

Congleton Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 20th August 2020

Conducted via Zoom – Meeting ID: 856 3594 1683

***Please note – These are draft minutes and will not be ratified until the next meeting of the Council on 1st October 2020**

PRESENT:

Sally Ann Holland (Mayor)
Suzanne Akers Smith (Items 12-14)
David Brown
Russell Chadwick
Robert Douglas
Paul Duffy
Suzy Firkin
Margaret Gartside
George Hayes
Robert Hemsley
Amanda Martin
Rob Moreton (Items 1- 14)
Denis Murphy (Deputy Mayor)
Jean Parry
James Smith
Kay Wesley

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 Councillors Dawn Allen, Duncan Amies and Mark Rogan.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

CTC/16/2021 RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the Council meeting held on 23rd July 2020.

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 Sally Ann Holland (Mayor), David Brown, Rob Moreton, Denis Murphy and George Hayes declared a non-pecuniary interest in any matters relating to Cheshire East Council.

4. Questions from Members of the Public

There will be 15 minutes at each meeting to receive any questions from Members of the Public, either verbally at the meeting including those which have been received in writing 7 days prior to the meeting.

No questions were received.

5. Mayors Announcements

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

6. Outstanding Actions

None.

7. Youth Committee

There were no questions received from Members of the Youth Committee present at the meeting.

8. Community & Environment Committee

CTC/17/2021 RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the meeting held on 4th June 2020.

9. Planning Committee

CTC/18/2021 RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the meetings held on 11th June and 9th July 2020.

10. Town Hall, Assets and Services Committee

CTC/19/2021 RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2020.

11. Leisure Centre

To consider a response to Cheshire East Councils' decision to review the refurbishment of the Leisure Centre.

CTC/20/2021 RESOLVED to accept the proposal that we:

- 1) Request a meeting with the CEC Portfolio holder and Officials to consider if we (CTC) can help mitigate the issues surrounding the project review.
- 2) Write an open letter to CEC asking for the current plan to be reinstated and starting immediately.
- 3) We place an open letter in the press and social media for Congleton residents to send to CEC demanding this project be reinstated immediately.

12. COVID-19 Budget Allocation

To approve a proposal to allocate an agreed amount of the Emergency COVID 19 budget to support the Town Centre Recovery.

CTC/21/2021 RESOLVED to approve the proposed budget allocation for the Town Centre Recovery of £20,000 which will be ring fenced within the general COVID19 emergency budget. This budget will be managed by the Chief Officer to ensure procurement is aligned to the Councils Financial Regulations and within the Chief Officers delegated authority of up to £5000 for a single project.

13. CCTV Provision

To approve a proposal for additional CCTV provision.

CTC/22/2021 RESOLVED to approve payment of up to £5000 from the Ear Marked Capital Reserves for Crime Prevention and to purchase a re-deployable CCTV camera via Cheshire East Council CCTV department, subject to written confirmation from Cheshire East Council with regards to ongoing monitoring and maintenance costs.

14. Urgent Items

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

Cllr Amanda Martin raised concerns about the closure of Rope Walk Car Park.

15. Cheshire East Councillors' Reports

To suspend Standing Orders to allow Councillors from the principal authority to report on.

- Cllr George Hayes confirmed that Cheshire East Car Parks will be taking cash as well as cards.
- Cllr Denis Murphy commented that he had discussions with the Car Park Team at Cheshire East and they didn't believe Rope Walk Car Park was a necessary provision.
- Councillors were reminded that this is Love Culture Week (17 – 22 August).

16. Resolution to Exclude the Public and Press

To consider passing a resolution in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that public and press be excluded from the meeting due to confidential items within the next agenda item.

17. Congleton Link Road Naming

To discuss options for the naming of Congleton Link Road, noting that the decision lies with Cheshire East Council.

CTC/23/2021 RESOLVED that Councillors:

- 1) Forward any proposals for the naming of the Link Road and the reasons why to the Chief Officer via e-mail.
- 2) Share their initial thoughts with Cheshire East Council and adjacent Parish Councils.

**Cllr Sally Ann Holland
(Town Mayor)**