

MIDDLEWICH TOWN COUNCIL
Victoria Building
Lewin Street
Middlewich
CW10 9AS

Minutes of the Four Hundred and Eighteenth Meeting of Middlewich Town Council, held in the Council Chamber at the above address on Tuesday 20th June 2011, commencing at 7.15pm

Part One

Present

The Mayor, Councillor S Edwards, Councillors, KN Bagnall, AWJ Croll, J Eaton, TCJ Eaton, C Eccles, PJ Edwards, PJ Hirst, SN McGrory, S Mitchell and B Walmsley

Also present was Cheshire East Councillor MJ Parsons

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

An apology for absence was received from Councillor PJ Farrell.

FEEDBACK AND REPORTS

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

The Mayor reported that she had attended:-

- Cheshire East Council Mayor Making Ceremony
- Bizzie Lizzie Planting with the Clean Team, Brownies and Scouts
- Cricket Club
- Alsager Town Council Civic Service
- Congleton Town Council Mayor Making
- Bembridge Court Social Event
- Action for Market Towns Regional Awards Event, hosted by Middlewich Town Council

The Mayor also reported that she had attended the Middlewich Folk and Boat Festival over the weekend and wished to thank the Councillors and Officers for their hard work in running this event for the first time.

Resolved 6790

That the Mayor's announcements be received.

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

Councillors PJ Edwards and SN McGrory, as members of Cheshire East Council, each 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 2nd July 2011 - Councillors PJ Farrell and PJ Hirst

Resolved 6791

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 Annual Town Council Meeting held on Monday 16th May 2011, the 417th Meeting of Middlewich Town Council held on Tuesday 17th May 2011 and the Special Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 6th June 2011.

Resolved 6792

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 Wednesday 1st June 2011

Resolved 6793

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 functions he had attended on behalf of the Council, during the previous month.

The Town Clerk reported that papers had been tabled at the Meeting for Councillors regarding item 17. However, it was proposed that these are moved to a separate Meeting of the Assets Group.

Resolved 6794

1. That the Clerk's report be received.
2. That a Meeting of the Assets Group in held on Tuesday 28th June 2011, commencing at 7pm.

11. To receive written reports from Cheshire East Councillors

A written report was submitted by Councillor PJ Edwards.

Councillor MJ Parsons noted that he had nothing to report. Councillor SN McGrory provided a verbal report regarding the proposal to cut School Transport for Denominational Schools and 16+. He reported that the Cheshire East Scrutiny Committee would be recommending to the Cabinet that there be no removal of the transport service but that an increase in the charges be introduced.

Resolved 6795

That the reports be received with thanks.

12. To receive written reports from Outside Bodies

The following reports from outside bodies were submitted:-

- Middlewich Vision Periodic Report.
- PCSO Wood's Duty Report.

Resolved 6796

- (1) That the reports be received.
- (2) That PCSO Wood be asked to provide further explanation to the Town Council on the following matters:-
 - a. The number of motorists recently written to under the Speed Watch Scheme,
 - b. How the Yellow Card system works.
 - c. What is the level of public access to Middlewich Police Station.
- (3) To invite PCSO Wood to the next meeting of the Town Council.

13. To consider any Members' Items previously submitted

a. Anti Social Behaviour at Public/Tesco Car Park, Southway

Councillor PJ Hirst submitted an item regarding the installation of a Mosquito device on Tesco Car Park, Southway.

The Town Clerk reported that the proposal to introduce the device came from partnership held between Cheshire East Council, Cheshire Constabulary and Tesco's to assist combating Anti Social Behaviour in the area.

Resolved 6797

That the Town Clerk would make enquiries about what information could be shared with Town Council Members, and not necessarily in the public domain, from the Chair of the Task and Finish Group.

b. Anti Social Behaviour at Webbs Lane Play Area

Councillor PJ Hirst reported that he had received information from a local resident regarding the level of Anti Social Behaviour on Webbs Lane Play Area and wanted to know what was being done to improve the situation.

Resolved 6798

That the Town Clerk would add this matter to his enquiry to the Cheshire East Task and Finish Group.

c. Election of Chairman

Councillor PJ Edwards felt that Members of the Planning Committee had been wrongly advised at the last Meeting and that there had been doubt over the term "Election of Chairman". The Committee had the authority to appoint a Chairman for that particular meeting as the number of attendees was low.

Resolved 6799

That the Planning Committee would formally elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the following year at the next Meeting.

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.

Councillor SN McGrory enquired as to whether any progress had been made in regards to BACS payments and whether the issue of two signatories on the account was still a problem.

Resolved 6800

- (1) That the reports be received.
- (2) That the Town Clerk has made initial contact with the new Business Account Manager to arrange BACS payments.

15. To receive the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Monday 6th June 2011

Resolved 6801

That the Minutes be received.

POLICY CONSIDERATION

16. To receive a report from the Town Clerk regarding Transfer of Assets from Cheshire East Council and approve the recommendations made at the Special Meeting of the Town Council on 6th June 2011

The Town Clerk presented a report detailing the agreements made at a previous meeting of the Town Council.

It was reported that Alsager Town Council are apparently delaying their decision in order to carry out a community consultation.

Resolved 6802

- (1) That the word "free" be included in 2a to read "unrestricted free access"
- (2) b(1) be added to state "a condition report is provided and all works recommended be carried out prior to the transfer of the asset and a similar report be carried out to confirm the works have been done."
- (3) That the Health and Safety Executive be approached to provide guidance on the current condition of Victoria Building and any immediate threat to public safety.
- (4) That any essential repairs are not to be apportioned through the rental charges to existing tenants.

- 17. To consider a request from Pochin Plc to support an application to the Regional Growth Fund**

Resolved 6803

That the item be discussed at a meeting of the Assets Group on 28th June 2011.

- 18. To consider the content of an e-mail from Highfield Investments with regard to future use and occupation of the Town Wharf buildings**

Resolved 6804

That the item be discussed at a meeting of the Assets Group on 28th June 2011.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

- 19. To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday 8th June 2011**

Resolved 6786

That the Minutes be received.

REPORTS FOR INFORMATION OR DELEGATION

- 20. To receive an invitation to attend the induction service for Rev Simon Drew**

The Town Clerk reported that all Councillors are invited to attend the induction service.

Resolved 6787

That any Members wishing to attend the service notify the Clerk as soon as possible.

The meeting concluded at 8:10 pm

Councillor S Edwards

Town Mayor

Signed.....2011