

Congleton Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday,
17th April 2014 in the Town Hall, Congleton.

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs D S Allen
 L D Barker
 P. Bates
 G Baxendale
 Ms. L Bours
 R I Brightwell
 D T Brown
 J S Crowther
 G R Edwards
 G.P Hayes (Town Mayor)
 Mrs A M Martin
 D Murphy
 D A Parker
 J. D Parry
 N T Price
 G S Williams
 Miss 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 Councillor Mrs E Wardlaw.

2. **MINUTES**

CTC/61/1314 RESOLVED- That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th March 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.

Cllrs Mrs L Bours, J S Crowther, G.P Hayes, D. Murphy and N.T Price declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 19.

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

None.

5. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions raised 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 also thanked the Council for the support he received during his Mayoral year and commented that he had raised £6,000 for good causes during the year.

7. **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILORS' REPORTS**

Councillor D. Brown reported that Cheshire East Borough Council will be relocating some staff into the Library and that the meeting room located downstairs would be relocated upstairs.

Before the moves take place there will be consultation and views sought from users of the facility.

Cllr N T Price requested information on the Cheshire East Borough Council 5 Year Housing Supply. Cllr D Brown agreed to circulate an explanation of how the 5 year Housing Supply is calculated.

8. **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

CTC/62/1314 RESOLVED- That the minutes of the meeting held on 20th February and 13th March 2014 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

9. **FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

CTC/63/1314 RESOLVED- That the minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2014 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

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

CTC/64/1314 RESOLVED- That the minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2014 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

11. **TOWN HALL COMMITTEE**

CTC/65/1314 RESOLVED- That the minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2014 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

12. **ACCOUNTS**

CTC/66/1314 RESOLVED:-

- a) To approve the payment of the accounts listed.
- b) To approve the payment of any expenditure agreed at this meeting.

13. **URGENT ITEMS**

Cllr Ms. L Bours read out a proposed statement and stated that she was disappointed that Cllr Mrs. A M Martin had not been prepared to write an apology in respect of the article that she wrote about Cllr Bours in the Chronicle.

Cllr Bours stated that she now intended to raise this matter as a complaint to the Standards Board via the Monitoring Officer at Cheshire East Borough Council.

14. **YOUTH COMMITTEE**

CTC/67/1314 RESOLVED- That the minutes of the meeting held on 18th March 2014 be received.

CTC/68/1314 RESOLVED - that the amendments to the Youth Committee Constitution be approved.

15. **INSURANCE REVIEW**

The Council considered a report which covered the review of insurance provider for the period 2014 -17.

CTC/69/1314 RESOLVED that Zurich be appointed to be the provider of insurance cover for the Town Council for the 3 year period 2014-17 at an annual cost of £17,149.69 per annum.

16. **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC & PRESS

CTC/70/1415 RESOLVED that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, public and press be excluded from the meeting for the matters set out below on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information or staff matters

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS EXCLUDED

A letter written by Cllr G Brittain requesting leave of absence was considered. It was noted that the letter should have been submitted to the town Council meeting dated 6th March 2014, but, due to an administration error this had been overlooked.

CTC/71/1314 RESOLVED that Cllr G Brittain be granted a 3 month period of absence.

17. **MEETING DATES 2014 - 15**

The calendar of meeting dates for town Council and Committees for 2014 -15 was considered.

CTC/72/1314 RESOLVED that the calendar of meeting dates for 2014 -15 be approved.

18. **CONSTITUTION**

The Council considered the notion of providing Councillors with a copy of the Constitution on a data stick with updates being provided electronically.

CTC/73/1314 RESOLVED that the Constitution be provided electronically via a data stick. Those Councillors who require a hard copy advise the Town Clerk accordingly.

19. **COMPLAINT**

The Town Mayor explained the procedure for dealing with the complaint raised by Mr Goodwin against the Town Clerk.

Both parties were given an opportunity to make a statement and Councillors asked a number of questions of both individuals.

CTC/74/1314 RESOLVED that:-

1. The complaint against the Town Clerk be dismissed.
2. The Town Mayor, Cllr G P Hayes to write to Mr Goodwin to explain the Council's decision.

G P Hayes

TOWN MAYOR