



*Meeting (No)* **Community & Environment Committee (7)**  
*Time & Date* **6pm, 12 October 2021**  
*Place* **Neston Town Hall**  
*Document* **Minutes**

**Present:** Cllrs Marple (Chair), Davies (from item 78), Griffiths, Hinks, Kynaston, Samuel and Wastell

**In attendance:** Miss A Duncan (Governance & Operations Manager)

**PART 1: Items considered in the presence of the press and public**

**75 Questions and comments from residents**

There were no questions or comments.

**76 Apologies for absence**

No apologies for absence had been received.

The absence of Cllr Jackson was noted.

**77 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were received.

Cllr Davies joined the meeting.

**78 Minutes of the last meeting**

**RESOLVED** to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Community & Environment Committee meeting held on 09.09.21. The Chair signed the minutes.

**79 Governance & Operations Manager's report**

The G&O Manager's written report (CE7/79) was received.

**80 Budget**

- a The current budget and EMRs were considered.
- b No changes were made to the current budget or EMRs.
- c The Committee considered a report (CE7/80c) of expenditure considerations for 2022/23 in relation to allotments and Christmas lights.

It was agreed that the cost of providing water at Marshlands Road allotment site would not be included in the 22/23 budget request.

It was agreed that a sum of £20,000 for provision and storage of High Street Christmas lights would be included in the 22/23 budget request.

- d The Committee agreed to inform the Precept Task & Finish Group that, beyond the additional cost of assuming responsibility for the High Street Christmas lights, the Community & Environment Committee's main expenditure requirements for financial year 2022/23 would not be appreciably different from 21/22.

**81 Christmas lights and events**

- a **RESOLVED** to provide delegated authority to the G&O Manager to purchase internal window lights for the Town Hall Christmas display at a maximum cost of £750+VAT.
- b **RESOLVED** to request the approved installation contractor to remove the damaged lights on the front of the Neston Centre and parish church at a maximum cost of

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£250+VAT. It was agreed to inform the parish church that provision of town centre Christmas decorations would be revisited if the Town Council assumes responsibility for High Street Christmas lights in 2022.

- c Report CE7/81c was considered and responses received from CWaC about transfer of High Street Christmas lights in 2022 were approved.

The Committee confirmed that devolved services considerations had been satisfied.

- d An update was received on preparations for the Christmas lights switch-on event and it was noted that the cost of a road closure scheme had increased by £600 since the 2019 event.

**RESOLVED** to provide an additional donation to Hip & Harmony of £600 from budget 4360 (community event donations) to cover the increased cost of road closure management.

## **82 Grants**

- a **RESOLVED** to provide a grant of £2,000 to Neston Parish Church (Stay & Play) for the purchase of equipment.
- b Consideration of a grant application from Neston Nomads (paper CE7/82b) was deferred. Committee requested a full report and accounts for all expenditure to date for the grant of £10,000 provided to Neston Nomads in June 2019 and confirmed that no further applications would be considered until the report and accounts had been approved.

## **83 Donations**

The donations policy was reviewed and no amendments were made. The Committee confirmed that 22/23 donations would be agreed at the 1 February meeting.

## **84 Queen's Jubilee celebrations**

- a Report CE7/84 about possible options for Jubilee celebrations was considered and the Committee agreed to:
- create a separate Queen's Jubilee budget of £5,000 to support community events – to be advertised in the new year;
  - obtain costings for the purchase and installation of Union Jack bunting – costings to be considered at the next meeting;
  - purchase a Jubilee flag at a maximum cost of £20+VAT and delivery;
  - purchase the necessary items to create environmentally responsible street party packs using low impact, recyclable and compostable items. Options and costs to be considered at a future meeting.
- b Participation in the "Queen's Green Canopy" project was considered. Councillors agreed to investigate possible locations for tree planting for consideration at the next meeting.

## **85 Greening of Neston**

**RESOLVED** to approve the specification for the provision of floral arrangements as detailed in paper CE7/85.

## **86 Speeding issues**

The Committee considered report CE7/86 about the ChALC/P&CC scheme to combat speeding issues. It was decided not to apply to take part in the pilot project.

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## 87 Neighbourhood Plan Task & Finish Group

- a The Committee considered report CE7/87a and agreed that the revised task & finish group's terms of reference would be:
- to review the planning section of the Neston Neighbourhood Plan and report findings to the Community & Environment Committee;
  - to ensure that the locally listed buildings and structures as detailed in the Neighbourhood Plan correspond with the local heritage list and to assess the potential for further additions. To report findings to the Community & Environment Committee.
- b **RESOLVED** to approve the appointment of Cllrs Smith and Hinks to the group.

## 88 Planning application

Planning application 21/03461/LDC, The Ranch, Hinderton Road, Neston (use of land as a garden) was considered and the Committee decided not to submit a comment.

## 89 Date of next meeting

The date of the next scheduled meeting was noted as 7 December 2021 at 6pm.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Signed Brenda M. Marple Date 7/12/21