



## RECORD OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING FOR NESTON TUESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025

In attendance: Nine NTC councillors, 20 members of the public and Z. Dean (Locum Chief Officer).

The Mayor, Cllr S. Jones, welcomed attendees and opened the meeting.

Neston Samba, hosted by Stuart Hardcastle, opened the meeting with a rousing performance; demonstrating the expert skills learned by the group. The Town Council's grant has had a significant impact on the group's ability to deliver quality workshops in the Neston area. Through a series of over 20 classes, clubs and school performances, Neston Samba has engaged over 200 people, including the elderly and very young. As a result of this work there will be trip for the teenagers to perform at the Southbank Centre in London in August 2025.

Neston Samba volunteers left the meeting.

### **1. Record of the Meeting**

The record of the Annual Town Meeting, which took place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024, was unanimously approved.

### **2. Annual Report from the Town Mayor**

The Mayor of Neston presented the Annual Report 2024/2025 thanked attendees for their support over his Civic Year.

The 2024/2025 Annual Report was received.

### **3. Presentations from Grant Recipients**

Short presentations from a selection of local groups who benefitted from Neston Town Council funding during 2024/25 were received.

Mrs Pat Wood – Lifetime Member of Neston Flower Society summarised the work of the Neston Flower Society who contribute to many local events throughout the calendar year, including the Ladies Day Walk with handmade displays. Last year's grant helped the group to mark the 65<sup>th</sup> year of the society by staging a special exhibition in the Town Hall, showcasing the town's rich cultural heritage across a 3-day event.

Mr Keith Moores – Chairman of Neston Village Fair, the event will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> year in July 2025. The event is only £1.00 to enter and under 16s can enjoy the event free of charge. The village fair provides a great opportunity for local groups and charities to showcase and promote their work in the area.

Mr Keith Moores – Neston & District Art Society, a Town Council grant supported the Neston & District Art Society, which helps the group to stage their annual exhibition in the Town Hall and keep members' fees down, making it a very inclusive society. The most recent exhibition held in April 2025 also partnered with Neston High School in order to showcase the students' artwork. The society was proud to be able to forge links with the High School this year and support young people.

#### **4. Question Time**

Questions were raised by two members of the public:

"What can be done about speeding on Talbot Avenue in Little Neston? This has become a big problem with vehicles and e-scooters using this road as a cut-through to avoid speed bumps in neighbouring streets. Can 20 MPH be painted on the road surface?"

"What is happening with the closed businesses along Brook Street?"

Response to question 1 – The Town Council will write to the Highways Authority at Cheshire West in order to expediate this issue. Cllr Braithwaite to contact local PSCO Wendy Dalton regarding community speed checks.

Response to question 2 – There is a Market & Town Hall Regeneration Group, established by CWaC which is overseeing any possible development in this area.

Cllr Kynaston thanked the Locum, Chief Officer for the hard work in preparing the report which was deemed to be the best to date and for bringing fresh ideas and improvements to the Town Council.

The Mayor closed the meeting at 6.30pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.

**Signed**\_\_\_\_\_ **Dated**\_\_\_\_\_