

Congleton Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 11th July 2019 Town Hall Congleton

PRESENT: Mrs S A Holland (Town Mayor)
Suzy Akers Smith
Dawn Allen
Duncan Amies
Martin Amies
David Brown
Paul Duffy
Suzy Firkin
Margaret Gartside
George Hayes
Robert Hemsley
Amanda Martin
Rob Moreton
Denis Murphy
Jean Parry
Mark Rogan
James Smith

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 Russell Chadwick, Robert Douglas and Kay Wesley

2. **Minutes**

To approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13th June 2019.

CTC/20/1920 RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13th June 2019 be approved and signed by the Town 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.

Councillors S A Smith, D Brown G Hayes, S A Holland D Murphy R Moreton all declared a non- pecuniary interest in any matters relating to Cheshire East Council.

4. **Outstanding Actions**

None.

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

None Received

6. **Mayor's Announcements**

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

7. **Youth Committee**

To receive questions from members of the Youth Committee present at the meeting.

The Youth Committee had no questions but expressed their thanks for the support provided by Councillors.

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

CTC/21/1920 RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2019 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

9. **Planning Committee**

CTC/22/1920 RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 30th May 2019 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

10. **Urgent Items**

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

Councillor James Smith raised concerns over the Cenotaph project and advised that he would like there to be an internal review of the project with a focus on the scope, timescales and cost, a view supported by Councillor Mark Rogan.

11. **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.

See reports in appendix 1

12. **New Applications for Financial Assistance**

- **GR04/1920 Resubmission - Congleton Pentecostal Church**
- **GR06/1920 Congleton Jazz and Blues Festival**
- **GR07/1920 Dane Valley Swimming Club**

CTC/23/1920 RESOLVED that

- GR04/1920 be awarded £500
- GR06/1920 be awarded £750
- GR07/1920 be awarded £415 subject to evidence of the match funding being provided – this will be delegated to the chief Officer for approval.

13. Final Internal Audit Report for 2018/19

To consider and approve the Internal Audit – Final report 2018/19.

CTC/24/1920 RESOLVED that the Final Internal Audit report for 2018/19 be approved.

14. Amendments to the Grants' Policy

To consider a proposal to amend the Grants and Funding Policy.

CTC/25/1920 RESOLVED that the amendments to the Grant's Policy are deferred back to the Finance and Policy Committee for further development and approval.

**Cllr Mrs S A Holland
(Town Mayor)**

Appendix 1 - Cheshire East Councillor Reports

1. Councillor George Hayes extended congratulations on the recent news that nearby Jodrell Bank Observatory has been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site; welcoming the recognition of this world-class facility which will also promote an increase in visitors.

He went on to promote the Summer Reading Challenge which is being run at Congleton Library in partnership with The Reading Agency to promote reading for children during the forthcoming summer holidays. The theme of this year's challenge is "Space Chase" and is being appropriately supported by Jodrell Bank with participants receiving vouchers to visit the Observatory's Discovery Centre.

2. Councillor Suzie Akers Smith, who advised that there would be a review of the Local Transport Plan and the Economic Strategy and that as a council we should make comment and asked individual councillors to feedback their thoughts to herself. Also proposed that there could be a Strategy Group meeting to discuss and that it should also be passed through to the relevant Congleton Neighbourhood Plan group for comment.