

Death of Her Majesty the Queen

I would like express my thanks to Audrey, Nicky and our Mayor Pat, who worked devotedly and tirelessly to implement our protocol for the London Bridge operation during my annual leave, and to those others who supported Neston Town Council at this sad time. Our condolences have been sent to the Royal Family.

Post Office in Neston

Neston Town Council are in partnership with CWaC Cllr Millar, investigating further what options are available.

Disabled access at Neston Town Hall

I have sent a detailed report to CWaC Cllr Millar and the officer at CWaC responsible for the local CWaC assets. This is being chased up along with a request that CWaC consider a business case to make disabled access improvements to the building. It is hoped that we can work in partnership to achieve these improvements.

Council Corporate Plan and consultation

I have had a number of meetings with our consultant, Pete, and prepared in draft policies in-line with the advice received on the situation analysis.

I have visited and delivered consultation flyers and documents to all of the businesses on the High Street as far as Burton Road, and also visited the streets adjacent to the High Street. NTC has promoted the consultation broadly and this promotion has been strongly supported by councillors at various venues, to include drop-in events at the town hall, the Councillors surgeries and at Neston market.

The Council's contractor, Pete, and Council Manager arranged for the Working Group to meet via zoom on 28.09.22 to 6pm. Detailed reports are available for the Council's consideration at the 4th October meeting.

CWaC Meeting – UK Prosperity Fund

16.08.22: The Mayor and I attended at the event facilitated by NC&YC at Neston Civic Hall. An outline of the UK Prosperity Fund was provided along with indications of the amount of funds available for each category; Community & Place £4.3m, Support for businesses £4.9M but half of this for start-ups, and Employment Skills £1.9m. The funds have to be spent in the next 3 years; however, this is year 1.

The attendees were divided into two tables and given 3 sheets of information which had been devised by CWaC for consideration. Each group were asked to name their top priority for each sheet. Our group suggested; better WIFI for the town, Job Fairs in schools and improved transport facilities.

Further meetings will be held on the near future and those who wish to take an active role will be welcomed to attend.

Warm Spaces

Cheshire West and Chester Council will soon be launching a new initiative called 'Warm Spaces'. As many people across the borough may struggle due to the cost-of-living crisis and increasing energy costs, Warm Spaces will provide an opportunity for communities to use some Council buildings as a space to be warm and safe during the winter months.

CWaC has secured the use of their libraries as Warm Spaces and there are plans to further expand the Warm Space network to include local leisure centres.

Details will be made available soon and will include:

- CWaC's plan for the Warm Spaces initiative and how the model can be extended to other buildings.
- Information on how Town and Parish Councils can put forward their ideas, aspirations and needs in their communities for Warm Spaces and put forward details of buildings that CWaC may be able to use.
- Suggestions on where and how to signpost residents who need help and support this winter.

Audit

The internal audit has been received, see item FC 79.

The external auditor information for 2021/22 year-end has been sent and is due back.

Health & Wellbeing

I have conducted health and wellbeing meetings with staff.

Council and Local information

The Clerk magazine, NALC, ChALC information and About My Area newsletter: I read quarterly magazine, the weekly newsletters and regular bulletins that are published.

General information and updates

Committee agendas and supporting papers: Details have been overviewed and discussed with our Governance & Operations Manager (G&OM) and also with our Senior Markets & Supports Officer. Agendas have been signed and distributed. Our SM&SC has kept our website and Twitter account updated with the latest meeting information.

I cover and respond to the council@ emails and telephone calls when our SM&SC is absent and our G&OM covers these when both myself and the SM&SC are absent.

A Kunaj - Council Manager