

Knutsford Town Council

Town Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green

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Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held 7th January 2019 In the Lower Council Chamber of the Town Council Offices

18/109 Present

Cllrs Coan, Malloy, Beswick, Forbes, Gardiner, Goodrich, Mrs Gray, Gray, Nicholson, Power and Wells-Bradshaw.

In attendance: A Keppel-Green (*Town Clerk*)

18/110 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Dean (health), Farber, Hutchence and Mrs Wells-Bradshaw (business).

18/111 To receive declarations of members' interests

Cllrs Malloy, Forbes, Gardiner, Mrs Gray, Gray, Nicholson, Power and Wells-Bradshaw declared a pecuniary interest in the setting of the precept as council tax payers and were granted a dispensation by the Town Clerk.

18/112 Public Participation

A resident noted that the report in relation to building works did not reference the public works loans, noted a stated maximum borrowing amount of £500,000 per year and noted it was the first time the council would be borrowing.

A resident requested that Full Council discuss the makers market rather than it being considered by the Events Committee which instigated the event stating their continued concern about the safety and disruption caused to residents in the town centre.

18/113 To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held 17th December 2018

It was **RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes.

18/114 To note the minutes of committees which have been published since the previous meeting

The minutes were noted.

18/115 To receive reports from members

There were no reports.

18/116 To receive an update in respect of the transfer of the council offices

Cllr Forbes reported that the Town Clerk was continuing to chase officers in the Cheshire East Council Assets Department to progress the public open space disposal process and reported that the council's architects had presented their initial arrangement ideas.

18/117 To receive reports from and raise questions to Cheshire East Councillors

Cllr Gardiner reported that there would be a special council meeting to discuss two proposals on the council's governance arrangements.

Cllr Malloy enquired if Cheshire East Council had contacts with Northern Rail and the RMT Union that could be pushed to bring an end to the disruption on the Mid-Cheshire Line services.

18/118 To consider amendments to the Council's Standing Orders

In accordance with Standing Order 113 this item stood adjourned to the next meeting.

18/119 To consider arrangements for council surgeries

It was **RESOLVED** that no formal surgeries be held, to discuss alternative options in the future but to allow members to organise their own ward surgeries should they wish to.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Events Committee be authorised to hold up to three stalls per year on the Makers Market to promote council events.

18/120 To consider a recommendation from the Assets and Operations Committee to release £25,760 from the Capital Receipts reserve for works to the Cemetery Chapel

It was **RESOLVED** to release £25,760 from the Capital Receipts reserve for additional works to the Cemetery Chapel.

18/121 To resolve that Council postpones all non-essential works to the Council's portfolio of built assets, until at least the Civic Year 2020/21; excepting those works already planned to be undertaken at 60 King Street; associated with the repairs to the building's front-elevation and the works that are scheduled to be undertaken at the Cemetery Chapel. This proposition also relates to the funding of any professional services associated with any future works, that may be at the planning-stage

It was **RESOLVED** to postpone all non-essential works to the Council's portfolio of built assets until at least the 2020/21 civic year excepting the approved works to the front of 60 King Street and the works to the Cemetery Chapel but including the funding of any professional services associated with any future works that are at the planning stage.

It was requested that the vote be recorded:

For Cllrs Beswick, Gardiner, Gray, Mrs Gray, Nicholson and Power.

Against Cllrs Coan, Malloy, Forbes, Goodrich and Wells-Bradshaw.

18/122 To consider a recommendation from the Finance Committee with regard to the budget for 2019/20, to consider recommendations from the Events and Town Centre

Management Committee on amendments to the same and to confirm the precept to be set for 2019/20

It was **RESOLVED** to reduce the Cemetery Improvements (4440/250) budget by £2,000 and to increase the Floriculture Street Furniture (4200/301) and Environment Projects Street Furniture (4200/330) by £1,000 each.

The Town Clerk reported on the changes required to the budget following the decision under 18/121.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget as amended and set the precept at £371,070.

18/123 To receive a report of Mayoral Duties

The Mayor reported on duties as detailed below.

18/124 To note payments

The payments were noted.

18/125 Public Participation

A resident stated that they hoped the proposed changes to the staffing structure did not infer any reduction in the standing of the role of Deputy Town Clerk and suggested the council look to light the war memorial.

18/126 Member questions to the Town Clerk

No questions were raised.

18/127 To consider a recommendation from the Personnel Committee with respect staffing arrangements

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the public and press on the grounds of the sensitive nature of discussions. Cllr Power left the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Personnel Committee review their recommendation in consideration of the decision made under 18/121 and to vire the budget from the Personnel Committee budget to the General Reserve.

It was **RESOLVED** to readmit the public and press.

18/128 To note date of next meeting

The date was noted.

Mayoral Engagements

28 October – 7 January 2018

| Date | Event | Attended By |
|------------|---|--------------|
| 30/10/2018 | The Welcome Fundraising Lunch with George Osborne | Deputy Mayor |
| 01/11/2018 | Pumpkin Path Best Dressed Window Awards | Mayor |
| 01/11/2018 | 61st Best Kept Village Awards Evening | Mayor |
| 01/11/2018 | Silk FM Local Hero Awards Ceremony | Deputy Mayor |
| 02/11/2018 | In Bloom Awards Ceremony | Mayor |
| 03/11/2018 | Cheshire Villages Great War Society Exhibition | Mayor |
| 06/11/2018 | Knutsford In Bloom Volunteer Thank you evening | Mayor |
| 07/11/2018 | Knutsford ATC Shooting Event | Mayor |
| 08/11/2018 | Coffee Morning for East Cheshire Hospice | Mayor |
| 08/11/2018 | The Manchester Airport Festival of Remembrance | Mayor |
| 09/11/2018 | Scouts Annual Dinner | Mayor |
| 10/11/2018 | 'Aftermath' at Knutsford Little Theatre | Mayor |
| 11/11/2018 | Remembrance Sunday | Mayor |
| 11/11/2018 | 'When the Light Goes Out' at Tatton Park | Mayor |
| 11/11/2018 | WW1 Commemoration Event at Lower Peover Church | Mayor |
| 12/11/2018 | Leo's Ladder Book Launch | Mayor |
| 14/11/2018 | Mayor of Cheshire East Afternoon Tea | Mayor |
| 17/11/2018 | Tatton Singers Concert | Deputy Mayor |
| 22/11/2018 | Houghton Weavers Charity Concert | Mayor |
| 23/11/2018 | North West In Bloom Certificate Presentations | Mayor |
| 23/11/2018 | Royal British Legion WW1 Centennial Dinner | Mayor |
| 24/11/2018 | Mayor of Cheshire East Christmas Charity Ball | Mayor |
| 24/11/2018 | Mayor of Congleton Christmas Party Night | Deputy Mayor |
| 25/11/2018 | Mayor of Macclesfield Charity Lunch | Mayor |
| 25/11/2018 | Mayor of Northwich Charity Lunch | Deputy Mayor |
| 25/11/2018 | Dexter and Jones Gin Festival 5-9pm | Mayor |
| 25/11/2018 | Giovanni's VIP Invitation drinks reception | Mayor |
| 29/11/2018 | Lord Mayor of Chester Charity Event | Deputy Mayor |
| 30/11/2018 | Sharston House Christmas Light Switch On | Deputy Mayor |
| 03/12/2018 | Sunrise Christmas Lights Switch On | Mayor |
| 04/12/2018 | Canute Lunch Club Christmas Lunch | Cllr Forbes |
| 04/12/2018 | Knutsford Scouts Christmas Carol Service | Mayor |
| 07/12/2018 | Mayor of Middlewich Charity Wine Tasting & Quiz | Mayor |
| 08/12/2018 | St Cross Christmas Tree Festival | Mayor |
| 11/12/2018 | Knutsford Academy 'Legally Blonde' Production | Mayor |
| 13/12/2018 | Christmas Windows Competition Certificates | Mayor |
| 14/12/2018 | Winsford Town Mayor's Carol Concert | Mayor |
| 15/12/2018 | Wendy Diddams' Children's Competition Prizegiving | Mayor |
| 15/12/2018 | Tatton Singers Christmas Concert | Mayor |
| 16/12/2018 | Brook Street Chapel Christmas Carol Service | Mayor |

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| 17/12/2018 | Knutsford Bake Club Christmas Bake Off | Mayor |
| 19/12/2018 | Heathfield Square Blue Plaque Installation | Mayor |
| 20/12/2018 | An Evening of Vocal Music Fundraising event at St John's Church | Cllr Forbes |
| 24/12/2018 | Midnight Mass at Knutsford Methodist Church | Mayor |
| 25/12/2018 | Knutsford Lions Club Christmas Day Lunch | Mayor |

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