50th Anniversary of Knutsford Town Council



Town Mayor Cllr Beth Page
Civic Sunday Parade 1981

About this exhibition

This exhibition sets out a timeline of the council's activity since it was created in 1974. The information is sourced from minutes of its meetings and press reports.

It is not easy to condense 50 years into a few boards, so this is not a comprehensive summary of the council's work. Important things will have been missed and activity not reported in minutes may also have been overlooked.

The objective of the exhibition is to highlight the role the council has played in supporting the Knutsford community. It highlights how some items have recurred over the years and issues that have not been resolved. It also highlights the change in role of the town council since Cheshire East Council was created in 2009.

A Brief History of Local Government in England

From the Middle Ages

From the Early Middle Ages (1100), settlements were scattered across land held by Lords of the Manor. These Manors oversaw local administration, policing and defence of their area.

The Lord and his family, their retainers and the free and unfree tenants were all bound to each other by a network of obligation and service. The tenants farmed land held by the Lord, wastes and commons were a shared resource. The Courts Baron and Customary dealt with local administrative issues and the Lord of the Manor or his representatives (such as a Bailiff) oversaw the management of land, rotation of agriculture and the regulation of agricultural jobs.

Lords would apply to the King for special rights - such as to hold markets and fairs. The Knutsford Charter of 1292 was an example of this. The Lords held great influence - for example a priest seeking to establish a church required his land, materials and labour to build it.

Over time, as communications and trade improved and events such as the Black Death changed the peasant class. The power of the Lord of the Manor declined and by the time of the first Tudor King (1485), their importance had significantly dwindled.

Whilst manor courts declined, the power and wealth of the Church increased. In rural areas, the parish church was often the only public meeting place and so it became that the social, administrative and religious leadership flowed from the Church. Old civil obligations of the Lord to maintain his starving tenants was matched by the religious obligations of charity.

Various Acts of Parliament bestowed upon the Vestry responsibility for increasing public administration functions. Parishes become responsible for maintaining roads, administering the Poor Law. As localities grew, smaller "select vestries" were created. In the absence of powerful and impartial audit, many became corrupt.

Victorian Reform

The first major reform was the Municipal Corporations Act 1835. This reformed incorporated boroughs and required their councils to be elected. Locally there were boroughs in Macclesfield, Congleton, Chester and Stockport.

The Local Government Act 1888 saw the creation of County Councils and in major cities, County Boroughs. These councils were given powers previously held by the Quarter Sessions such as licensing race courses, repairing bridges and inspecting weights and measures.

Six years later, the Local Government Act 1894 introduced two new tiers of government. In rural areas, Parish



Knutsford Urban District Council
Councillors and Staff

Councils were created and above them Rural District Councils. In small towns, Urban District Councils were created. Initially Knutsford was to have parish councils for Nether and Over Knutsford - Nether Knutsford Parish Council met once in 1894 and noted it was being dissolved as the Knutsford Urban District Council was created instead.

The Urban District Council had broad powers - it was responsible for local roads, burials, housing, sanitation, libraries, planning and much more.

1970s Reform

By 1972, it was decided that the whole system needed reform. The original proposals were to create unitary authorities across the whole country and do away with parish councils. This met with resistance in parliament so a new three-tier system was created.

A larger district (Macclesfield) was created and a parish council was created in Knutsford to replace the UDC. This new council had less power and influence and it's where the story of Knutsford Town Council begins.

1973

A shadow council is established comprising the Knutsford Urban District Councillors. The first meeting of “Knutsford Parish Council” takes place in July 1973

The shadow council initially expresses a keenness to run the civic centre, market, offices, cemetery, open spaces and car parks. It subsequently withdraws interest to avoid needing to set a higher precept.

In December the council adopts the ‘style’ of a Town Council and the chairman becomes the Town Mayor



Council Offices, 1970s

1974

On 1st April, Knutsford Urban District Council is dissolved and Knutsford Town Council officially comes into being.

Edward Morley is officially appointed as Town Clerk. He had served as Town Clerk to KUDC since 1947 and is now employed for 15hrs a week with a salary of £1,500 pa.

The council considers its first planning application, objecting to a proposal for two dwellings at 4 Tabley Road as it considers the site is only suitable for one. The council has reviewed every planning application over the last 50 years.

A proposal by CCC to ban parking and through traffic on King Street and Princess Street is opposed by the Town Council.

The council debates reverting back to the title of Chairman in place of Town Mayor. The vote is narrowly lost 6 v 5.

1975

The council obtains permission from the government to run the Market Hall and requests MBC transfers it. It doesn’t happen.

In June, the council raises its first complaints to MBC and CCC about the poor standard of grass cutting in the town and the removal of the play area on the Barncroft.

The council discusses the “disgraceful” condition of the King Street public toilets, operated by MBC - calling them a “hazard to health”.

The council successfully obtains ownership of the Kings Coffee House (60 King Street). It had been vested in MBC since reorganisation but the council argued it was “parish property” in accordance with the Local Government Act 1933!

1976

The first elections to the Town Council are held. Seven new councillors are elected.

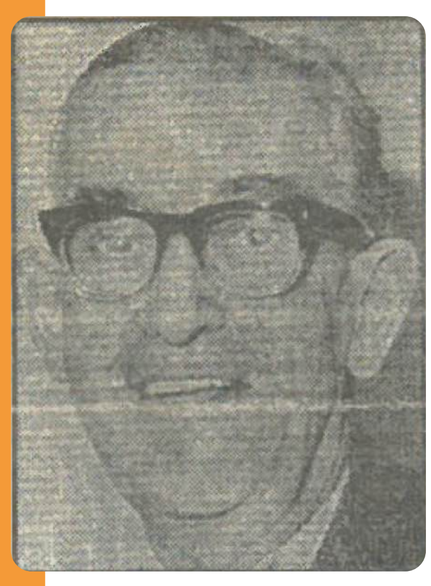
The council loans £300 to the Historical Society to fund the print of “The History of Knutsford” by Charles Bennett. It’s repaid quicker than expected.

To celebrate HM Queen Elizabeth II’s Silver Jubilee the council agrees to give all primary school children in Knutsford a jubilee mug and a crown piece to all other children.

1977

Eric Yeomans is appointed as Town Clerk on the retirement of Edward Morley, who retired after working for the council a total of 48 years.

Town Mayor Cllr Ken Walley causes protestations from borough councillors when he says “Quite frankly, in the last three years we have not seen a concerted effort by Borough Councillors to improve the amenities in this town”



Edward Morley
Town Clerk 1947-1977

Cllr Barbara Crossley suggests the town needs a skatepark as skating on King Street car park is causing problems.

The council is keen to see a bottle bank set up in Knutsford but “the logistics of collecting, storing and transporting glass” prevent it. The council writes to the Department of the Environment urging them to look at the issue nationally.

1978

Wallwood is transferred from MBC to the town council. it had been given to the town by Monkton Properties and would now be a lasting memorial to the silver jubilee.

An anti-litter committee is set up in partnership with local businesses. There are 270 entries to the committee’s poster competition.

The council discusses the sale of amenity space at Glebelands Road, regretting it cannot buy it.



Cllr Sheila O’Brien
Town Mayor 1979/80

The council discusses several complaints about the maintenance of Knutsford - the Northwich Road toilets are “deplorable”, more litter bins are needed and the Dog Lodge rest park has been neglected.

1979

The council discusses the prospect of charges being introduced on car parks.

The council is concerned about sewerage being discharged into the Moor Pool.

1980



Cllr Val Young
Town Mayor 1980/81

The council works to secure the retention of a phone box on Westfield Drive - it ends up paying the rent for one year to buy more time to resolve the issue.

The council objects to the introduction of pay parking “as the motorist is already heavily taxed”. Charges are introduced later this year.

The Marjorie Hurst Charity, which had been administered by the council, is set up as an independent body.

1982

A scheme for renaming Longridge is agreed with the community but MBC wouldn’t progress it.

A suggestion to ban smoking at council meetings results in it being left “to the consistently good manners of the members concerned to temper their more combustible inclinations”

The council objects to the proposed development opposite Longridge. It’s eventually refused. Attempts to get MBC to refuse to sell its ransom strip are unsuccesful.

A feasibility study is funded to look at options to retain the War Memorial Cottage Hospital

1984

New signs are installed at the entry to Knutsford noting its twinning with Montmorency.

An application for judicial review of the decision to close the War Memorial Cottage Hospital is applied for, it leads to the Health Authority to undertaking a new consultation.

The council asks MBC to let it run car parks after the introduction of charges leads to problems with on-street parking. MBC doesn’t agree.

1986

After nine years of seeking it, a bottle bank is to be installed at Shaw Heath and King St car park.

The council buys planters and hanging baskets to support it’s *In Bloom* efforts.

Discussing traffic concerns, the council calls for a bypass and the Director of Highways at CCC agrees it’s needed in the longer term.

The council resolves to ban smoking at meetings

1988

Still calling for the renaming of Longridge. MBC labelled “defeatist” in its approach.

The Anti-Litter Committee becomes the Environmental Committee and the council creates a Planaps Committee to monitor planning developments.

It’s agreed to explore the idea of renaming Longridge which is supported by the Longridge Residents’ Association and Post Office.

Knutsford is twinned with Montmorency, France following investigations led by Cllr Michael Borrett, chairman of the town twinning committee.

1981

The council provides mugs to children in Knutsford to celebrate the marriage of HRH Prince Charles to Lady Diana Spencer.

An opportunity for the public to speak at the end of council meetings is introduced.

The council objects to the new Cheshire County Structure Plan due to loss of greenbelt, traffic concerns and expressing that the town doesn’t need any housing due to changing population and housing sizes.

1983

The council calls on CCC to trial pedestrianisation on King Street from 8am to 4pm on Saturdays

The council expressed frustration at planning decisions being made by councillors at MBC with no connection to Knutsford

The council buys a second hand electric typewriter

1985

The Crosstown War Memorial is renovated by the council



Mayor of Montmorency and Town Mayor Cllr Barbara Phibbs unveil the sign for the new Montmorency Road

Knutsford enters the Britain in Bloom competition for the first time.

A trial of Saturday pedestrianisation on King Street was undertaken. The council favoured the scheme but felt insufficient thought had been given to the needs of the elderly and disabled. CCC suspended the trial two weeks later.

1987

Eric Yeomans retires as Town Clerk and is replaced by Alan Jackson.

Knutsford Town Band no longer able to lead Civic Sunday parades due to reduced numbers.

1989

The council agrees it should get a word processor. It gets advice from MBC and buys an AMSTRAD PCW9512



Town Mayor and Mayoress
Cllr Ken Fairhurst and
Joan Fairhurst
1987/1988

1990

Established a committee to plan for the 700th charter celebrations in 1992

The need for coach parking in Knutsford was agreed but MBC said it was too difficult as no land was available.

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1992

The council led celebrations of the 700th anniversary of Knutsford being granted a charter. It included a royal visit from HRH Princess Margaret.



HRH Princess Margaret and Town Mayor Cllr Jennifer Holbrook

Objections are submitted to the proposed second runway at Manchester Airport

1994

Traders are surveyed along King Street and there is good support for pedestrianisation

A commemorative bin and bench are installed at the entrance to Tatton Park to commemorate the 50th anniversary of VE and VJ Day.

1996

Proposals to rename Longridge are discussed again. A survey of residents indicated support, but due to a low response rate the project was dropped.

Following the retirement of Alan Jackson, Gay Martyniuk takes over as Town Clerk, working 16hrs per week.

1998

Millennium projects including creating a woodland in Tatton Park, creating a tapestry and a millennium bursary were agreed.



Town Council February 1999

Left to Right Jennifer Holbrook, Bill Davies, Barbara Austin, Derek Squirrell, Gay Martyniuk, Hilda Gates (Town Mayor), Bert Grange, Beth Page, Brian Daulby, Tony Mazzeo and Wilson Hamman.

The poor condition of the cemetery and chapel was raised with MBC.

The council led the naming of Heritage Way

Cllr Page reported a swell in support for pedestrianisation. The council wrote to MBC/CCC to express its ‘continued interest’

The council expresses dismay at the withdrawal of crossing patrols on Manor Park North

1991

The council agreed additional lighting is required on Sparrow Lane, but its too costly for the town council to fund.

Cllrs Mike Copple and Bill Davies survey residents of Parkgate and Springwood Avenue to measure support for limiting through traffic to Parkgate Lane.

1993

An overflowing River Lily is the “plight of residents”

The council discusses the need for closer working with Tatton Park to promote tourism.

The council supports proposals for the health authority to pass the War Memorial Cottage Hospital to British Red Cross

1995

The council objects to proposals for speed bumps on Westfield Drive. Councillors work with residents to agree a scheme of chicanes to slow traffic.

A committee is created to plan celebrations for the millennium

Following the passing of the Disability Discrimination Act, the suitability of the Council Chamber is discussed.

1997

The council concludes there is no legal challenge possible following an Inspector’s decision to approve a second runway at Manchester Airport

The council objected to MBC proposals for pedestrianisation as too many parking spaces would be lost and Moorside required widening. The council required both to be addressed before a scheme could be implemented.

1999

Following the dissolution of the Chamber of Trade, the council took responsibility for providing Christmas Lights

The number of Town Councillors is increased from 12 to 15. The wards of Over, Nether, West and South were replaced with Over, Nether, Norbury Booths and Bexton

2000

The Knutsford Business Enterprise offers the council two pages on its new website. One will be general information, the second a newsletter.

The council agrees it should create a regular newsletter

The first Millennium Bursary is awarded to Oxford University student John Livesley

2002

The council takes responsibility for maintaining the River Lily after years of complaints. Maintenance is funded by MBC

The application for the Royal George Development dominates planning discussions and leads to hostile exchanges at MBC planning meetings

A nativity crib is created as part of the Christmas Lights displays in partnership with the Knutsford Catenians

2004

A Royal George Liaison Group is set up to minimise the impact of major development in the town centre

The condition of Cotton Shop Yard is discussed and the council takes responsibility for repairs to the cobbles

2006

The council requests MBC makes an order to prohibit consumption of alcohol in public places



Town Mayor and Consort 2007/08
Cllr Jan Nicholson and Clive Nicholson

The council creates a flower bed at RHS Tatton, the theme is Edward Penny.

2008

Cllr Jennifer Holbrook is elected Town Mayor for a record fourth time.

The council again vacates the Council Chamber, moving to the Jubilee Hall.

Knutsford in Bloom is set up to lead on the Northwest in Bloom competition entry.

The council surveys businesses on parking

The Knutsford Guardian stops running a Christmas Window competition, so the council starts running it

The council supports local business efforts to obtain CCTV for the town centre

2001

The Millennium Tapestry is unveiled

An internet connection is installed at the Council Offices

The council coordinates community celebrations of the Golden Jubilee.



Town Mayor Cllr George Walton and Cllr Jennifer Holbrook with a Britain in Bloom Award 2001

2003

Linda Thomas is appointed Town Clerk as Gay Martyniuk steps down

The council stops holding meetings in the Council Chamber as it is not accessible for the public. Meetings are held in the Civic Centre for a while, before returning to the Council Offices due to the "insufficient" alternatives.

2005

The council sets up its first website

It was agreed to create a poster to encourage shop keepers to sweep outside their shops

New signs were installed at entries to the town but the use of a capital H in historic proved to be controversial

The council calls for the number of councillors to be reduced from 15 to 10. This doesn't get taken forward by MBC.

2007

Cllr Peter Coan is elected - the current "father of the council" (longest serving)

The council holds a public meeting to start the process of developing a Town Plan (it's completed in 2010).

Matthew Jackson is appointed as Town Clerk.

The council introduces regular surgeries.

2009

MBC and CCC are merged into a new unitary authority: Cheshire East Council

The council adopts a new committee structure, delegating many decisions to committees instead of Full Council

2010

The position of Town Clerk is made a full time job

The council sets up a working group to negotiate the transfer of services and assets from CEC

The council established a working group to liaise with the NHS and CEC concerning the closure of the Tatton Ward and Bexton Court and seeking a new medical centre for the town.

2012

Cheshire East Council announces the withdrawal of the Town Centre Management service. The town council takes this on and appoints a Town Centre Manager (as part of a new Deputy Town Clerk role)

The council receives a talk from the Town Plan Committee on a suggested shared space / pedestrian priority scheme for the Town Centre

The Town Awards scheme is introduced to celebrate volunteers, community organisations and businesses giving back to the community

The council consults on a new strategy to guide its work leading to the *2020 Vision*

2014

The council takes ownership of the Market Hall and market rights for Knutsford



Cadet Flight Sergeant Adam Beeston, the fist Mayor's Cadet, with Town Mayor Cllr Neil Forbes

A 'Mayor's Cadet' scheme is introduced

A Town Ranger is introduced to improve the streetscene and maintenance across the town

2016

A working group is set up to fight the sale of the War Memorial Cottage Hospital after British Red Cross announce plans to leave. After several years efforts are unsuccessful and the building is sold for redevelopment.

The council buys a speed indicator device to monitor speeding in the town

Work continues on developing a *Neighbourhood Plan*

2018

The council marks the centenary of the end of World War I by unveiling the Centennial War Memorial which relocates the Haron Baronian statue and forms a central war memorial for the town

The council secures changes to a the Redrow planning application to see more bespoke architecture, additional open space and improved connectivity within the site

The council leads the creation of a new community group to replace the Knutsford Civic Society

Knutsford Christmas Market is introduced by volunteers working with Town Council

The council attains Quality Council status

2011

Steve McQuade is appointed as Town Clerk as Matthew Jackson moves to the new Wilmslow Town Council

The Jubilee Arch is installed to commemorate HM Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee.



Deputy Town Mayor Cllr Neil Forbes and Town Mayor Cllr Barbara Hamilton Coan sign the legal documents for the public toilet transfer

The council introduces the Artisan Market to Knutsford, initially as a trial in October 2012.

2013

The council takes ownership of public toilets at King Street and Bexton Road. They are renovated and consistently win 'gold' in the Loo of the Year awards

The council creates an accessible 'lower' chamber in the Council Offices for its meetings

Adam Keppel-Garner (now Keppel-Green) is appointed Town Clerk after Steve McQuade moved to the new Crewe Town Council in 2013

Work is started on developing a *Neighbourhood Plan* for Knutsford

2015

The council discusses a proposed King Street Enhancement Scheme from Cheshire East Council. The scheme is rejected for focusing only on a small section of the town centre.

The council takes ownership of the Warren Avenue and Sparrow Lane allotment sites

The council is accredited "Quality Gold" under the Local Council Awards Scheme Gold

Responsibility for the Cemetery Chapel is handed back to the town council by CEC

2017

The council launches the Knutsford Music Festival

A dedicated Town Centre Manager post is created to develop the council's support of the local economy

Taste Knutsford food tours are introduced to promote tourism to the town

2019

The *Neighbourhood Plan* is approved at referendum

The lease at 60 King Street becomes forfeit after four years of legal dispute with the tenant.

Programme of activity to support town centre

2020

Responsibility for the management of Knutsford Cemetery is transferred to the town council

The coronavirus pandemic disrupts everyone's lives. Temporary legislation enables the council to meet online using Zoom whilst many events and activities are cancelled due to restrictions. Cllr Andrew Malloy serves an extended 18-month term as Town Mayor with the *Mayor Making* ceremony postponed to November.

The *Knutsford Voucher* was introduced

The council commenced a process of reviewing the five Conservation Areas as CEC was unable to deliver reviews itself

Empty space in the public toilet buildings is converted into commerical units and let to two new local businesses

2022

Knutsford Cemetery attains 'green flag' status reflecting the quality of management and maintenance

Ownership of the Council Offices transfers to the council

The Town Mayor leads services marking the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II and accession of HM King Charles III.

The town boundary extends to include the new Redrow estate. The council now elects its 15 councillors across five wards: Norbury Booths, Bexton and Town Centre, Cross Town, Nether and St John's Wood.

The council agrees to explore the renaming of Longridge

2024

The council is undertaking a refurbishment of Knutsford Market Hall following successful grant funding bids

Prospective new tenants for 60 King Street pull out. No other offers for a lease are forthcoming

A consultation is held on a limited vehicle access scheme and parking changes in the town centre. The results are submitted to CEC to develop further.

The council adopts the obelisk on Chelford Road and renovates the area

2021

The Tabley Hill Chapel at Knutsford Cemetery is renovated by the council

The council explores operating 60 King Street as a community venue



Town Mayor Cllr Stewart Gardiner reopening the Tabley Hill Chapel

The cost of developing a community use scheme at 60 King Street and uncertainty over grant funding see the scheme withdrawn and sale discussed.

HM Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee is celebrated with a beacon lighting and planting a commemorative tree at the Council Offices.

2023

The council decides not to sell 60 King Street. Bruntwood express an interest in taking a tenancy and renovating the building.

A new 10-year strategy is adopted

The council hosts a ceilidh to mark the coronation of HM King Charles III and plants a commemorative tree on the Heath

The council secures funding to test the *From Top to Bottom Street* proposals which were submitted to Cheshire East Council in 2020. It is aiming to develop a masterplan for the town centre.

The council will be employing an apprentice Town Ranger



Town Councillors May 2023

(Left to Right) Gus Watson, April Johnson, Rex Mears, Matthew Wood, Bryan Hartley, Scott Lowe, Lesley Dalzell, Peter Coan (Town Mayor), James McCulloch, Colin Banks, Matthew Robertson, Su Russell, Christopher Gray, Stewart Gardiner and Jennifer Forrest

The Future

We cannot tell exactly how the next 10, 20 or 30 years will pan out for Knutsford and its town council, but the council has set out a 10 year strategy which outlines how it will continue to work for the betterment of Knutsford.

Whilst this timeline shows is that some issues don't get solved only to recur years later. The issue of improving pedestrian access across the town centre is the prime example of this.

With the significant financial challenges faced by Cheshire East Council, it is likely the role of the Town Council will continue to grow, whether that is through taking on assets and services, or filling gaps in local service provision.

What is clear, however, is the council will always have a role in speaking for the Town and representing its interests with other authorities and agencies.

Civic Regalia



The Mayor’s Chain

The Mayoral Chain is solid gold and was gifted to the Knutsford Urban District Council in 1918.

The original chain comprised 22 rose gold shields and four yellow gold shields were added in the 1970s/80s.

25 of the shields are inscribed with the names of the Chairmen of the Knutsford Urban District Council (1918-1973) and Town Mayors (1974-1985). There are three KUDC chairmen who are not featured - Robert Longridge, Francis Ashworth and Lance Bentley - who served from 1895-1909. The first named on the chain is Joseph Cox (Chairman 1909-1920). There are inscriptions on both sides of the shields.

In 1989, it was agreed that adding additional shields would degrade the chain and instead it became practice to present former mayors with a Past Mayor’s Medallion. Retrospective awards were made to the Town Mayors from 1985 onwards.

The pendant (pictured) hands from the centre of the chain and features the council’s armorial bearings.

The Town Mayor wears the chain when chairing Full Council meetings or when attending functions in their capacity as Town Mayor.



Did you know...
If a mayor from another town wishes to where their chain of office in Knutsford, they must get permission from the Knutsford Mayor to do so.







The Consort’s Chain

The Chairman’s Consort chain was presented to the Urban District Council in 1960 by then chairman Cllr James Bancroft.

It features the original centrepiece from the Mayor’s Chain. This image of King Canute was the logo of KUDC before it was granted a coat of arms.

This chain of office is worn by the appointed consort (Mayoress) of the Town Mayor.

The Deputy Mayor’s Medallion

The Deputy Mayor’s Medallion was purchased by the council in 1991.

It is worn on a blue ribbon.

The Deputy Mayor only wears the chain of office when they are deputising for the Town Mayor or when attending Full Council meetings and civic events.

Armorial Bearings

In 1955, to mark the diamond jubilee of the Knutsford Urban District Council, the Nether Knutsford Freeholders Association obtained armorial bearings for the council. Arms are granted by Letters Patent and the original grant hangs in the Council Offices. In 1975, by Letters Patent, the Arms were transferred to Knutsford Town Council.

The Arms were carefully designed by H. Ellis Thomlinson, a heraldic designer who created many civic arms. Each element is designed to represent a part of the town's history/identity.



The red lion is from the arms of the Egerton and Leigh families

The garland of may around the lion's neck represents Royal May Day

The lion holds a book, representing Knutsford's connection to Mrs Gaskell and the ancient grammar school.

The red walled crown represents Halton Castle with four gold lozenges. They represent the arms of William Fitz-Nigel, Baron of Halton, who held Knutsford under the first Norman Earl of Chester

Civic arms have a closed helm

The ancient style crown represents King Canute. It sits on the River Lily to represent the legend of his fording the river

The fleur-de-lys are from the arms of the Leycester families who were lords of Toft and Tabley

The chief of blue and white waves represent the River Lily

The sheaves of Cheshire wheat each represent Over Knutsford and Nether Knutsford, the old townships.

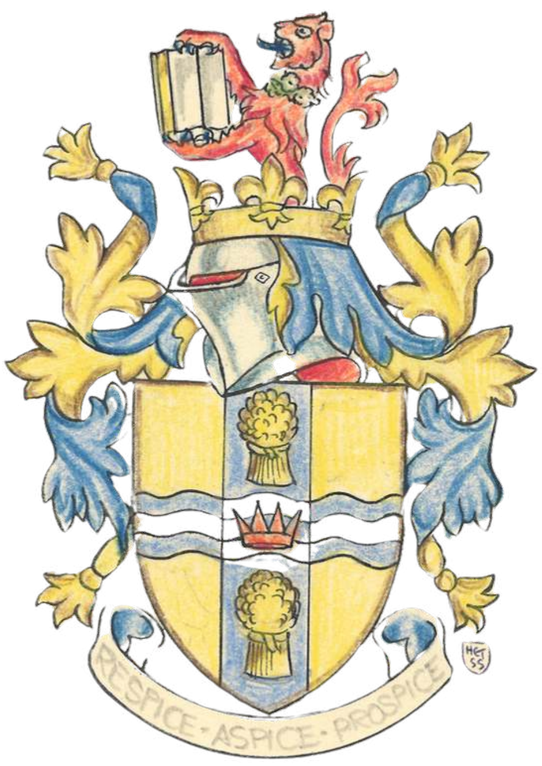
The cross refers to Cross Town

The Motto "Respice, Aspice, Prospice" is taken from the Holland family, first Barons and later Viscounts Knutsford.

The sheild is in blue and gold, the liveries of the Earldom of Chester

It translates to Look to the Past, the Present and the Future

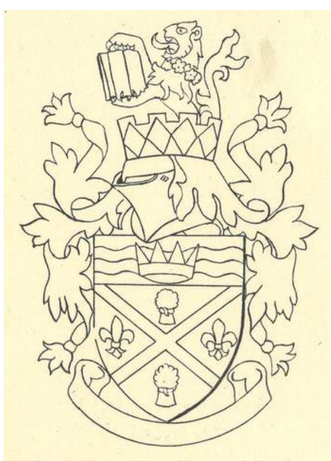
Here's an alternative design that was rejected during the process of creating the armorial bearings.



The current artwork for the armorial bearings was created in 2013 to suit a variety of modern uses and you'll find it on council property and literature. Here are some different versions used over the years...











Town Councillors

With thanks to volunteer Thomas Shaftoe, we have compiled a complete list of the councillors who have served on Knutsford Town Council since 1974, these are listed in order of when they were first elected/co-opted. Remember none of these are paid for their service to the Town!

Where known, we've used people's common names. Many councillors have unbroken terms, but where a councillor has had a break in service they are listed separately. It is also worth noting that all of the first councillors served on Knutsford Urban District Council, so their tenure as a councillor for Knutsford stretches back further. Where there is no end date, they are a serving Town Councillor.

Fred	Atkinson	*1974 - 1976*	Barbara	Austin	*1988 - 2007*	Barbara	Hamilton Coan	*2008 - 2015*
George	Butler	*1974 - 1974*	Jennifer	Holbrook	*1989 - 2011*	David	Lever	*2008 - 2010*
Marjorie	Chorlton	*1974 - 1975*	Ray	Newey	*1990 - 1992*	Peter	Raynes	*2008 - 2015*
Bill	Davies	*1974 - 1975*	Bill	Davies	*1991 - 2003*	David	Heffernan	*2009 - 2011*
Harry	Fish	*1974 - 1976*	Derek	Squirrell	*1991 - 2003*	Vivien	Davies	*2010 - 2015*
Hillary	Glidewell	*1974 - 1976*	Wayne	Loughlin	*1992 - 1994*	Tony	Dean	*2011 - 2019*
Frederick	Mackenzie	*1974 - 1979*	Heather	Craig	*1994 - 1999*	Bernadette	Emmett	*2011 - 2012*
Douglas	Page	*1974 - 1976*	Juile	Burgess	*1995 - 1997*	Julian	Goodrich	*2011 - 2019*
Ronald	Parr	*1974 - 1976*	Brian	Daulby	*1995 - 1999*	Michael	Houghton	*2011 - 2015*
Roy	Shepherd	*1974 - 1976*	Hilda	Gates	*1995 - 1999*	Simon	Hutchence	*2011 - 2019*
York	Walker	*1974 - 1983*	Herbert	Grange	*1997 - 2004*	Gary	Lasham	*2011 - 2015*
Ken	Walley	*1974 - 1988*	Wilson	Hamman	*1998 - 2011*	Andrew	Malloy	*2011 - 2023*
George	Whalley	*1974 - 1976*	Elizabeth	Abbotts	*1999 - 2003*	Clive	Nicholson	*2011 - 2014*
John	Gledhill	*1975 - 1979*	Norman	Anderton	*1999 - 2003*	Yvonne	Bancroft	*2013 - 2017*
Jennifer	Johnson	*1975 - 1979*	Valerie	Byles (Boston-Davies)	*1999 - 2005*	Christopher	Gray	*2014 -*
William	Powell	*1975 - 1976*	Joan	Fairhurst	*1999 - 2008*	Jonathan	Farber	*2015 - 2019*
John	Beckett	*1976 - 1977*	John	Golden	*1999 - 2002*	Christine	Gray	*2015 - 2019*
Michael	Borrett	*1976 - 1979*	Brenda	Guite	*1999 - 2007*	Charlotte	Greenstein	*2015 - 2018*
Barbara	Crossley	*1976 - 1991*	James	Hall	*1999 - 2003*	James	Power	*2015 - 2023*
Colin	Evans	*1976 - 1977*	Ernest	Jones	*1999 - 2003*	Hayley	Wells-Bradshaw	*2015 - 2019*
Peter	Leach	*1976 - 1976*	Anthony	Ranfield	*1999 - 2007*	Jon	Wells-Bradshaw	*2017 - 2019*
Sheila	O'Brien	*1976 - 1982*	George	Walton	*1999 - 2003*	Elizabeth	Beswick	*2018 - 2023*
Beth	Page	*1976 - 1999*	Colin	Hurrell	*2000 - 2007*	Quentin	Abel	*2019 - 2023*
Jesse	Thompson-Hughes	*1977 - 1979*	Beth	Page	*2002 - 2007*	Lesley	Dalzell	*2019 -*
Roy	Shepherd	*1977 - 1982*	Barbara	Cooper	*2003 - 2003*	Katherine	Fletcher	*2019 - 2020*
Valerie	Young	*1977 - 1987*	Vivien	Davies	*2003 - 2007*	Barbara	Hamilton Coan	*2019 - 2020*
Denise	Bennett	*1979 - 1980*	Jan	Nicholson	*2003 - 2023*	Michael	Houghton	*2019 - 2023*
Sheila	Forbes	*1979 - 1990*	Linda	Panayi	*2003 - 2008*	James	McCulloch	*2019 -*
Herbert	Grange	*1979 - 1995*	Nicholes	Williams	*2003 - 2007*	Matthew	Robertson	*2019 -*
Tony	Mazzeo	*1979 - 1999*	Patricia	Green	*2004 - 2008*	Scott	Lowe	*2021 -*
Robert	Simmons	*1979 - 1981*	Marion	Ikin	*2004 - 2008*	Millie	Morris	*2021 - 2023*
John	Savage	*1980 - 1982*	Tony	Want	*2005 - 2011*	Colin	Banks	*2023 -*
Ken	Fairhurst	*1982 - 1995*	Francis	Aldhouse	*2007 - 2011*	Jennifer	Forrest	*2023 -*
James	Foster	*1982 - 1983*	Mark	Batty	*2007 - 2008*	Bryan	Hartley	*2023 -*
Pauline	Gilby	*1982 - 1986*	Steven	Bolton	*2007 - 2008*	April	Johnson	*2023 -*
Barbara	Phibbs	*1982 - 1999*	Peter	Coan	*2007 -*	Rex	Mears	*2023 -*
Margaret	Finer	*1983 - 1987*	Neil	Forbes	*2007 - 2023*	Su	Russell	*2023 -*
Elsie	Howarth	*1983 - 1991*	Charles	Mountain	*2007 - 2011*	Gus	Watson	*2023 -*
James	Jordan	*1986 - 1997*	Jennifer	Want	*2007 - 2011*	Matthew	Wood	*2023 -*
Michael	Copple	*1987 - 1995*	Barbara	Austin	*2008 - 2011*			
Stuart	Wallace	*1987 - 1989*	Stewart	Gardiner	*2008 -*			

Longest Serving
Beth Page holds the record for longest service on Knutsford Town Council, serving a total of 28 years across two terms (1976-1999 and 2002-2007)

Gender Split
By time served, 58% of councillors have been male and 42% female

Unique Councillors
There have been 114 Town Councillors since 1974

Common Names
We've had five Barbaras and five Johns