



Meeting (No)	People & Places Committee (1) (renamed Community & Environment Committee from minute 9c onwards)
Time & Date	6pm 13 October 2020
Place	Remote meeting via Zoom
Document	Minutes

Present: Cllrs Davies (Chair), Griffiths, Hutt, Kynaston and Wastell (Deputy Mayor).

In attendance: Miss A Duncan (Governance & Operations Manager), Cllrs Bolderson, Hudspeth, Jones and Townsend and Mrs P Prytherch (Director of Hip & Harmony CIC).

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

1 Election of Chairman

The Deputy Mayor opened the meeting and called for nominations.

RESOLVED to elect Cllr Davies as Chairman of the People & Places Committee to serve until the first meeting of the People & Places Committee in the new Council year.

Cllr Davies chaired the remainder of the meeting.

2 Election of Vice Chair

RESOLVED to elect Cllr Hutt as Vice Chairman of the People & Places Committee to serve until the first meeting of the People & Places Committee in the new Council year.

3 Questions and comments from residents

There were no questions or comments from residents.

4 Apologies for absence

The Committee received apologies for absence from Cllr Warner (personal) and **RESOLVED** to accept the reason for absence.

The absence of Cllrs Flockhart and Roe was noted.

5 Declarations of Interest

As a current member of Hip & Harmony, Cllr Hutt declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 13a.

As a former Cybercentre volunteer, Cllr Davies declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 12b but he added that it was some considerable time since he had volunteered for this organisation.

6 Planning applications

The Committee reviewed planning application [20/02442/FUL](#), Gittins Warehouse, Brook Street – demolition of the existing building and erection of 11 apartments with associated landscaping and car parking.

RESOLVED to submit the following comment to the Planning Authority (Cheshire West and Chester Council):

"Neston Town Council objects to this planning application for the following reasons:

accessibility – access for vehicular traffic will be via a narrow entrance close to a junction with High Street. Brook Street is already an extremely busy road containing Neston's main bus stop and access points for three car parks as well as a route for

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deliveries to local supermarkets. Having a further (and narrow) entrance close to a busy junction will only exacerbate the existing problems experienced by pedestrians and road users. This proposal therefore does not meet the requirements of Policy NNH1 (5) of the Neston Neighbourhood Plan as it fails to provide adequate vehicular access arrangements;

height – the proposed development does not meet the requirements of Neston Neighbourhood Plan Policies NNH1 (3) and NNDS1 (3) because it is not appropriate in scale and design to its local context and adjacent properties.

sustainability – whilst this proposed development will meet minimum building regulations, the application fails to demonstrate that it will contribute in any meaningful way to the principles of sustainable development (Neston Neighbourhood Plan Policy NNDS1 (5));

boundary – the proposed development will build to the boundary and the Town Council is concerned about how the building will be constructed and maintained without trespass or nuisance;

utilities – the Town Council can find no evidence within this application that there is sufficient capacity to cope with the burden of eleven additional dwellings in order to comply with Neston Neighbourhood Plan Policy NNH1 (4)."

Cllrs Bolderson and Jones left the meeting.

7 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the People Committee meeting held on 10.06.20 and the Places Committee meeting held on 07.07.20. The minutes to be signed at the next face-to-face meeting.

8 Governance & Operations Manager's report

The Committee received the Governance & Operations Manager's report and noted in particular:

Junior Mayor – at the request of schools, appointment of a junior mayor had been deferred until September 2021.

Raby Park Road footpath – Highways aiming to begin resurfacing work by November;

signage – installation scheduled for the end of October for both the Chester Road car park and the finger post sign at the Station Road entrance of the Wirral Way;

electric vehicle charging points – new target for commencement of installation is the end of December 2020.

9 People & Places Committee terms of reference

- a The terms of reference approved by Council on 28.07.20 were considered.

It was agreed to request to Council that C2 (fare concessions) be removed from the terms of reference.

- b At the request of Council, the Committee considered the quorum for the People & Places Committee.

RESOLVED that the quorum should be three.

- c At the request of Council, the Committee considered the appropriateness of its current title and it was agreed that the two broad categories of "community" and "environment" encompassed the overall aims of the committee.

RESOLVED to rename the committee Community & Environment Committee.

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10 Transport sub-committee

RESOLVED to create a transport sub-committee with terms of reference as detailed in paper PP1/10.

Cllrs Hinks, Townsend and Wastell were appointed to the sub-committee and the Chair of Wrexham-Bidston Rail Users' Association was appointed as a non-voting member.

Agenda item 13 was brought forward by common consent.

13 Community event donations

RESOLVED to temporarily suspend the meeting to discuss with the Director of Hip & Harmony some potential alternatives to the traditional Christmas lights switch-on event which had been cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Upon completion of these discussions, the meeting resumed.

- a The Committee noted that £7,600 had been awarded by People Committee to Hip & Harmony in March 2020 (minute 109, 11/02/20) to provide a Christmas lights switch-on event but that it was currently not appropriate to hold an event that encouraged the gathering of a large number of people.

RESOLVED to provide a donation of £7,600 to Hip & Harmony to provide an alternative Christmas event as outlined in paper PP1/13a.

Mrs Prytherch left the meeting.

- b It was noted that the 2021 Neston Music Festival has been put back from spring to autumn.

RESOLVED to earmark the £1,000 publicity support agreed on 11/02/20 (minute 109) to be used for the Neston Music Festival scheduled for autumn 2021.

Cllr Townsend left the meeting.

11 Committee budget

- a The Committee's current budget/EMRs were considered.
- b It was agreed to recommend the People & Places Committee's financial requirements for 21/22 as detailed in the RFO's report PP1/11.

12 Grant funding

- a The Committee considered end of grant accounts from Train to Change for the "Neston's Lift Up 2 Work IV" project and requested further evidence of receipts and payments made.
- b
 - i. **RESOLVED** to approve a grant of £1,050 to Wirral Way Junior Parkrun for an external defibrillator.
 - ii. Amber Button "Ready to Work" project (£2,300) – the G&O Manager reported that this application had been withdrawn by the applicant.
 - iii. **RESOLVED** to approve a grant of £500 to Cybercentre for COVID-19 protection. It was agreed that the payment should not be made until end of grant accounts for a previous grant award had been approved.

Agenda item 13 was considered earlier following item 10.

14 Highways proposal for Brook Street layby waiting restrictions

RESOLVED to inform the Highways Authority that the Town Council had no objections to the proposal to limit waiting in the Brook Street layby to 20 minutes between 8am–5pm, Monday to Saturday.

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15 Planting maintenance – Raby Road approach to railway station

RESOLVED to approve the current greening contractor to remove membrane and add new bark chippings to the planting area on the Raby Road approach to the railway station at a cost of £240+VAT from budget 4211 (floral arrangement maintenance).

16 Police & Crime Commissioner meeting with parish & town council representatives (Cheshire West & Chester)

It was noted that there had been no Town Council representative at the meeting on 23 July 2020.

17 Date of next meeting

The date of the next scheduled meeting was noted as 1 December 2020.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Signed Brenda M. Harple Date 1/6/21