

Meeting (No) **PLACES COMMITTEE (2)**
Time & Date **6pm 4 June 2019**
Place **Town Hall**
Document **Minutes**

Present: Cllrs Flockhart (Chair), Davies, Edwards, Hutt, Griffiths, Kynaston and Wastell.

In attendance: Miss A Duncan (G&O Manager), Cllr Roberts and one resident.

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

3 Election of Vice Chair

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

4 Questions and comments from residents

A resident reiterated concerns raised at previous meetings about the safety of the junctions of the A540 through Neston.

5 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies.

Cllr Edwards left the meeting.

6 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hutt declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 15 (lives in close proximity to the location of the planning application).

Cllr Wastell declared his membership of WBRUA (agenda item 12).

Agenda items 15 and 17 were brought forward by common consent.

15 Planning applications

Planning application 19/01303/FUL (8 New Heyes, Neston – change of use from single occupancy to HMO) was considered:

RESOLVED to submit the following response to the Planning Authority:

"Neston Town Council objects to this application on the grounds of potential increased traffic and parking in an already congested area. Congestion at this location has in the past hindered access for emergency vehicles (fire engines), and access for refuse collection vehicles is an ongoing issue. The Town Council wants to avoid these problems being exacerbated further."

17 Safety of A540 junctions in Neston

Committee considered A540 safety concerns raised by a resident.

It was stressed that the Town Council had no decision-making powers in relation to highways but that the Town Council did raise safety concerns with CWaC.

It was noted that a meeting (attendance by invitation only) to be held on 22 June would discuss a commitment by CWaC officers to prepare a "shelf-ready" A540 scheme and pursue funding options for implementation.

7 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED to approve minutes of the meetings held on 26.03.19 and 21.05.19. The Chair signed the minutes.

Chairman's initials and date:

JG. 30/7/19.

8 Governance & Operations Manager's report

The Governance and Operations Manager's report was considered and the following points were highlighted:

Marsh dredging – RSPB had requested that their preferred contractor be used for dredging due to the environmental sensitivity of the work.

Minute 88ci (26/02/1) – clarification that the budget code for mosquito monitoring should read marshes/mosquito monitoring 4230, rather than 4320.

9 Committee budget

Budgets and EMRs were considered and no action was taken.

10 Strategic objectives

- a The Committee's agreed objectives were considered.
- b The update report was noted.
- c No further actions were taken.

11 Task & finish/working groups

a Marsh Working Group

RESOLVED to establish the Marsh Working Group and appoint Cllrs Hutt (lead) and Davies to the Group.

Draft terms of reference were discussed and it was agreed that they should be considered by the working group members and then confirmed at a future Places Committee meeting.

b Neston Looking Better Group

RESOLVED to:

- i. establish the Neston Looking Better Group and appoint Cllrs Griffiths (lead) and Kynaston to the Group;
- ii. adopt the terms of reference as detailed in paper PL2/11 with one minor amendment: maximum membership to be reduced to seven.

c Transport Working Group

RESOLVED to establish the Transport Working Group and appoint Cllr Wastell to the Group.

It was agreed to invite Cllr Edwards to join the Group and to seek further members via Full Council. Committee decided to appoint a lead member at a future date.

RESOLVED to adopt the terms of reference as detailed in paper PL2/11.

- d It was noted that establishment of the Neston Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Group would be considered following the meeting with Cheshire Community Action.


12 External organisations

RESOLVED to appoint representatives/delegates for:

- i. Deeside Business Forum – Cllr Kynaston,
- ii. Neston Station Adopters – Cllr Wastell,
- iii. Wrexham-Bidston Rail Users' Association – Cllr Wastell.

It was agreed to invite Cllr Edwards to be the representative for the Borderlands Steering Group.

Chairman's initials and date:

 30-7-19

13 Committee meeting dates

RESOLVED to confirm indicative Places Committee meeting dates as published on the Town Council's schedule of meetings.

14 Substitute member for Policy Committee

RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Griffiths as substitute member to attend at Policy Committee meetings should the Places Chair be unavailable.

Agenda item 15 was considered earlier following agenda item 6.

16 Benches

The Committee considered report PL2/16 on Town Council benches and the recommendation to replace the two benches located in The Ropewalk field.

RESOLVED to purchase two benches made from recycled materials and install them in The Ropewalk field.

It was agreed that there should be an agenda item at the next Places meeting to assess the quality of both the newly installed benches and the recently refurbished wooden bench (located in the grounds of St Mary's & St Helen's Church) and agree a scheme for refurbishment/replacement of the remaining wooden benches.

Agenda item 17 was considered earlier following agenda item 15.

18 Consultation on Traffic Commissioners

- a The Committee considered a draft response to the consultation on traffic commissioners.
- b **RESOLVED** to submit the response considered in 18a without amendment.

19 Parking

- a The Committee considered the Transport Working Group's recommendation that there should be dialogue with CWaC about a car parking strategy in advance of the introduction of the half-hourly service.
- b The Committee requested further advice from the Transport Working Group.

20 Neston Looking Better Group

Meeting notes from 15.05.19 were considered.

21 Cheshire Community Action

RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Wastell to attend at the proposed Cheshire Community Action meeting.

22 Best Kept Village competition entries

RESOLVED to retrospectively approve the final cost of £135 for the Neston/Little Neston & Parkgate competition entries.

23 Other items: none.

24 Next scheduled meeting

This was noted as 30.07.19 at 6pm.

25 Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED to exclude public and press for the remaining items because of likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Chairman's initials and date:

JE 30-7-19

Cllr Roberts and one resident left the meeting.

PART 2: Items considered in the absence of the press and public

26 Purchase of new benches for The Ropewalk field

- a Three options for replacement benches were considered.

RESOLVED to purchase two brown recycled plastic benches (model: "park seat with back") from NBB Ltd at a total cost of £880+VAT (cost per bench £410 & £30 for fixing kit) from EMR 9335 (Environmental Improvements).

- b **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Governance & Operations Manager to arrange removal of the remaining Ropewalk bench and installation of two new benches at The Ropewalk at a maximum cost of £350+VAT from EMR 9335 (Environmental Improvements).

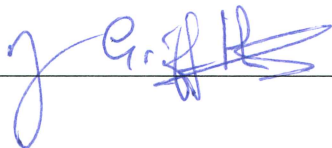
Cllr Kynaston left the meeting.

27 Continuation of the contract for the provision/maintenance of floral arrangements

Approval of the three year contract from 01.10.19 to 30.09.22 was deferred to the next Places meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Signed



Date

30-7-19