

Knutsford Town Council

Town Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green

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Minutes

of the

Town Council meeting held 2nd March 2020

In the Lower Council Chamber of the Town Council Offices

19/125 Present

Cllrs Malloy, Gardiner, Abel, Beswick, Dalzell, Forbes, Hamilton Coan, McCulloch, Nicholson, Power and Robertson.

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

19/126 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Coan and Gray (personal business) Fletcher (parliamentary business) and Houghton (business).

19/127 To receive declarations of members' interests

No member declared an interest in any item.

19/128 Public Participation

No members of the public wished to speak.

19/129 To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held 6th January

It was **RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes subject to a correction to 19/112 to refer to road repairs commencing before the end of January not being completed.

19/130 To receive a report from and raise questions to Sergeant Bill Brickhill of Cheshire Police

Sgt Brickhill addressed the meeting and explained the current policing establishment from Knutsford Police Station and advising that there were no major problems in Knutsford at present. Sgt Brickhill stated that PCSOs each hold a regular surgery and undertake 1 hour of speed enforcement per week and that they would happily cover problem areas reported by the council.

Sgt Brickhill responded to questions stating he would support a reduced speed limit on Manchester Road outside Cottons Hotel and that he was happy to attend council meetings as a minimum twice per year.

19/131 To note the minutes of committees which have been published since the previous ordinary meeting

The committee minutes were noted.

19/132 To receive reports from and raise questions to Cheshire East Councillors

Cllr Abel reported that 6000 trees would be planted in Cheshire East, including within Tatton Park before the end of March. Cllr Abel responded to a question in relation to the declared climate emergency stating that the council was working on a strategy and aiming to be carbon neutral by 2025.

Cllr Gardiner responded to a question in relation to gritting routes explaining that changes were to be implemented from winter 2020 and that all three ward councillors had made representations in respect of the routes being removed from Knutsford. Cllr Abel added that the changes were principally the result of government guidance. It was noted the issue was to be discussed by the Town Council Environment Committee at its next meeting.

19/133 To receive reports from members

Cllr Forbes reported on a meeting with Cheshire Community Foundation with respect the Knutsford Fund.

Cllr Gardiner left the meeting so as not to prejudice his position on the Cheshire East Council Strategic Planning Board. Cllr Forbes reported on attendance with other members at a meeting with Tatton Estate concerning the Parkgate development site, explaining that proposals were for 250 homes on a site allocated for 200 in the Local Plan. Cllr Forbes stated that the meeting had expressed a desire for a greater number of bungalows and more green space integrated within the development. Cllr Gardiner re-joined the meeting.

Cllr Power reported on a meeting with Bella Marketing and Design to prepare the marketing collateral for the Music Festival.

Cllr Malloy reported on hosting the first Knutsford and District Youth Council meeting where four priorities were agreed: road safety, facilities for children aged 14/15, increased inter-school activity and promotion of the environment and a reduction in plastic waste. Cllr Malloy further reported that the Mayor of Montmorency was unable to attend his Ball due to elections but had responded to the invitation.

19/134 To receive an update in respect of the transfer of the council offices

The Town Clerk reported that Cheshire East Council had prepared a statutory declaration for the portion of the land for which it does not hold title deeds and that this was to be signed by a grounds operative who could attest to the council's ownership. It was anticipated that once this was prepared the transfer documents would be issued to the town council's solicitors.

19/135 To review a cemetery memorial decision

It was agreed to defer this item.

19/136 To consider revisions to Standing Orders

The outlined changes were proposed and seconded and in accordance with Standing Orders stood adjourned to the next meeting.

19/137 To approve the corporate risk register

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the risk register subject to increasing the impact of lost assets to 3 and the likelihood of violence to employees to 2.

19/138 To consider establishing an Honours working group

It was **RESOLVED** to establish the working group as per the terms of reference subject to the amendment that it comprise one member from each ward. It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllrs Gardiner, Beswick, Hamilton Coan and Nicholson to the working group.

19/139 To discuss communications policy

The current communications protocols were discussed and it was agreed that the Environment Committee be tasked with approving a Communications Policy.

19/140 To note payments

The payments were noted.

The high electricity costs for the Market Hall were noted and it was agreed to place this as an item on the next Assets Committee meeting.

19/141 To receive a report of Mayoral Duties

The Mayor reported on attendance as the events detailed below.

19/142 Member questions to the Town Clerk

The Town Clerk responded to questions stating that the one action outstanding on the Council action log was the updating of the Emergency Plan and explaining the current status of the Town Centre Masterplan consultation. It was agreed that at least 500 responses should be received for the consultation and that the Town Clerk should look to extend the deadline should this not appear achievable.

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the public and press on the grounds of the sensitive nature of discussions. The Town Clerk responded to a question with respect a former employee. It was **RESOLVED** to readmit the public and press.

19/143 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

19/144 To note date of next meeting

The date was noted.

MAYORAL ENGAGEMENTS

7th January to 2nd March

10/01/2020	Showmen's Guild Annual Lunch	Mayor
12/01/2020	East Cheshire Hospice Charity Xmas Tree Collection	Mayor
16/01/2020	First Knutsford & District Youth Council Meeting	Mayor
18/01/2020	Altrincham Court Leet Hilary Assize	Mayor
24/01/2020	Mayor of Macclesfield's Ban the Winter Blues' Quiz Night	Mayor
25/01/2020	Visit to Egerton Football Club	Mayor
26/01/2020	Egerton Hall, Ashley Opening	Mayor
27/01/2020	Cheshire East Holocaust Memorial Day Service	Mayor
28/01/2020	Cheshire Best Kept Station Annual Awards Evening 2019	Mayor
30/01/2020	The Knutsford Fund Launch with George Osborne	Mayor
30/01/2020	Intecho New Office Launch	Mayor
01/02/2020	Knutsford Lions' Senior Citizens Variety Show	Mayor
06/02/2020	GPs Practices Meeting	Mayor
08/02/2020	Lord Mayor of Chester's Regalia Tour	Mayor
09/02/2020	Ella Worthington Events Ladies Charity Fashion Show	Mayor
15/02/2020	Mayor of Macclesfield's Magic Voices Choir	Deputy Mayor
17/02/2020	Visit to Canute Badminton Club	Mayor
18/02/2020	Mayor of Northwich's Charity Curry Meal	Mayor
23/03/2020	Visit to Knutsford Rugby Club	Mayor
25/02/2020	Knutsford Rotary Club Youth Talk by Bryan Redpath	Mayor
29/02/2020	Opening of Cheshire Quality	Mayor
01/03/2020	Brook Street Chapel Family Service	Mayor
01/03/2020	Mayor of Cheshire East's Civic Service	Deputy Mayor