

	Meeting (No)	Meeting of the Council (8)
	Time & Date	23.03.2021 at 6.00pm
	Location	Remotely via Zoom
Minutes		

Present: Cllrs Warner (Mayor), Bolderson, Davies, Griffiths, Jackson, Jones, Hinks, Hudspeth, Kynaston, Marple, Roberts, Samuel and Wastell, and Mrs A Kunaj (Council Manager)

In attendance: Representative of About My Area.

Prior to the meeting Council held a one minute silence to mark the day of reflection on the anniversary of the first Covid lockdown.

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

96 Apologies for absence:

Resolved to accept apologies from Cllr Hutt (business).

Absences of Cllrs Flockhart, Lynch and Townsend were noted.

97 Questions and comments from residents: None.

98 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Griffiths and Kynaston declared non pecuniary interests in agenda item 105, as both are members of the Rural Touring Theatre.

99 Minutes of the meeting

Resolved to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 26th January and 1st February 2021.

The minutes will be signed at the next Full Council face-to-face meeting to be held.

100 Mayor's Report

Day of Reflection: The Mayor will be marking the day of reflection at 8pm like many others, by standing on her doorstep holding a candle.

Easter Market: This will go ahead and will be advertised. The advertisement will be on a much lower level than usual due to Covid restrictions. Up to a maximum of 100 single pot plants to mark the Easter Market will be distributed to visitors. This is funded by the Mayor's allowance.

Planning: The head of CWaC Planning department at CWaC will be meeting with Neston Town Council Councillors and representatives from the Civic Society and Parkgate Society. Any questions raised beforehand will be answered at the meeting and a general overview of Planning will be given. *Since the Council meeting: The meeting has been scheduled for Thursday 13th May at 7pm.*

Ladies Day: The parade as we know it has been cancelled. Flower staffs may be displayed in local shop windows to mark the occasion. More details will follow in May following the Female Society Committee meeting.


 Mayor's initial and date 22 JUN 2021

101 Council Manager's report

Annual Meetings: Members noted that meetings can be held remotely until 7th May 2021. It is unclear if the Government will extend this deadline. In addition to the Annual Meeting of the Council 3 other meetings have to take place in one council year. These scheduled Full Council meetings will be tabled for approval at the Annual meeting. The council will agree to schedule additional Full Council meetings later on in the Council year.

102 Finance

- a **Resolved** to approve expenditure of £51,483.17 net from the Council's current account as authorised by the RFO from 01.12.20 to 31.01.21, and Equals card payment of £125.00 net from 01.12.20 to 31.01.21.
- b Members noted the current account income of £3,138.79 net from 01.12.20 to 31.01.21.
- c **Resolved** that reconciliation of the Council's three bank accounts to 31.01.21 were correct and approved.

The Mayor will send an email to the RFO confirming Council's approvals.

103 Annual Meeting of the Council and Annual Town Meeting

Resolved for the Annual Town Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Council to be scheduled to take place on the 20th April 2021 and 4th May respectively in order that these may be held remotely

The meeting was adjourned so that the AMA representative could answer questions on item 104, below.

Amongst other things the new website hoped to bridge the gap between businesses and shoppers stuck at home and to help business that have had to close temporarily. It would enable businesses to offer a similar facility offered by such companies as Amazon. It has the potential to develop and may look at an offer in the future, of a reward scheme. Additional costs would be payable by the businesses for app maintenance and updates.

The meeting was re-convened.

104 Local Business Support

Resolved: That Neston Town Council makes a contribution of £1,000 from its New Home Bonus EMR funds to AMA to support local businesses to establish and maintain an online presence on the following terms:

- payment of £1,000 will be made only when total project funding has been secured,
- the recipient will submit complete end of project accounts/receipts and return any unspent funds,
- the recipient will ensure that the support of the Town Council is acknowledged on all websites of beneficiaries and on all publicity materials.

105 Request to provide storage facilities at Neston Town Hall basement

Mayor's initial and date SDH 22 JUN 2021

Members considered report FC8/105 and proposals;

1. That NTC approve storage of the above staging for CRTA, for a period of 6 months, subject to discussion with them as to the logistics of this arrangement.
2. Any extension to the storage time to be reviewed after the 6 months.

This item was deferred for discussion by and recommendation by the Market Working Group to the next Resources and Policy committee meeting.

106 Cheshire West & Chester Neston moving Forward Meeting report and proposals

Members considered report FC8/106, noting the agreed one way traffic light system at Parkgate and agreed to the proposals that;

- The Market Working Group to look at all the factors involved for alfresco dining in the Market Square and consider if this could be a viable short term option to support local food hospitality venues as they return to a new norm.

It was reported that the arrangements and responsibility for seating, tables and rubbish removal from the Square would be with the eateries, no alcohol to be served. The council would have to monitor this.

107 Recommendations from Committees

Members considered the committee recommendations:

Resources & Policy 23.02.2021

Town Council Assets

Resolved that the list of assets to 31.01.2021 was accurate and approved.

Standing orders and financial regulations: Cllrs Wastell and Jones were appointed to review the policies. Support was offered by the Council Manager and Cllr Kynaston.

108 To note the minutes of the committee meetings

The minutes of the committee meetings were noted.

Community & Environment 09.02.2021.

Resources & Policy 01.02.2021, 23.02.2021 and 03.03.2021.

109 Any other Items: None.

110 Date of next meeting

The Annual meeting of the Council was confirmed as 4th May 2021 and it was noted that the Annual Town Meeting would take place on 20th April 2021.

Meeting closed at 18:58pm

Signed _____



Dated _____

22 JUN 2021