting that CEC was the Highways Authority.

(b) A question was raised regarding the Ansa Liaison Committee and date at which the site would be operational. The meeting was advised that there would be a phased operation and Councillor McGrory undertook to update the member of the public with more detail outside of the meeting.

### **5. To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Meeting of Middlewich Town Council held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

#### **Resolved 7981**

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017 be approved as a correct record.

### **6. To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of Middlewich Town Council's Community, Environment and Assets Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017.**

#### **Resolved 7982**

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Community, Environment and Assets Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 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 Bulman, Eaton, Kingston, Latham, McGrory, Moss, B Walmsley and W Walmsley  
Against the resolution: Councillors Hunter and Parry).

**7. To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of Middlewich Town Council's Planning Committee held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017.**

**Resolved 7983**

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 26<sup>th</sup> September be received.

**8. To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of Middlewich Town Council's Events and Communications Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017.**

**Resolved 7984**

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Events and Communications Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> October be received.

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

**Resolved 7985**

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

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

Members' items had been received as follows:

- Councillor Parry had submitted an item regarding expenditure over £2,000 and asking that this be debated and voted on at full Council in future;
- Councillor Parry had submitted an item asking that Cheshire East Council be urged to undertake a review of parking outside the shops on Warmingham Lane.

**Resolved 7986**

That:

(a) the item relating to Council expenditure be referred to the next meeting of Finance, Policy and Governance Committee and be reported back to the next Town Council; and

(b) the Assistant Town Clerk writes to Cheshire East Council asking that a full review be undertaken of highways matters in 4 areas in Cledford with a view to improving road safety – the 4 areas are: outside the shops; Cross Lane; Chadwick Road and the Warmingham Lane roundabout; and a report back be requested outlining improvements that can be made.

## **Finance**

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

**Resolved 7987**

That the Financial report for September be received and approved.

**12. External Audit for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

**Resolved 7988**

That the Annual Return and certificate be approved and accepted.

## **Policy Considerations**

**13. PCSO – to consider the update from the PCSO**

There was no update from the PCSO for this meeting.

## **Highways and Transportation**

None

## **Planning and the Environment**

**14. 17/03989/OUT – outline application for the erection of up to 370 dwellings, a new church with ancillary facilities and associated parking, landscaping, public open spaces and play areas on land at Centurion Way and Byley Lane**

**Resolved 7989**

That Cheshire West and Chester and Cheshire East Council be advised that the Town Council objects to this application on the following grounds:

(i) The site is not within either the Cheshire East Local Plan or the Cheshire West Local Plan. This is therefore contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework which does not change the statutory status of the development plan as the starting point for decision making. The NPPF states that proposed development that conflicts with the Local Plan should be refused unless other material considerations indicate otherwise.

(ii) The proposed development is contrary to PG6 in that it will not retain a suitable green gap between Middlewich and Sproston and is not covered by any of the exceptions. The Town Council supports the statement within PG6 that the retention of gaps between settlements is important, in order to maintain the definition and separation of existing communities and the individual characters of such settlements.

(iii) The level of residential development proposed will have a severely detrimental impact on the local highways, which already experience congestion. Middlewich has poor public transport provision and transport problems will be exacerbated by the proposed additional housing.

(iv) The proposal will put increased pressure on existing services such as GP practices and dental practices; as well as on schools and SEN provision.

(v) The Council notes at this stage there is no reference to open space or a contribution towards a by-pass for Middlewich.

(Note: Further to her earlier declaration of interest, Councillor B Walmsley took no part in the discussion and abstained from voting on this matter).

## **Notice of Future Meetings**

### **15. To note the dates of forthcoming Meetings**

#### **Resolved 7990**

That the dates for future meetings be noted.

## **Part Two**

None

The next ordinary Meeting of the Town Council will be on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

The meeting concluded at 7.16pm.

Councillor SL Moss  
Town Mayor

Signed.....2017