

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, 4TH OCTOBER 2012

PRESENT: Councillors G S Williams (Chairman in the Chair)
 Mrs D S Allen
 P Bates
 J S Crowther
 M.J Hutton
 Mrs A M Martin
 D Murphy
 Mrs J D Parry
 N T Price
 Miss R.K Williams
 E Clarke – Appointed Member

1. APOLOGIES.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr D.T Brown. Apologies were also received from Cllrs G. Baxendale, G.R Edwards, G.Brittain, G.P Hayes, S.A Holland and D.A Parker who are not members of this particular committee.

2. MINUTES

CES/13/1213 RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 29th August 2012 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

There were no declarations of interest.

4. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

CES/02/1213

The Town Council to pursue all options available in order to resolve the problem of the Boat, including S215 enforcement via CEBC, in addition, the Clerk to contact McCarthy and Stone to elicit their assistance in the matter.

CES/03/1213 RESOLVED that Cllrs P Bates and G Williams determine how to move forward the notion of utilising the Community Payback scheme and report back to the next committee meeting.

CES/10/1213

1. The Town Centre Manager to provide an analysis of how effective the scheme has been during the past 12 months for retailers.
2. Approach Local Life to ascertain what additional support they can provide to promote the scheme in Congleton.

5. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

CES/14/1213 RESOLVED that:-

1. Cllr G Williams be elected Chairman.
2. Cllr P Bates be elected Vice Chairman.

6. BOAT ON THE RIVER DANE

Cllr N. Price provided an update on actions to resolve the problem of the boat on the River Dane. It was noted that Cllr Price was awaiting a letter from Mr Morris allowing permission for the boat to be removed.

CES/15/1213 RESOLVED that:-

1. Cllr Price be allowed time to resolve the issue of the boat on the River Dane.
2. No other options to be pursued until otherwise advised.

7. RESIDENTS STREET PARKING (enclosed)

A report on 'Off Street Parking' provided by Cllr Edwards was considered along with some notes on the matter provided by Cllr Thwaite of Cheshire East Borough Council.

CES/16/1213 RESOLVED that: -

1. The report from Cllr Edwards be received.
2. The action taken by Cllr Thwaite be approved.

8. 11 MILLION TAKE OVER DAY

Cllr Williams commented that the 11 Million Take Over Day is a national scheme operated by the Children's Commission and takes place on the 23rd November 2012. The idea is that children and young people get the opportunity to help run an organisation for a day.

CES/17/1213 RESOLVED that:-

1. The Town Council participates in the scheme in the following roles, Town Clerk, Town Centre Manager and Facilities Manager.
2. Cllr Williams to facilitate this day accordingly with a local High School.

9. ASTBURY MERE DEVELOPMENT

Concern was raised at the lack of a pedestrian crossing on Newcastle Road adjacent to the Astbury Mere development.

CES/18/1213 RESOLVED that:-

1. The Clerk to contact Cheshire East Highways to request the installation of a controlled crossing.
2. Cllr Crowther to provide information on the planning application which is suggested should provide a crossing in the area.

10. SPEED SIGN ON MANCHESTER ROAD

It was noted that Cheshire East Borough Council had agreed to move the speed restriction sign on Manchester Road further away from the residential area but, this has not been carried out.

CES/19/1213 RESOLVED that the Town Clerk contact Cheshire East Highways to request this work is undertaken urgently.

11. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

A letter from John Dwyer, a prospective candidate for a new Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire was considered.

CES/20/1213 RESOLVED that the correspondence be received.

12. CONGLETON'S CHILDREN CENTRE

The presentation from Congleton's Children Centre was postponed to a later date.

13. LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL GOVERNERS (enclosed)

Correspondence on the reappointment of a Local Authority Governor at Daven Primary School was discussed.

CES/21/1213 RESOLVED that:-

1. The correspondence be received.
2. Noted that Cllr G.Hayes has put his name forward for the position of School Governor at Daven Primary School

14. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

CES/22/1213 RECOMMENDED: that in accordance with the Public bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting for the matters set out below on the grounds that it could involve the likely discussions of private and confidential information or staff matters.

15. CHESHIRE POLICE

Inspector Mark Gamage reported that the Police had a very successful meeting with Fiona Bruce MP on drug misuse in the Town. It was noted that Congleton does not have a greater drug problem than other comparable towns.

The police have carried out a sting operation and made some arrests in respect of Theft from Vehicles.

The recent spate of anti-social behaviour at Bromley Farm Community Centre has been tackled and a number of arrests made which should result in court proceedings being taken.

The public were reminded to report any incidents they note directly to the police and not record them on Facebook or Twitter as this simply causes unnecessary problems.

It was noted that the police are very willing to cooperate with any Councillor who wishes to experience policing first hand and wants to go out on a patrol with a PC or PCSO.

16. AOB

i. River Dane Walkway

The Town Clerk reported that the third phase of refurbishing the River Dane Walkway is about to commence funded by The Congleton Partnership and Cheshire East Council. The walkway from Congleton Park to the Daneside industrial estate will be closed for 3 to 4 weeks to allow this work to take place. The work will be carried out under licence from the Town Council in partnership with Cheshire East Borough Council.

ii. Northern Link Road

It was noted that leaflets and other material will be produced to keep residents informed about progress on the Northern Link Road.

G Williams

Chairman