



SANDBACH
Town Council

SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday, 15th September 2024** at **7.00pm** in
Sandbach Town Hall, Ballroom.

Present:

Cllr A Nevitt (Mayor)
Cllr J Arnold (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr S Corcoran
Cllr N Cook
Cllr L Crane
Cllr T Wheatcroft
Cllr M Muldoon
Cllr S Broad
Cllr S Wright
Cllr K England
Cllr D Poole
Cllr J Beddows
Cllr G Price Jones
Cllr M Hough
Cllr M Mitchell
Cllr D Hegarty
Mrs. N. Clarke – Clerk for the meeting

1 member of the public

1 member of the press

PART 1 : ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs R Gray, G Lindop, L MacGregor and S Richards.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

Resolved: Under the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and accredited representatives of newspaper be excluded from the meeting for items 8 and 9 of business on this agenda on grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Town Mayor adjourned the meeting to allow contributions and questions from members of the public relating to items on the agenda.

Speaker 1: A member of the press asked if there is an investigation underway at Sandbach Town Council? The mayor confirmed that she is unable to answer the question.

4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

5. **DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Town Council Meeting is the taking place on Wednesday 4th December 2024 at 7pm in Sandbach Town Hall.

PART 2 : ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

6. **CONFIDENTIAL STAFFING UPDATE**

Lead: Mayor

The Mayor expressed dismay and anger that confidential information had been leaked to the press which now puts the council at great risk. Clarification was sought on who had access to the information with confirmation that it was only councillors. Councillors voiced concerns that leaks could undermine the current work being dealt with by a group of councillors and gave backing to the work taking place to conclude the staffing matter.

Cllr. Arnold updated members on confidential staff matters and that professional advice has been sought throughout the process to ensure compliance. Councillors were informed of how much of the current budget has been spent on professional services. Cllr. Mitchell quoted Standing Order 19 e in relation to different matter.

Resolved: To approve:

- i. expenditure of up to £10,000 for professional services from an appropriate available budget heading or from general reserves
- ii. that Standing Orders and personnel procedures are taken to Finance, Policy and Governance Committee for review.

Meeting Closed 8.00 p.m.
Mayor Cllr A Nevitt / Meeting Clerk NC