

# Congleton Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Thursday,  
13<sup>th</sup> January 2011 in the Town Hall, Congleton.

**PRESENT:** Councillors D Brown (Town Mayor)  
C R Anstice  
N J Bayley  
E Clarke  
Mrs L J Daniels  
G R Edwards  
Mrs S A Holland  
D Martin  
P H Mason  
D Murphy  
C Nield  
D A Parker  
A R Thwaite

## **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: G Baxendale, Mrs L Bossons and R Boston.

## **2. MINUTES**

**CTC/79/1011 RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2010, be approved and signed by the Mayor.

## **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were reminded to declare both “personal” and “personal and prejudicial” Interests as early in the meeting as they become aware of it.

Councillor D Brown (Mayor), P H Mason and A Thwaite declared a personal interest in any items related to Cheshire East.

## **4. MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

## **5. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

There were no outstanding actions.

## **6. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

It was noted that a member of the public had submitted a question, but, not within the 7 days notice required. The question will be put on the next agenda of the Town Council if the member of the public still wishes to pursue the matter.

## **7. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Councillor P H Mason pointed out that Cheshire East had fared reasonably well in the latest round of cuts to the councils grant with it being reduced by £4.6M.

However, he pointed out that this in many respects was just a modest move towards addressing an imbalance in what Cheshire East receive in terms of central government grants in comparison to some of the Metropolitan councils such as Manchester and Blackburn who spend £1,146 and £1,114 respectively per head of population in comparison to the £753 per head spent by Cheshire East.

## **8. PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**CTC/80/1011 RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2011 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

## **9. FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

**CTC/81/1011 RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2011 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

## **10. ACCOUNTS**

**CTC/82/1011 RESOLVED-**

- (a) That the Council approve the payment of the accounts listed.
- (b) That the Council approve payment of any expenditure agreed at the meeting

## **11. URGENT ITEMS**

Councillor S A Holland enquired whether Cheshire East would be reducing car parking charges in the light of a recent announcement from the government about charging levels.

**RECOMMENDED:** That the Clerk raise this matter with Cheshire East.

## **12. YOUTH COMMITTEE/JUNIOR COUNCIL**

The Mayor thanked Jonathan Bond who is retiring from the Youth Council as he has reached the age of 20, and presented him with a memento.

Jon Foster, Youth Council Chairman also thanked Jonathan for this contribution to Youth Council affairs for the past 3 years.

**CTC/83/1011 RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the meetings held on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2010 be received.

## **13. BUDGET AND 2011-12**

The Council considered the following powers needed to approve expenditure in the 2011-12 budget.

### **Budget Expenditure Powers 2011-12**

Expenditure	Power	£
Police Community Support Officers	S 31	47200
Other grants and donations	S 137	29428
Citizens Advice Bureau	S 142	15000
Christmas Lights	S 144	9000
Carnival Committee	S 144	3750
Congleton Community Projects	S 145	16000
Church clock maintenance	S 2	3000
Museum grant	S 144	4500

**CTC/84/1011 RESOLVED-** That the expenditure powers required for the 2011-12 budget be approved.

#### **14. RESIGNATION FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL**

Councillor P Smith offered his resignation from the Town Council by letter.

**CTC/85/1011 RESOLVED-** That the resignation of P. Smith be accepted.

#### **15. DECENTRALISATION AND LOCALISM BILL**

A guide on the Decentralisation and Localism Bill produced by the government was considered by the Council.

**CTC/86/1011 RESOLVED – That:**

1. The guide be received.
2. That the guide be considered further at a Strategy Group meeting.

#### **16. TRUSTEE FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

Congleton Community Projects advised the Council that there was a vacancy for a Trustee to sit on the board of Community Projects.

**CTC/87/1011 RESOLVED-** That Councillor E. Clarke be appointed as a Trustee of Congleton Community Projects.

#### **17. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS (IF NECESSARY)**

There was no resolution required to exclude the press and public.

DAVID BROWN  
MAYOR