



<i>Meeting (No)</i>	Community & Environment Committee (1)
<i>Time & Date</i>	6pm Tuesday 10 June 2025
<i>Place</i>	Neston Town Hall
<i>Document</i>	Minutes

Present: Cllrs Marple (Chair), Adderley, Griffiths, Ruscoe and Wastell

In attendance: A Duncan (Community & Environment Manager)

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

1 Election of Chair

RESOLVED to elect Cllr Marple as Chair of the Community & Environment Committee for the ensuing year.

2 Election of Vice-Chair

RESOLVED to elect Cllr David Ruscoe as Vice-Chair of the Community & Environment Committee for the ensuing year.

3 Public Participation

There were no comments from members of the public.

4 Apologies for Absence

The Committee received apologies from Cllr Swaffer (personal) Cllr Townsend (personal) and **RESOLVED** to accept the reasons for absence.

5 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Adderley wished to declare that he worked with the current contractor on the installation of bunting in the town centre. It was noted that Cllr Adderley had no involvement in resolving to purchase bunting or appoint a contractor (minute 110, 08.04.25) as both decisions were taken prior to Cllr Adderley being elected to the C&E Committee.

6 Minutes of the Last Meeting

RESOLVED to accept as a correct record the minutes of the Community & Environment Committee meeting held on 02.05.25. The Chair signed the minutes.

7 Community & Environment Manager's Report

The report was received and several items of expenditure were noted:

- combination padlock purchased for Marshlands Road allotment site main gate - Equals card £18.59 net + £2.95 shipping;
- presentation medals for primary school environment awards - Equals card £10;
- VJ Day anniversary commemorative flag - £64.26 net;
- replacement consumables for the Town Hall defibrillator (pads, responder kits, battery) £350.15 net.

The Committee expressed thanks to the current greening contractor for volunteering to undertake on-site shredding and bramble removal at the Raby Park Road allotment site. The Chair agreed to send a letter of thanks to PDQ Landscape Maintenance.

Chair's initials and date:

8 Committee Budgets 2025/26

- a The Committee received the month one committee budget statement and earmarked reserves.
- b The Committee received report CE1/8b, a project summary and completion schedule relating to the restoration of the telephone kiosks located on the corner of Raeburn Avenue/Landseer Avenue and opposite The Royal Oak in Little Neston. **RESOLVED** to confirm the accuracy of this summary/expenditure breakdown and to approve the schedule for completion.

It was decided that the main points of the report should be minuted in order to provide a consolidated record for ease of future reference.

Resolutions

24.04.24 (minute 97): Council resolved to take ownership on 24.04.24.

08.10.24 (minute 47c): C&E resolved to appoint a contractor to install new concrete bases at the two sites.

22.10.24 (minute 53): Council resolved to ratify appointment of a contractor to restore both kiosks and agreed funding sources.

Restoration Costs

Workshop restoration for two kiosks*	£11,920 (£5,960 per kiosk)
Fitting of locks to two kiosks	£290 (£145 per set)
Estimate for haulage**	£1,200
TOTAL	£13,410

*Any additional unforeseen damage, such as crucial structural repairs that require welding or reinforcing plates to be fabricated/installed would be subject to a supplementary estimate with any necessary additional work being advised/approved prior to commencement. Cosmetic welding repairs such as fractures in glazing bars to be repaired within the agreed cost providing the overall length of weld does not extend beyond 30cm.

**the haulage cost was an estimate provided by the haulage company at the time of quotation and may therefore be subject to increase.

Additional Costs

Construct two concrete bases and an additional slab for the front of the Landseer Avenue kiosk	£1,260
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Approved Funding Sources

Restoration Costs	
Funding Source	Amount
Budget 4360 Grants	£6,715
EMR 333 New Homes Bonus	£2,256
EMR 337 CIL	£1,640
EMR 329 Grants	£2,799
TOTAL ALLOCATION	£13,410

Additional Costs (Concrete Bases)	
Funding Source	Amount
Budget 4208 Environmental Improvements	£1,260

Chair's initials and date:

b Payments to Date

Restoration – placement holding deposit	£2,000
Restoration – 50% deposit	£5,105

Schedule for Completion

Once electricity disconnection has been completed by BT (currently delayed), haulage to be arranged, bases to be laid and resident consultation to be undertaken (C&E to agree consultation details/process at next scheduled meeting).

Contractor to provide a photographic record of the restoration and officers to oversee local publicity.

9 Community Grants

RESOLVED to award a grant of £255.90 to Community Yarn Crafts.

10 C&E Committee Working Groups

- a **RESOLVED** to confirm the continuation of the Neston Looking Better Group, approve the terms of reference and appoint Cllrs Griffiths and Marple as group members (Cllr Griffiths to be the group leader with Cllr Marple acting as deputy).
- b **RESOLVED** to confirm the continuation of the Marsh Working Group, approve the terms of reference and appoint Cllrs Swaffer and Marple as group members.
- c It was decided that no further working groups were required at this stage.

11 Christmas Lights

The Committee considered paper CE1/11 and agreed that a full replacement scheme for both Neston town centre and Parkgate should be implemented following the end of the current contract in January 2026. The Committee agreed to request quotations for consideration at a future meeting and to assess the relative merits of purchase and rental options as part of this process.

- a **RESOLVED** to purchase a replacement star for the High Street Christmas tree at a maximum cost of £450+VAT (replacement for existing decoration damaged beyond repair).
- b **RESOLVED** to purchase replacement lights for the Parkgate Christmas tree at a maximum cost of £1,975+VAT (replacement for existing lights damaged beyond repair).
- c **RESOLVED** not to purchase additional bulbs for the existing High Street cross-street garlands.

12 Neston & Willaston Community Partnership Steering Group

An update from the 21.05.25 steering group meeting was received.

13 Connah's Quay Low Carbon Power Project

The Committee considered information received as part of the consultation on the proposed design update for this project. The Committee did not have any specific comments to submit but requested that an acknowledgement be sent to Uniper UK thanking the company for including Neston Town Council in the consultation.

14 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next scheduled meeting would be held on 07.10.25 at 6pm.

The meeting closed at 6.40pm.

Signed _____ Date _____