

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

Minutes of the Five Hundredth and First Meeting of Middlewich Town Council, held in the Wych Centre, Civic Way, Middlewich on Monday 15th October 2018, commencing at 6.30pm

Part One

Present

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

An apology for absence was received and approved from Councillor RJ Pendleton (family commitments).

Feedback and Reports

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

The Town Mayor, Councillor W Walmsley, reported that the events he had attended included: Congleton Town 700 Year Celebration of Mayoralty, Crewe Town Council New Mayoral Board unveiling, various Macmillan Coffee Morning's including, Middlewich Physio, Family Legal, Rainbows Day Nursery and Drinks & Bites, the Rotary Dinner, White Light Ceramics opening, Middlewich and District Concerts Society, Cheshire East Civic Service, Nantwich Civic Service, Middlewich Good Neighbours Afternoon Tea.

He also reported that he was hosting a charity Bingo evening on 22nd November to raise funds for his Mayoral charities; and The Kinderton was to host a Sportsman's Dinner on 30th November in aid of his charities.

Resolved 8094

That the Mayor's report be noted.

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

Councillor J Eaton declared an interest in any matters relating to the Wych Centre. Councillor DJ Latham declared an interest in item 12 'Ansa Community Liaison Group' on the grounds that he was a member of the Action Against Ansa Group.

4. To consider any items raised during the Open Forum

Ms R Costello asked for information about the Mayor's charities and whether accounts were available? The Mayor explained that he had decided to support a number of good causes during his Mayoral year which were the local uniformed groups; the Good Neighbours and Middlewich Additional Needs Network. At the end of the Civic Year he would be able to announce the total amount raised and this would be allocated amongst his good causes. Councillor Moss explained that during her Mayoral year of 2017 – 18 she had raised £4,800 for the uniformed groups, Middlewich In-Tune and St Lukes Hospice and cheques had been presented at the AGM.

Ms J Eyre asked when the public would be able to be involved in the budget making process. The Mayor referred to the Members' items later on the agenda which related to this question. The draft budget would next be considered at Finance, Policy and Governance Committee on Monday 5th November at 6.00pm in Room 3A.

5. To receive and adopt the Minutes of the Five Hundredth Meeting of Middlewich Town Council held on Monday 17th September 2018

Resolved 8095

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th September 2018 be approved as a correct record.

6. To receive the Minutes of Meetings of Middlewich Town Council's Events and Communications Committee held on 5th September and 3rd October and the FAB Working Group held on 19th September 2018

Resolved 8096

That the Minutes of the Meetings held on 5th September and 3rd October and 19th September 2018 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, Farrell, Kingston, Latham, McGrory, Moss, B Walmsley and W Walmsley
Against the resolution: Councillors Hunter and Parry
Abstention: none)

7. To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of Middlewich Town Council's Finance, Policy and Governance Committee held on 1st October 2018

Resolved 8097

That the minutes of the Meeting held on 1st October 2018 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, Farrell, Kingston, Latham, McGrory, Moss, B Walmsley and W Walmsley

Against the resolution: Councillor Parry

Abstention: Councillor Hunter)

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

Resolved 8098

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

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

Members' items had been received as follows:

- Councillor Parry had raised an item relating to the increase in the precept since 2015 and proposing that the Town Council reduces the precept to close to the level submitted in 2015. The Clerk explained that he had produced some figures that showed the precept amounts over recent years and the budget for those years. He explained that the budget remained fairly static although the precept amount varied. This information could be provided in table form to Members;
- Councillor Hunter had raised an item relating to operating a more democratic and transparent system of governance. He proposed that agendas and minutes be uploaded onto the website as soon as they were available. He also asked for information on traffic to the Council website and looking at whether it could work faster and be more user friendly.

Resolved 8099 That:

- (a) The Town Clerk be requested to provide comparator figures for the precept for the years from 2015 – 2017-18 for consideration at the next meeting of the Finance, Policy and Governance Committee and the item be further discussed at the next meeting of the Town Council; and
- (b) The issues raised about the website be considered at the next meeting of the Events and Communications Committee and the points raised at the meeting be considered at the Committee meeting on 7th November.

Finance

10. To receive and approve the Monthly Town Council Financial and Monitoring reports, Cashbook and Income & Expenditure reports for the month of September 2018

Resolved 8100

That the Financial reports for September be received and approved.

Planning and the Environment

11. Neighbourhood Plan

Resolved 8101

That Standing Orders be suspended to enable Louise Kirkup, Director, Kirkwells-town planning and sustainable development consultants – to address the meeting.

Councillor B Walmsley, Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, outlined some of the main points of the draft Plan. She explained that if approved by the Town Council it would be submitted to Cheshire East for consideration. The Plan would then be subject to rigorous inspection and Louise had agreed to attend the meeting with the Planning Inspector who would be undertaking the inspection. The Plan was in general conformity with the Cheshire East Local Plan. The sites in Middlewich which were allocated in the CEC Local Plan did not provide all the required housing allocation which amounted to a shortfall of around 200 houses against the total figure of 1950 which was a guideline and not a set number.

Louise Kirkup referred to the draft Plan as submitted to Members and explained that all changes were highlighted in light blue. The Plan period was to 2030. Although there was a housing shortfall of around 200, the Middlewich Neighbourhood Plan provided guidance including around design principles, ways to address the impact of development on infrastructure and proposals around housing mix. She explained that it was not permissible to state in the Plan that no development would be allowed until a major piece of infrastructure was in place. The Plan included policies to support sustainability including cycling and walking routes.

Resolved 8102

That the Middlewich Neighbourhood Plan be approved for submission to Cheshire East Council.

(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, Farrell, Kingston, Latham, McGrory, Moss, B Walmsley and W Walmsley

Against the resolution: Councillors Bulman, Hunter and Parry

Abstention: none)

12. Ansa Environmental Services Ltd Waste Hub Liaison Group**Resolved 8103**

That the minutes of the first meeting of the Liaison Group held on 27th September be received.

Policy Considerations**13. PCSO Update****Resolved 8104**

That the update from the PCSO be received.

14. Committee Membership - to note that Councillor Parry has resigned from Community, Environment and Assets Committee and Finance, Policy and Governance Committee

Resolved 8105

That the resignations be noted and any Councillor who wishes to join the Committees on which there are vacancies should contact the Town Clerk.

15. Update on investigation into data breach**Resolved 8106**

That the report be received and the proposals now submitted be considered at the relevant Committees and referred back to full Council where necessary.

16. Email from Emma Dalzell, Bare Bones Marketing**Resolved 8107**

That the Town Clerk will formally apologise to Emma Dalzell, Bare Bones Marketing, on behalf of the Town Council.

Highways and Transportation**17. Warmingham Lane, S106 Agreement****Resolved 8108**

That the correspondence between the Town Clerk and Chris Hindle, Cheshire East Highways be received.

Part Two

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

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- Tuesday 23rd October – Planning Committee at 5.30pm;
- Monday 5th November – Finance, Policy and Governance Committee at 6.00pm;
- Wednesday 7th November – Events and Communications Committee at 6.00pm
- Monday 19th November - ordinary meeting of the Town Council at 6.30pm

The meeting concluded at 7.43pm.

Councillor W Walmsley

Town Mayor

Signed.....2018