

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

**Minutes of the Four Hundred and Ninety Ninth Meeting of Middlewich Town Council, held in the Wych, Civic Way, Middlewich on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018, commencing at 6.30pm**

## **Part One**

### **Present**

The Town Mayor, Councillor W Walmsley and Councillors PJ Farrell, MA Hunter, JK Kingston, DJ Latham, SL Moss, JD Parry, RJ Pendleton and B Walmsley.

Council Officers:

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

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

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Councillors C Bulman (work commitments), J Eaton (illness) and SN McGrory (work commitments).

### **Feedback and Reports**

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

The Town Mayor, Councillor W Walmsley reported that as Mayor he had attended a number of events including all 3 days at Middlewich FAB Festival during which he also visited the St Michael and All Angels Labyrinth project; hosted the FAB Volunteers' 'thank you' event; Boys Brigade Awards Evening; awareness raising event regarding Palm Oil at Wimboldsley Primary School; Middlewich Heritage Open Day; Northwich Town Council Civic Service; the High Sheriff's Afternoon Tea; Knutsford Town Council Civic Service; 2 events at Middlewich High School - Prize Giving afternoon and the Summer Concert; hosted 2 fund raising events - a prize bingo event and a craft fair; awarded prizes at both days of the Car and Bike Show and had opened the new Post Office on Wheelock Street.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor J Eaton, had attended the Civic Services at Macclesfield, Winsford and Alsager.

#### **Resolved 8072**

That the Mayor's report be noted.

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

None

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

Ms J Eyre had submitted 3 questions in advance:

(i) how much profit or loss has this year's FAB festival made? (or estimated to have)

(ii) why does ADED services get council hospitality work?

This looks very odd as it's owned by ex-councillor Paul Edwards and doesn't advertise or appear to have any other customers.

Why aren't other local businesses invited to cater for these as we have numerous catering establishments.

(iii) could the finances for the Victoria Hall be more visible at town council meetings, as keeping them just within the committee is not clear for residents.

This hall is funded by our council tax and has the potential to be either a great fundraiser or a disastrous financial liability. The latter seems to be the current situation.

(i) The Town Clerk had circulated the latest figures relating to FAB income and Outgoings. The figures at this stage showed a loss of £3,322.81 but there was some income still to be received and there would also be expenditure not yet accounted for. The Clerk explained that there were always certain imponderables with FAB namely ticket sales for the Friday evening concert and the impact of the weather. The artist fee for the Friday headline act was always much higher than other artist fees reflecting that this was a ticketed event. The income from ticket sales on Friday evening helped towards providing other entertainment free of charge.

The income from both ticket sales and the bar for FAB 18 were lower than for FAB 17. Over the forthcoming months the figures would be finalised and be shown in the financial reports to the Town Council.

Members asked about the fees paid to market the event and the return on this investment. The Town Clerk agreed to bring back further detail on this along with more up to date figures from FAB to a future meeting.

(ii) Councillor Farrell explained that she had approached local businesses seeking interest in catering at some of the Council events and functions and had been advised by 4 local businesses that they were too busy to take on such additional work. In relation to catering for the FAB events, 3 quotes had been received – one of these was very high and the catering work had been shared between the other 2 companies who had quoted for the work.

The Town Clerk added that for the provision of food for volunteers this sum of £81.89 did not reflect the additional work provided by ADED staff in both looking after the volunteers and providing security at the Wych Centre.

In addition, the work to provide 'riders' for artists was a time consuming job to obtain very specific items; the payment recorded in the financial information was for the actual products purchased and did not reflect the time taken to actually source, purchase and then deliver those items.

The Clerk explained that the canapés for VIPs was a thank you event for the sponsors of FAB.

The Town Clerk explained that it was not a matter for the Town Council how a business chose to advertise itself.

Members asked for assurances that the Council was following proper procedures in awarding such contracts. In response, other Members confirmed that the Events and Communications Committee discussed FAB at every meeting and were aware of the support given to the event by ADED particularly on a volunteer basis. The awarding of contracts was done via getting quotes.

(iii) The Town Clerk advised that it was intended that the Victoria Building was not subsidised by the council tax payer. The Victoria Hall and the Bar both had their own bank accounts which enabled income and expenditure to be monitored. At present, staff salaries for the Hall and Bar were paid out of the Town Council budget. The Clerk advised that he would bring separate accounts to future Town Council meetings relating to the Victoria Hall and Bar on a bimonthly basis.

**5. To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Four Hundred and Ninety Eighth Meeting of Middlewich Town Council held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

**Resolved 8073**

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018 be approved as a correct record.

(Members asked for an update on Air Quality and the Clerk agreed to progress this outside the meeting).

**6. To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of Middlewich Town Council's Events and Communications Committee held on 4th July 2018**

**Resolved 8074**

**That the minutes of the Meeting held on 4th July 2018 be received.**

(Notes:

(a) It was noted that it was Councillor W Walmsley who attended the meeting, not Councillor B Walmsley.

Members asked if staff hours and costs could be clearly stated in future reports regarding FAB)

(b) 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, Pendleton, B Walmsley and W Walmsley

Against the resolution: Councillors Hunter and Parry

Abstention: Councillors Latham and Moss)

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

**Resolved 8075**

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

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

Members' items had been received as follows:

- Councillor Moss had submitted an item regarding tree damage to properties in The Avenues; and
- Councillor B Walmsley had submitted information relating to opportunities from the New Homes Bonus.

**Resolved 8076**

(a) The Town Clerk writes to Cheshire East Council to ask for a site visit and management plan to assess and address the damage caused by trees on Kitfield Avenue, St Ann's Avenue and Sutton Lane; Councillors Moss and Hunter to be invited to attend the site visit; and

(b) The Town Clerk promotes the opportunities within the New Homes Bonus as widely as possible.

## **Finance**

**9. To receive and approve the Monthly Town Council Financial and Monitoring, Cashbook and Income & Expenditure reports for the months of May and June 2018**

### **Resolved 8077**

That the Financial reports for May and June 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, Latham, Moss, B Walmsley and W Walmsley

Against the resolution: Councillors Hunter and Parry

Abstention: Councillor Pendleton)

## **Policy Considerations**

**10. PCSO Update**

### **Resolved 8078**

That:

(a) the report from the PCSO be received; and

(b) the Town Clerk progress setting up a meeting of the PCSO Liaison Panel.

## **Highways and Transportation**

**11. S106 Agreement appertaining to the planning permission 12/2584C for Bellway Homes on Land off Warmingham Lane Middlewich – to consider the letter from Adrian Fisher, Head of Planning Strategy in response to correspondence from Councillor MA Hunter about the S106 Agreement**

### **Resolved 8079**

Councillor Hunter agreed to keep the Town Clerk updated on his discussions with developers and Cheshire East Council about this matter.

## **Planning and the Environment**

### **12. Environmental Hub Liaison Board – to consider the minutes of the meeting held on 5th October 2017**

#### **Resolved 8080**

That the Town Clerk will contact Ansa to ask for an update on the Liaison Committee – when it will be reformed and what will the membership be - noting that in the planning application such a body was one of the conditions attached to the planning permission.

#### **Part Two**

There were no items to be considered in Part Two session.

#### **FUTURE MEETING DATES**

- Tuesday 31st July – Planning Committee at 5.30pm;
- Personnel Committee – date in July to be confirmed;
- Monday 3rd September – Finance, Policy and Governance Committee at 6.00pm;
- Tuesday 4th September – Planning Committee at 5.30pm;
- Wednesday 5th September– Events and Communications Committee at 6.00pm ;
- Tuesday 11th September at 6.00pm – Community, Environment and Assets Committee;
- Monday 17th September - ordinary meeting of the Town Council at 6.30pm.

The meeting concluded at 19.17pm.

Councillor W Walmsley

Town Mayor

Signed.....2018