

# Knutsford Town Council

**Town Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green**

Council Offices, Toft Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 6TA

01565 653929      [www.knutsfordtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.knutsfordtowncouncil.gov.uk)

[townclerk@knutsfordtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@knutsfordtowncouncil.gov.uk)



## Minutes of the forty-sixth Annual Town Meeting of Knutsford held at 7pm on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at St John's Church

### **46/001 Attendance**

In attendance was the Town Mayor, Cllr Neil Forbes, Town Clerk, Adam Keppel-Green and 61 members of the public.

### **46/002 Welcome from the Mayor of Knutsford**

The Mayor welcomed all those in attendance and the shortlisted nominees for the Town Awards. Cllr Forbes referred to the publication of the Town Council's Annual Report.

### **46/003 To note the minutes of the 2017 Annual Town Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting were noted.

### **46/004 Presentation from Caroline O'Brien, Chief Executive of the Cheshire Voluntary Services CE**

Caroline O'Brien gave an inspiring talk on the benefits of volunteering, highlighting that there is the equivalent of 2,000 full time jobs being undertaken by volunteers in Cheshire East. It was noted that volunteering has been shown to bring physical and mental health benefits and that employees being given time to volunteer enhances their job performance.

### **46/005 Town Awards**

Cllr Forbes introduced the Town Awards and invited Ian Cass, Managing Director of the sponsors, the Forum of Private Business, to present the awards.

Civic Awards were presented to:

- Sue Banks – for services to the Girl Guiding movement in Knutsford
- Hazel Cussons – for dedicated service to the Welcome Café
- Debbie Jamison – for work with Friends of the Moor and Knutsford Residents of Over Ward

The Community Award was presented to Lower Moss Wood for providing sanctuary for sick and injured wildlife, providing educational visits for children, and providing numerous volunteering opportunities.

The Youth Award was presented to Emily Coffey for her voluntary work with the Knutsford First Responders.

The Business Award was presented to Julia Chard of Mr Simms Olde Sweet Shoppe for her instrumental role in founding the Pumpkin Path and Bunny Hop as well as supporting numerous community organisations throughout the years.

A special award was made to Knutsford for their annual knitted remembrance displays in the town centre.

A commendation was presented to Peter Murray of Pulse of Perfumery, who, having won the first Business Award in 2013, been nominated for the award every year.

#### **46/006 Open Forum**

Cllr Stewart Gardiner provided an update in respect of the development of the Knutsford Neighbourhood Plan, thanking all those who had taken the time to respond to previous surveys and announcing that a consultation on the draft plan would be taking place in May.

A representative of the Friendship Café highlighted the work being undertaken to make Knutsford a Dementia Friendly Town.

A resident questioned when improvements would be made to King Street.

A resident highlighted the fundraising efforts of 1<sup>st</sup> Knutsford Scouts, highlighting the need to raise £300,000 to build a new HQ.

A resident highlighted a fundraising event taking place on May 12<sup>th</sup> on Regent Street, where the Knutsford Beats choir would be raising funds for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

A resident raised concern about the poor standard of road repairs and commended the Town Council on its work with Cycle Knutsford in looking to publish a new Cycle Map.