

MIDDLEWICH TOWN COUNCIL
Victoria Building
Lewin Street
Middlewich
CW10 9AS

Minutes of the Four Hundred and Twelfth Meeting of Middlewich Town Council, held in the Council Chamber at the above address on Monday 20th December 2010, commencing at 7.15pm

Part One

Present

The Mayor, Councillor MJ Parsons, Councillors JW Basford, J Eaton, TCJ Eaton, PJ Edwards, S Edwards, PJ Farrell, CH Harrison, PJ Hirst and W White

- 1. The meeting was opened with a prayer read by the Town Clerk**
- 2. To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Councillors KN Bagnall and SN McGrory.

FEEDBACK AND REPORTS

- 3. To receive any announcements to be made by the Mayor**

The Mayor reported that, since the last meeting, he had attended the following events:

- Rotary Club Christmas Dinner
- Mayors Charity Concert
- Over 60s Club Dinner
- Christmas Light Switch On
- Over 70s Christmas Party
- Patrol with Middlewich Neighbourhood Policing Team
- Mayors Charity Quiz
- Wyches Club Dinner

Resolved 6689

That the Mayor's announcements be noted.

- 4. To note any declarations of Members' Interests on any agenda item**

Councillors PJ Edwards and MJ Parsons, as members of Cheshire East Council both declared a personal interest in any items which related to Cheshire East Council.

- 5. Reminder of the rota for the next surgery to be held on 5th February 2011
- Councillors KN Bagnall and TCJ Eaton**

Resolved 6690

That the rota be received and noted.

- 6. To consider any written questions submitted to the Open Forum**

No questions had been submitted.

- 7. To receive and approve the Minutes of the 411th Meeting of Middlewich Town Council held on Monday 15th November 2010**

Resolved 6691

That the Minutes be received and approved as a correct record.

- 8. To consider any written Members' questions on the Minutes**

No questions had been submitted.

- 9. To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of the Employment and Operations Committee held on 1st December 2010**

Resolved 6692

That the Minutes be received.

- 10. To receive the Clerk's report and any correspondence received for information**

The Town Clerk submitted a report on the meetings and events he had attended since the last Town Council meeting, together with recent correspondence which had been received, for information.

Resolved 6693

(1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the correspondence from Cheshire East Council regarding a planning appeal to planning application 10/2551W be considered at the Special Meeting of the Town Council on 11th January 2011.

- 11. To receive written reports from Cheshire East Councillors**

A report was submitted by Councillor MJ Parsons. Councillor PJ Edwards apologised for not submitting his monthly report.

Resolved 6694

- (1) That the report be received with thanks.
- (2) That each of the Cheshire East Councillors be asked to continue to submit reports each month, as Members found them to be useful and informative.

12. To receive written reports from Outside Bodies

The following reports from Members or Officers attending Meetings of Outside Bodies were submitted:-

- Minutes of the Community Pride Group held on 9th November 2010
- Larger Council Clerks Meeting notes held on 3rd December 2010
- Quality Forum Meeting notes held on 24th November 2010

Resolved 6695

- (1) That the reports be received.
- (2) That it be noted that the Middlewich Vision Periodic Report was not available and would be presented to a future meeting.

13. To consider any Members' Items previously submitted

No items had been submitted.

FINANCE

14. To receive and approve the monthly financial and budget monitoring reports

The Town Clerk presented the monthly financial and budget monitoring reports to the Council. He reported that a number of the un-presented cheques needed to be deleted from the reconciliation report, as they would never be cashed, and this amounted to £3447 addition to the balances.

Resolved 6696

That the reports be received and approved.

15. To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 6th December 2010

Resolved 6697

That the Minutes be received.

16. To approve the request from the Heritage Development Officer for work to be carried out to the Middlewich Heritage Website

Resolved 6697

That the item be referred to the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee for determination, as there was insufficient evidence upon which to make an informed decision.

17. To receive information from Cheshire West & Chester Council regarding pension contribution rates

The Town Clerk presented and explained the information provided to the Council relating to planned, staged increases to the Employer's Pension Contribution Rates.

Resolved 6698

That the information be received.

POLICY CONSIDERATION

18. To consider a report from the Rural Services Network on Building the Big Society in Rural Areas

Resolved 6699

That the report and analysis be received.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

19. To consider the report from the Assistant Town Clerk regarding Swan Fencing

The Assistant Town Clerk reported that he had attended a meeting with the Swan Support Group and British Waterways who agreed to continue to supply funding towards the provision of swan fencing/hedging on the Trent and Mersey Canal at Booth Lane

British Waterways, however, had requested that the Swan Support Group deposit a sum of money, each year to cover maintenance of the fencing and hedgerow should the Swan Support Group cease to exist. In such circumstances, this sum would then be passed to another organisation to take responsibility for future maintenance.

British Waterways had requested that the Town Council consider underwriting the future maintenance of the fence/hedge should the Swan Support Group cease to exist.

Resolved 6700

That the BTCV or a similar organisation be asked to underwrite the Swan Group jointly with the Town Council.

20. To receive the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 14th December 2010

Councillor PJ Edwards declared a personal interest in this item.

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 14th December 2010 were submitted. It was noted that the meeting had been inquorate for a short time and the Council was asked to consider the recommendation of the Members present that application no. 10/3951C (Boosey's Garden Centre, Newton Bank, erection of one A1 retail unit) be supported.

Resolved 6701

- (1) That the Minutes be received.
- (2) That the Council oppose application 10/3951C as it is considered that an additional large supermarket is not necessary as the town is already well served by existing or planned supermarkets within the Town.

REPORTS FOR INFORMATION OR DELEGATION

21. To receive a letter from ChALC regarding a Devolution of Services seminar and to seek representation from Town Councillors

Resolved 6702

- (1) That the letter be received.
- (2) That Councillors PJ Hirst, J Eaton and W White be authorised to attend the seminar.

22. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved 6703

It was agreed to exclude the Press and the Public from the Meeting on the grounds that the business is confidential and publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

The meeting concluded at 8:27 pm

Councillor MJ Parsons

Town Mayor

Signed.....2010