



PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

By virtue of sections 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council may arrange for the discharge of any of its functions by one or more Committees, a Sub-Committee to be appointed by the Council for the purpose, or by an Officer of the Council.

Subject to the above, the Terms of Reference of, and delegation arrangements to, the duly appointed Planning & Environment Committee of the Council shall be as set out below.

Broad areas of competence

- Implementing policies of the Neston Neighbourhood Plan
- Planning applications
- Enhancing the environment

Membership

- 1 There shall be a core membership of no fewer than five and no more than seven members of the Council.
- 2 Members of the Council who are not members of the Committee may substitute for a core member and have the same rights as that member as provided for in Standing Orders 15a and 15c.

Responsibilities and delegated powers

The Committee shall have delegated spending powers in line with the budget established at the Annual Budget meeting of the Full Council.

On behalf of the Council, the committee shall have delegated powers and authority to:

Planning

- 1 consider and make representations with respect to all the Local Planning Authority's consultations relating to Local Development plans;
- 2 consider and make representations in response to applications made to the Local Planning Authority for development planning matters relating to land and property within the Neston Town Council area and other applications having an impact on the area or its inhabitants;
- 3 consider and make representations in response to any consultations or proposals by the Local Planning Authority relating to conservation;
- 4 consider and make representations relating to the manner in which the condition of untied sites within the Council area is dealt with by the Local Planning Authority;
- 5 consider and make representations to the Government's Planning Inspectorate or other appropriate bodies either in support of, or against, planning and enforcement appeals made by owners and developers of land and property and to authorise the attendance of Members and/or officers at local inquiries or hearings into such appeals, except that the engagement of professional representation shall be subject to the approval of full Council;

Approved at the Annual Meeting of the Council 17 May 2016

- 6 consider and formulate representations in response to proposals by the Borough Council or Government Departments on public rights of way matters, and proposals by the Borough Council to make Orders for the modification of the statutory Public Rights of Way Definitive Map and Statement and to authorise the attendance of Members and/or Officers at inquiries or hearings into such matters, except that the engagement of professional representation shall be subject to the approval of full Council;
- 7 consider and formulate representations in response to proposals by the Highway Authority with respect to highways, traffic regulation issues and orders, signage and streetscape and the authorisation of attendance at inquiries in connection with such matters;
- 8 ensure that all Councillors have an opportunity to comment on planning applications and take these comments into account, including the option to refer controversial applications to full Council in routine or emergency session;
- 9 take the lead in all matters relating to the creation, independent examination, approval process and implementation of a statutory Neighbourhood Plan, engaging volunteers and/or professionals as necessary;

Environment

- 10 recommend to the Council policies to protect, preserve and enhance the local environment and the amenities and interests of the community and to implement such policies that are agreed;
- 11 develop and secure the implementation of a cycling plan with provision of connected routes and appropriate publicity materials, and improvements in parks and gardens, within the council area;
- 12 sustain and develop the Council's policies in relation to the greening of the Council area;
- 13 develop partnerships and acquire external funding to implement a programme designed to reduce the impact of mosquitoes in the area;
- 14 ensure that all the activities of the Council have regard to environmental considerations;
- 15 establish a strategy and programme in relation to the public safety environment in liaison with the police and other statutory and voluntary organisations;

Transport

- 16 consider support, including financial support, for community transport and car sharing schemes operating within, to and from the Council's area;
- 17 grant fare concessions for defined schemes of transport within, to and from the Council's area for its residents ;
- 18 consider the provision public passenger transport services in the Council's area and make recommendations to appropriate providers in relation to these;
- 19 consider and promote improvements in the management and control of vehicular traffic in the Council's area;
- 20 to make recommendations to the Council in relation to any other local transport matters;

- 21 consider requests for changes in speed limits on roads within the Council's area and appropriate financial support for such requests, and submit supported requests to the Highways Authority.

Budgets

The Committee shall monitor its actual and planned expenditure and its use of earmarked reserves, and make estimates of proposed income and expenditure for each financial year in respect of all of the services of the Committee in accordance with the Council's agreed budget setting procedures.