



Meeting (No)

Time & Date

Location

Town Centre Committee (7)

6pm 14 March 2017

Town Hall, High Street, Neston

Minutes

Present: Cllrs Montgomery (Chair), Carter (Substitute for Cllr Kynaston), Clayton, Fleetwood and Lloyd and Miss Duncan (Governance and Operations Manager).

Absent: Cllr Jilani

In attendance: Cllr Barker

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

Cllr Montgomery opened the meeting and asked for nominations for the position of Chairman.

115 Election of Chair

RESOLVED to elect Cllr Montgomery Chairman of the Town Centre Committee to serve until the first meeting of the Town Centre Committee in the new Council year.

116 Election of Deputy Chair

RESOLVED to elect Cllr Lloyd as Deputy Chairman of the Town Centre Committee to serve until the first meeting of the Town Centre Committee in the new Council year.

117 Questions and comments from residents: none.

118 Apologies for absence

RESOLVED to accept apologies from Cllr Kynaston (business).

119 Declarations of Interest: none.

Agenda item 131 was brought forward by common consent.

131 Parkgate Festival

The Committee considered report TC7/131 and the proposal that the Council lends up to 15 Town Council owned gazebos.

The Governance and Operations Manager explained the concerns raised by the Council Manager and Assets and Events Manager, including:

- The gazebos should not be considered community assets as they are tools for Neston markets.
- The market cannot sustain time without the full complement of gazebos and it would not be acceptable to have a waiting time for replacements should the gazebos be damaged while on loan.
- Precedent for refusal - since taking responsibility for the markets, Neston Town Council has always refused any requests to hire or borrow the market gazebos.
- Insurance and liability in relation to loss, injury and damage.
- Gazebos would be left unattended in an open field for two nights.

Chairman's initials and date: *Am 25 Apr 17*

RESOLVED to loan to ParkgateFest 15 gazebos on the basis that:

- Cllr Barker had confirmed that he had received training on erection/dismantling of the Town Council gazebos and that collection, installation and return of the gazebos would be covered fully by ParkgateFest's insurance.
- ParkgateFest must provide evidence of sufficient insurance cover and be willing to accept liability for any loss, damage or injury while in possession of the gazebos (including during collection and transportation).
- In the event of damage, ParkgateFest must agree to provide by 7 June temporary replacement gazebos of the same size and construction.
- ParkgateFest must complete a hire form and comply with all conditions.
- Double gazebos should be used in the first instance with any shortfall being made up with single gazebos.

The Committee requested that the Assets and Events Manager submit a report on the hiring of gazebos for consideration at a future meeting.

Cllr Barker left the meeting.

120 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED to approve minutes of the meetings held on 13.09.16 and 31.01.17. The Chair signed both sets of minutes.

121 Governance & Operations Manager's report

The Committee received the Governance and Operations Manager's report. The Committee requested that contact be made with the Police to ensure the CCTV for the railway station is purchased as soon as possible. The Committee members also expressed concern about the condition of the bollards in Market Square and were anxious that a resolution be found as quickly as possible.

122 Finance

- a** The Committee noted income received as:
 - £1037.80 room/market square hire (Jan)
 - £960.60 room/market square hire (Feb)
 - £1229.20 market rent (Jan)
 - £2289.00 market rent (Feb)
- b** The Committee considered the budgets to 07.03.17 and requested that the Finance Manager confirm whether the projected underspend for utilities was still realistic given the delays in billing.
- c** The Committee noted the earmarked reserve report.

123 Town Centre Committee's strategic objectives

The Committee considered progress to date of the Committee's objectives in support of the Council's strategic priorities. The Committee agreed that "increase number of job opportunities in the town and for Neston residents" should be changed from amber to green as a result of Society & Culture Committee's two grants to Train to Change.

Chairman's initials and date: *Am 25 April 17*

The Committee felt that the current system of committee objectives was too subjective in terms of measurement of progress. The Committee requested that the Council Manager devise a more robust and objectively measurable system.

124 Allotments

Cllrs Carter and Montgomery declared an interest in this item as they are both on the allotment waiting list.

RESOLVED to increase allotment rents by 2% for the financial year 2017-18.

Cllr Carter abstained from voting.

125 Annual Report

The Committee agreed the draft contribution to the annual report subject to the removal of the final two sentences.

126 Conditions of Hire Task and Finish Group

The Committee decided not to nominate a new councillor member to the General Conditions of Hire Task and Finish Group.

127 S106 Group

RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Lloyd to attend S106 meetings and the Assets and Events Manager to attend the Marketing Sub-Group.

The Committee agreed to refer to Council the nomination of a councillor representative for the S106 Marketing Sub-Group.

128 Chamber of Trade

- a The Committee agreed to refer to Council the nomination of a councillor representative to attend Neston Chamber of Trade meetings.
- b The Committee agreed to refer to Council the arrangements to meet with Chamber of Trade members regarding recent communications with a view to understanding concerns and helping to resolve them.

129 Economic Plan Delivery Group

The Committee agreed to refer to Council the nomination of a councillor representative for Neston's Economic Plan Delivery Group.

130 Defibrillator

The Committee considered report TC7/130 about the possible installation of a defibrillator in the Town Hall. The Committee requested further information relating to the present locations of defibrillators in the town, detailed breakdown of costs (including training costs, maintenance fees and battery replacement costs) and also the implications of not having trained staff on site at all times when the defibrillator might be required.

131 Parkgate Festival

Considered earlier (following agenda item 119).

Chairman's initials and date: *Am 25 April 17*

132 Press release

The Committee decided not to issue any press releases but agreed that a press release should be issued at a future date for installation of CCTV at the railway station.

133 Other Items: none.

134 Next meeting

This was noted as Tuesday 25 April 2017.

135 Exclusion of the Press and Public

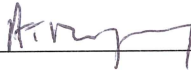
RESOLVED to exclude the public and press for the remaining items because of likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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

136 Asset Management Agreement

The Task and Finish Group report and recommendations were not available and the Committee agreed that this matter should be referred to the Council Manager for clarification.

The meeting ended at 7.10pm.

Signed  Date 25 April 17