

Meeting (No)

Time & Date

Location

Meeting of the Council (6)

22nd January 2019 at 6.30pm

Town Hall, High Street, Neston

Minutes

Present: Councillors Cllrs Kynaston (Mayor), Barker, Bennoch, Carter, Clayton, Davies, Edwards, Griffiths, Jones, Lloyd, Marlow, Pilley, Roberts, Warner and Wastell.

In attendance: Mrs Kunaj (Council Manager) and Mr Godfrey (Finance Manager) plus three residents.

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

89 Apologies for absence: None.

90 Declarations of Interest: None.

91 Questions and comments from residents

Highways issues: A resident advised about his meetings with a CWaC Cllr and correspondence received from CWaC and the local MP. His wishes to see a 30mph speed limit for and either side of Raby Park Rd and Lees Lane junctions, along with the installation of a right turn filter arrow at Hinderton Rd junction were read out along with his request to be kept informed of any developments.

Councillor Ward vacancies: Candidates for both ward vacancies presented their qualifying reasons for application to the role of co-opted Councillor.

92 Councillor Vacancies

Members received applications from Karen Flockhart for both Ness and Little Neston Ward vacancies. Rob Scott had expressed his wish to apply for either vacancy (item 91)

- a. Councillors considered the application made by Karen Flockhart for Ness Ward. Votes in favour of Karen Flockhart eleven.

Resolved: To co-opt Karen Flockhart as the Ward Councillor for Ness.

- b. Councillors considered co-option for Little Neston Ward. Votes in favour of Rob Scott fourteen.

Resolved: To co-opt Rob Scott as the Ward Councillor for Little Neston.

- c. Council agreed that it did not wish to fill councillor vacancies should there be any, prior to the next election.


93 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 27.11.18 were approved as a true and correct record. The Mayor signed the minutes.

94 Chairman's Announcements

The Mayor has had a very busy time in her civic role visiting and networking with lots of residents and other councillors. The Mayor announced that she is preparing arrangements for a 'Civic Service' at St Mary & St Helen's church on 24th February. All members are invited to attend this ecumenical service. A special note of thanks was made to Cllr Lloyd for her successful achievements with the Sytchcroft play area.

Chairman's initial and date

 12/31/19

95 Precept

- 1 Council considered the following reports;
 - a. Budget. The loss of income for room hire, grants and market income was noted. Overall in the 2019/20 proposed budget there was a reduction on last year's expenditure of £7,356 gross, however with the re-alignment of the income budget the net budget had increased by £5,274.
 - b. Variance for all committees;
 - c. Cost per band. The 2019/20 proposal identified that less than 60% of Neston households would pay an increase of £1.70 or less per year.
 - d. Precept calculation.
- 2 Recommendation from Policy Committee 18.12.18 (item 56) was received.

That;

Council request to CWaC a 4.9% increase to the previous year's expenditure. This would result in a precept request to CWaC of £238,124.

Cllr Lloyd proposed an amendment to the recommendation for the above proposal; to have deleted the word 'expenditure' and following this, the addition of the words in italics '*precept only if it can be demonstrated that this is directly linked to a planned increase in benefit for Neston residents during 2019-20*'. This would result in a precept request to CWaC of £238,124' '*Should this not be demonstrated, it is proposed that there is no increase to last year's precept and that a reduction of £14,594 would be made to the proposed Policy Committee 2019-20 budget and achieved through a reduction in the management overheads of running the Council*'. This was seconded by Cllr Barker.

Much debate ensued and many observations made.

A vote took place:

Result of vote on amendment.

For: Six Against: Nine - The amendment fell.

Result of vote on substantive motion.

For: Ten Against: Five

Resolved: That Council request to CWaC a 4.9% increase to the previous year's expenditure, and make a precept request to CWaC of £238,124.

Cllr Pilley, the Finance Manager and one resident left the meeting.

96 Finance


The reconciliation of the Council's three bank accounts to 30.11.18 were approved. The Mayor initialled the balancing figures.

Cllr Pilley returned to the meeting.

97 Council Manager's Report

ChALC Training: CWaC elections advance notice Thursday 7th February – Christleton, Chester. Council Manger has booked a place.

Chairman's initial and date

 12/3/19

ChALC Training: CWaC Code of Conduct Thursday 14th March – Cotebrook Village Hall

ChALC Focus: Local Industrial Strategy meeting 1st March at 9.30am in Middlewich.

CWaC: – Second Re-Imaging Neston workshop. Thursday 7th February 6-8pm

98 Election of Members to Standing Committees

- a No withdrawals of membership for any committee were made.
- b Members agreed not to appoint and fill vacancies for council committees

99 Recommendations from Committees

Policy committee.18.12.18

Resolved: To adopt the draft Modern Slavery Transparency statement.

100 Minutes of Committee meetings

The minutes of the following meetings were noted:

- a *Places committee 04.12.18*
- b *People 11.12.18*
- c *Policy committee.18.12.18*
- d *Resources 08.01.19*

Concerns were raised for item 91, the hiring of the Council's equipment and although purchased and held by Council, was regarded as community assets.


101 Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Council was noted as 12.03.2019.

102 Any other items: None.

Meeting closed at 7.40pm

Signed



Date

12/3/19