

Congleton Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday,
4th December 2014 in the Town Hall, Congleton.

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs D S Allen
 P Bates
 G Baxendale
 R I Brightwell
 D T Brown
 J S Crowther
 G R Edwards
 G P Hayes
 Mrs S A Holland
 Mrs A M Martin
 D Murphy (Town Mayor)
 D A Parker
 J D Parry
 Mrs E Wardlaw
 G S Williams
 R K Williams

1. **APOLOGIES**

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L D Barker, Ms L Bours and N T Price.

2. **MINUTES**

CTC/41/1415 RESOLVED- That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 30th October 2014 be approved and signed by the 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 Baxendale and D T Brown declared a non-pecuniary interest in any matters related to Cheshire East Borough 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 Town Mayor drew attention to the various engagements that he and the Deputy Mayor had fulfilled since the last Council meeting.

The Mayor on behalf of the Town Council thanked the organisers and the many volunteers who were involved in the Christmas Lights Switch On event.

7. **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

CTC/42/1415 RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held 16th October and 6th November 2014 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

8. **COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE**

CTC/43/1415 RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd October 2014 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

9. **FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE**

CTC/44/1415 RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd October 2014 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

10. **URGENT ITEMS**

No urgent items were raised.

11. **YOUTH COMMITTEE**

CTC/45/1415 RESOLVED that the minutes of the Junior Council meeting held on 11th November 2014 and the Junior Council held on 25th November 2014 be received.

An update from the Youth Committee Chairman on the presentation of the Report to Fiona Bruce M.P in Parliament was considered.

The Youth Committee provided a report on their visit to the Houses of Parliament where they met Fiona Bruce M.P. During their visit they expressed concern about a number of transport issues which the M.P stated she would take up with Cheshire East Council. They also discussed how to persuade young people to volunteer and participate more in what goes on in the Town. They intend to organise a careers fair for all of Cheshire East. The Youth Committee thanked the Town Council for its support in financing the visit to Parliament.

12. **CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS**

A report on arrangements for the close down of the Town Hall office during the Christmas and New Year period was considered together with arrangements for Streetscape cover.

CTC/46/1415 RESOLVED that the report be received and arrangements noted.

13. **PRECEPT 2015-16**

A report on the budget and precept management for 2015-16 was considered. It was pointed out that there would be a nil increase on the precept insofar as rate payers are concerned.

Budget Expenditure Powers 2015-16

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Power</u>	<u>£</u>
Police Community Support Officers	S 31	47,200
Other Grants and Donations	S 137	21,483
Citizens Advice Bureau	S 142	15,000
Christmas Lights	S 144	9,000
Congleton Community Projects	S 145	16,000
Museum Grant	S 144	4,500

As the Town Council adopted the Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011, ss 1-8 and agreed expenditure in the budget, identified above can also be approved via this power.

CTC/47/1415 RESOLVED that:-

1. That the revenue and capital budget for 2015-16 as set out in Appendix 1 of the Budget report, be approved.
2. That the budget expenditure powers be approved.
3. A precept of £665,630 be approved for 2015-16.

D Murphy

TOWN MAYOR