

# Congleton Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday  
14<sup>th</sup> April 2016 in the Town Hall Congleton

**Present:** Councillors

Mrs A L Armitt  
Mrs S Akers Smith  
J G Baggott  
L D Barker  
P Bates  
C Booth  
R Boston  
P Broom  
D T Brown (Deputy Mayor/ Chair)  
G R Edwards  
G P Hayes  
Mrs S A Holland  
Mrs A M Martin  
Mrs A Morrison  
Mrs J D Parry  
H Richards  
G S Williams

1. **Apologies**

Apologies for absence. (Members are respectfully reminded of the necessity to submit any apologies for absence in advance and to give a reason for non-attendance).

Apologies for Absence were received from Cllrs N Adams, Mrs D Allen and Mrs E Wardlaw (Town Mayor).

2. **Minutes**

**CTC/68/1516 RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 be approved and signed by the Deputy Mayor.

3. **Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest**

Members are requested to declare both “non pecuniary” and “pecuniary” interests as early in the meeting as they become aware of it.

Cllrs G P Hayes, D T Brown, G J G Baggott, P Bates and G S Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in any matters relating to Cheshire East Council.

4. **Outstanding Actions**

None.

5. **Questions from Members of the Public**

There were no questions from members of the public.

6 **Mayor's Announcements**

The Deputy Town Mayor drew attention to the various engagements that he and the Town Mayor had fulfilled since the last Council meeting.

The Deputy Mayor requested that the Chief Officer looks into the feasibility of developing an Awards Ceremony for the Voluntary Sector in line with the Macclesfield Awards.

7. **Planning Committee**

**CTC/69/1516 RESOLVED that** the minutes of the meetings held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February and 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

8. **Finance and Policy Committee**

**CTC/70/1516 RESOLVED that** the minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted and to note the draft minutes of the meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

9. **Community Environment and Services Committee**

**CTC/71/1516 RESOLVED that** the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2016 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted (subject to item 12 Support for Refugees to be amended to state "seeking support for refugees" – not "from refugees")

10. **Town Hall Committee**

**CTC/72/1516 RESOLVED that** the minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015 and 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

Cllr SA Holland queried her attendance at the meeting and requested that the Chief Officer amend if required.

11. **Personnel Committee**

**CTC/73/1516 RESOLVED that** the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2015 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

12. **Urgent Items**

Members may raise urgent items but no discussion or decisions may be taken at the meeting.

There were no urgent items raised

13. **Cheshire East Councillors' Reports**

To suspend Standing Orders to allow Councillors from the principal authority to report on relevant issues and to receive questions from members.

No issues were raised by Cheshire East Councillors.

#### 14. Youth Committee

- a) **CTC/74/1516 RESOLVED that** the minutes of the Youth Committee meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016 be received.
- b) Members of the Youth Committee gave thanks to the Council for their invitations to the Mayors Ball, which they thoroughly enjoyed, and for their supported trip to London where they presented a letter for the Rt Hon David Cameron M.P at number 10 Downing Street.

The Youth Council were commended for the quality of the letter and it was proposed that, with the support of the Chief Officer, they should also make representation to Cheshire East Council with regards to the Local Plan

#### 15. Cheshire East Local Plan Response

**CTC/75/1516 RESOLVED that** the proposed response from the Town Council be approved subject to the inclusion of an additional area identified by Bollington PC.

“One of the new studies commissioned for the Local Plan was the ARUP report of 2015 on the green belt parcels around settlements. Arup examined all five purposes of a green belt (see below). Purpose 4 is about the green belt protecting ‘historic towns’. The original CEC Submission Plan identified two historic towns – Nantwich and Knutsford. The Arup report recognises 13 Historic towns in Cheshire East – including Congleton. We would like the Revised Local Plan to make it clear that it accepts the 13 Historic Towns, as extensively set out by the ARUP report.”

**Action** The Chief Officer to contact Bollington PC to seek support from them with regards to Congletons’ inclusion as above.

#### 16. Ex Officio

To receive the recommendation from the Finance and Policy Committee to amend the Constitution to show that only the Mayor is afforded Ex Officio status – i.e. to have voting rights on every committee.

**CTC/76/1516 RESOLVED that** by a majority vote that the Leader and Deputy Mayor may debate and vote on this item.

Councillor Mrs S.A Holland requested that the names of councillors and their vote be recorded with regards to the proposed amendment to the constitution.

#### **Recorded vote**

#### **In support of amending the constitution**

Cllrs, J G Baggott R Boston, C Booth, Mrs S A Holland, Mrs A M Martin, Mrs A Morrison  
Mrs J D Parry **(7)**

#### **Against the proposed amendment to the “Ex Officio Status” within the constitution.**

Cllrs Mrs A L Armit, Mrs S A Smith, L D Barker, P Bates, P Broom, G R Edwards,  
G P Hayes, H Richards, G S Williams **(9)**

**Abstained**

D T Brown (1)

**CTC/77/1516 RESOLVED to** that there should be **no** amendment to the “Ex Officio Status” within the constitution.

D T Brown  
Deputy Town Mayor