



SANDBACH
Town Council

SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Minutes for the meeting held on **Wednesday, 29 January 2025**
at **7.00pm** in **Sandbach Town Hall**.

In attendance:

Cllr Ann Nevitt	Cllr John Arnold	Cllr John Beddows
Cllr Kelvin England	Cllr Mike Muldoon	Cllr Dave Poole
Cllr Mark Mitchell	Cllr Geraint Price-Jones	Cllr SAM Corcoran
Cllr Tim Wheatcroft	Cllr Donal Hegarty	Cllr Sandrene Wright
Cllr Laura Crane	Cllr Michelle Hough	Cllr Simon Richards
Cllr Nicola Cook	Cllr Helen Merrick	Cllr Sandra Broad
Cllr Robert Gray		

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Gareth Lindop and Luke MacGregor

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in relation to any item on the agenda.

Cllr Beddows declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 9, removing themselves from the meeting and taking no part in the discussion or decision relating to that item.

3. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

Action:

To consider that under the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and accredited representatives of newspaper be excluded from the meeting for items 11 to 13 and any items 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.

RESOLVED: That the meeting will enter closed session for the agenda items listed.

[Cllr Poole joined meeting (7.03pm)]

4. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Being only a short time since the last council meeting, there was little to update, but the Mayor spoke of a busy calendar in the coming weeks.

[Cllrs Price Jones & Corcoran joined the meeting (7.05pm)]

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

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

Speaker 1 – relating to Agenda Item 10:

The speaker identified that the discussions surrounding the funding for the community cinema had been ongoing for some time and asked if there was any reason for this and if there was any help the volunteers associated with delivery could provide.

They also asked if there were any other community projects that might benefit from volunteer support and offered that the group of volunteers associated with the community cinema might also be able to help with other similar community projects.

[Cllr Cook joined the meeting (7.06pm)]

Speaker 2 – relating to Agenda Item 10:

Speaking in relation to the funding to be used, raised concern that using CIL funding would undermine the value, integrity and purposes of the NDP.

Additionally spoke to encourage the council ensure clarity of communication relating to the Transport Festival town bus service that the council will be providing to support that event.

After the questions the Town Mayor reconvened the Town Council Meeting.

5. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD 22 JANUARY 2025 [ATTACHED].**

RESOLVED: That the minutes are approved as a true record of the meeting.

6. **SMALL COMMON CAR PARK**

Lead: Cllr Hegarty (Lead of the Small Common Working group)

The item was withdrawn and deferred

7. **CIL SPENDING RECCOMENDATIONS**

Lead: Cllr Cook

The item was discussed noting the need to resolve and confirm spend before the funding was clawed back

8. **ANSA WEED SPRAYING**

Lead: Assets Chair

RESOLVED:

- i. *That the quotation from ANSA is approved, for payment on receipt of invoice, for £1,696.14 (excl. VAT) against the Ranger Services cost centre (195 6230).*

- ii. *That the costs of a broader scheme to cover areas of the town is costed and explored for value.*

9. MARKET REPORT

Lead: Assets Chair

It was agreed to continue delivering Wednesday opening for the market for a further 6 months, to be reviewed by the Assets & Services Committee in 6 months time. Additionally, it was considered if a pricing review was required.

10. COMMUNITY CINEMA

Lead: Cllr Wheatcroft

RESOLVED: *That a budget of up to £4999 is approved for officers to make provision of a town cinema facility containing the element of high-quality projector and associated infrastructure, to be drawn from the Community Cinema budget.*

11. ORGANISATIONAL STRATEGIC PLANNING

Lead: Mayor/Chair of Personnel

RESOLVED:

- i. That the Deputy Chief Officer is authorised to recruit to vacant posts and secure temporary staffing support as required, in consultation with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor

12. CONFIDENTIAL STAFFING UPDATE

Lead: Mayor

[NOTE – this item was heard and discussed in prior to Item 11.]

The council was given a detailed overview of the process and findings, with written details circulated to the meeting and time given to read and understand the contents. The members discussed the item at length and those members who have been involved in the process during this difficult time were thanked for their work.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the findings of the disciplinary panel are ratified and thereby approved for implementation.

NOTE - 12.i. was taken as a named vote with the below result:

Cllr Ann Nevitt - For	Cllr John Arnold - For	Cllr John Beddows - For
Cllr Kelvin England - For	Cllr Mike Muldoon - For	Cllr Dave Poole - For
Cllr Mark Mitchell - For	Cllr Geraint Price Jones - For	Cllr SAM Corcoran - For
Cllr Tim Wheatcroft - For	Cllr Robert Gray – For	Cllr Donal Hegarty - For
Cllr Laura Crane - For	Cllr Michelle Hough - For	Cllr Simon Richards - For
Cllr Nicola Cook - Against	Cllr Helen Merrick - Abstain	Cllr Sandra Broad - For

- ii. That the council approves the associated action (minute details retained redacted due to confidential nature).

[Cllr Wright joined the meeting (7.56pm)]

13. INTERNAL AUDITOR REPORT

Lead: Mayor/Chair of Finance

RESOLVED: Deferred to the next meeting of Council

14. CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

15. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Town Council Meeting is the taking place on Wednesday 19 February 2025

Meeting closed at 9.29pm

Chair Cllr A Nevitt

Clerk P Turner