

# Congleton Town Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018 Town Hall Congleton

### **PRESENT:** Councillors

Mrs S A Smith (Town Mayor)  
Mrs D S Allen  
L D Barker  
C H Booth  
D T Brown  
G R Edwards  
Mrs S A Holland (Deputy Town Mayor)  
Mrs A Martin  
Mrs J D Parry  
M A Walker  
G S Williams

1. **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 were received from Cllrs Mrs A L Armitt, J G Baggott, P Bates, R Boston, G P Hayes, Mrs A E Morrison and Mrs E Wardlaw.

2. **Minutes**

To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

**CTC/18/1819 RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018 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.

Cllr G S Williams and Cllr DT Brown declared a non- pecuniary interest in any matters relating to Cheshire East Council. Cllr Mrs D S Allen declared a non-pecuniary interest in Congleton Museum.

4. **Outstanding Actions**

None.

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

To receive any questions from Members of the Public including those received in writing 7 days prior to the meeting.

There were no questions from members of the public

6. **Mayor's Announcements**

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

7. **Finance & Policy Committee**

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

**CTC/19/1819 RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

8. **Planning Committee**

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

**CTC/20/1819 RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meetings held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

9. **Community, Environment & Services Committee**

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

**CTC/21/1819 RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

10. **PCSO Budget Approval**

To approve the proposal to utilise £33,000 of the PCSO Budget allocation for a single PCSO.

**CTC/22/1819 RESOLVED to** approve the proposal to utilise £33,000 of the PCSO Budget allocation for a single PCSO.

11. **Urgent Items**

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

There were no urgent items

**12. 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.

Cllr G S Williams provided updates on the following

- Sustainable Modes of Transport
- Consultation - Well Managed Highway Infrastructure
- Biowise composting plant

Details are shown in appendix 1 below

**13. Youth Committee**

- a) To receive the minutes of the Youth Committee meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018.
- b) To deal with Questions from Members of the Youth Committee present at the meeting.

**CTC/23/1819 RESOLVED to** receive the minutes of the Youth Committee meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

**Cllr Mrs S Akers Smith  
(Town Mayor)**

## **Appendix 1**

At Cheshire East Cabinet on Tuesday the council approved the sustainable modes of travel to schools strategy (SMOTS). The council will be introducing a campaign to promote healthier ways of travelling to school with the aim of encouraging more children to walk or cycle to school rather than travel by car.

The strategy also considers safer parking for communities around schools, other modes of transport – such as buses and trains – and a policy to encourage schools to have their own travel plans.

The strategy seeks to make other forms of travel more appealing and reduce the automatic choice of family car to drive children to school. We all know the impact of vehicles around schools in Congleton at certain times of the day

As part of the strategy walking routes and cycle ways could be improved and increased in number and schools will be encouraged to continue road safety training and 'Bikeability' schemes to teach young people safe riding.

The travel plans will help schools to identify and flag up the issues and obstacles that deter or prevent pupils using more sustainable forms of travel. The council can look at ways to address the problems.

Solutions could take a number of forms:

- **Improvements to walking and cycling routes;**
- **New access points to school sites giving more convenient and safer access for pedestrians and cyclists;**
- **Improved or new safe crossing points on routes to schools;**
- **Small-scale traffic management schemes such as lining, signing and traffic calming and**
- **Improvements to parking.**

The council has set aside £150,000 to fund schemes that would help to deliver solutions.

By achieving greater use of sustainable modes of transport, coupled with physical activity, the council wants to create safer and more vibrant communities leading to quality of place and improved educational outcomes.

It is about improving road safety around schools, relieving congestion and reducing the number of parked cars outside or near schools. It will help to further reduce levels of obesity and improve healthy lifestyles.

I wish to bring to the attention of councillors and residents a new public consultation being carried out by Cheshire East Council that will have an impact on the roads in the town and the borough. The consultation is on Well Managed Highway Infrastructure.

In order to comply with new national guidance and its recommendations, the Council needs to revise its codes of practice for highway safety inspections and winter and adverse weather service. The proposed new approach is to consider additional local risk factors such as use, the proximity of schools, shops, transport hubs, health services and other factors which could be considered to help determine the priority of highways work in Cheshire East.

- View and give your [feedback on the Well Managed Highways Consultation](#)
- View the [draft highway safety inspection policy \(PDF, 108 KB\)](#)
- View the [draft highway safety inspection code of practice \(PDF, 1.8 MB\)](#)
- Examples of [current and indicative new inspection process \(PDF, 771 KB\)](#)
- View the [draft winter and adverse weather policy \(PDF, 113 KB\)](#)
- View the [draft winter and adverse weather plan \(PDF, 404 KB\)](#)

The consultation is open and will run until **Monday 27 August 2018**.

Cheshire East Council has launched a public consultation on proposed changes to its highways safety inspections and winter service activities.

This is an important consultation, which will help Cheshire East Highways better align our management of the highways network with the levels of road usage and risk and I encourage everyone to take part. Full details are on Cheshire East Council's website.

Household recycling rates set to rise across Congleton and Cheshire East following the council recently approving a planning application for a recycling company to build a food composting plant in Crewe which will create eight full time jobs.

Hull-based recycling company, [Biowise](#), has secured a 15-year deal with Cheshire East Council to provide a composting plant to process food and garden waste from Cheshire East's 370,000 residents.

The composting plant will make it possible for food across the whole of Cheshire East to be recycled for the first time from late summer 2019. Latest figures have revealed Cheshire East Council is recycling more than 55 per cent of waste compared with less than 17 per cent almost a decade ago.

This added facility will offer an efficient, sustainable and low-cost solution to recycle food waste. “This new composting plant will process food and garden waste together and will help us to further improve our recycling rates, which are currently better than the majority of councils across England. We are determined to further improve these rates so that we are among the very best in the country. Cheshire East will continue the three bin system with the waste being collected fortnightly within the garden waste bin, so there will be no need for an extra container. Once completed next year, the food and garden waste will be processed at the new six-acre composting plant in Crewe. This will have the added benefit for Congleton residents of their garden waste being collected throughout the year.

Each year, from 2019, Biowise will have a licence to manage 75,000 tonnes of food waste across Cheshire East. The company will design, build, finance and operate a £7m state-of-the-art in-vessel composting facility along with associated aerated static pile composting, screening and blending operations at the council-owned site in Leighton Grange, near Crewe