

Congleton Town Council

Minutes of the Council meeting held at Congleton Town Hall on Thursday 21st October 2021

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the [Meeting Agenda of the Council 21st October 2021](#)

Present:

Councillors:

Denis Murphy (Town Mayor)
Margaret Gartside (Deputy Mayor)
Suzie Akers Smith
Dawn Allen
Duncan Amies
David Brown
Russell Chadwick
Paul Duffy
Suzy Firkin
George Hayes
Robert Hemsley
Sally Ann Holland
Amanda Martin
Rob Moreton
Jean Parry
Mark Rogan
James Smith
Kay Wesley

Congleton Town Council Officer/s:

David McGifford (Chief Officer)
Jackie MacArthur
Linda Minshull

Members of the Press: (1) Members of the Public: (1)

Minutes

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr R Douglas.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

CTC/26/2122 RESOLVED to approve and sign the [Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 19th August 2021](#).

3. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

Councillors Murphy, Akers Smith, Brown, Hayes, Holland, and Moreton declared a non-pecuniary interest in any matters relating to Cheshire East Council.

4. Questions from Members of the Public

There were no questions from members of the public.

5. Urgent Items

There were no urgent items raised at the meeting.

6. Town Mayor's Announcements

The Town Mayor drew attention to the various engagements that he had fulfilled.

7. Outstanding Actions

There were no outstanding actions from previous meetings

8. Youth Committee

There were no members of the Youth Committee present at the meeting.

9. Community and Environment Committee

CTC/27/2122 RESOLVED that the [minutes of the Community and Environment Committee meeting held on 8th July 2021](#) be received, and the recommendations therein be adopted.

10. Finance and Policy Committee

CTC/28/2122 RESOLVED that the [minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee meetings held on 29th July 2021](#) be received, and the recommendations therein be adopted.

11. Personnel Committee

CTC/29/2122 RESOLVED that the [minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on 15th July 2021](#) be received, and the recommendations therein be adopted.

12. Planning Committee

CTC/30/2122 RESOLVED that the [minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 22nd July and 12th August 2021](#) be received, and the recommendations therein be adopted.

13. Town Hall, Assets and Services Committee

CTC/31/2122 RESOLVED that the [minutes of the Town Hall, Assets and Services Committee meeting held on 1st July 2021](#) be received, and the recommendations therein be adopted.

14. Cheshire East Councillors' Reports

To Suspend Standing Orders to allow Councillors from the principal authority to report on matters relating to or impacting on Congleton.

Updates were received from Cheshire East Councillors resulting in:

Action – For the Chief Officer to write to Cheshire East Council to establish why the only electric charging points in Princess Street car park are being re located to Wilmslow rather than an alternative Congleton Car park. If confirmed as cost, for Cheshire East Council to provide the details on the cost of installation in Wilmslow and Congleton.

15. Review and Amendments to the Financial Regulations

CTC/32/2122RESOLVED to approve the Chief Officer's recommendation for the Financial Regulations to be returned to the Finance and Policy Committee for clarification on certain points.

16. Notice of Conclusion of Audit for 2021

CTC/33/2122 RESOLVED to approve the final audit for year ending 31st March 2021 from the External Auditors as recommended by the Finance and Policy Committee on 30th September 2021.

17. Shop Front improvement Grants

CTC/34/2122 RESOLVED to approve a £10,000 Shop front improvement grant scheme as recommended by the Finance and Policy Committee.

18. Review of Congleton Town Council's Standing Orders

CTC/35/2122 RESOLVED to approve the updates to the Town Council's Standing Orders.

19. Civic Protocol

CTC/36/2122 RESOLVED to approve the proposed Civic Protocol for Congleton Town Council.

20. Elizabeth Wolstonholme Elmy Statue

CTC/37/2122 RESOLVED to approve the proposal that the Town Council does NOT take a view on its preferred site for the statue but agrees to support the outcome of the ongoing work between Elizabeth's Group, Cheshire East Highways, the Cultural Economy Development Team, Cheshire Police and other professional bodies to identify the final position for the statue that addresses the Group's needs, and all relevant considerations including minimising the risk of vehicular damage, relevant Health and Safety requirements, especially for those with visual impairment and one that is suitable for educational and recreational visits.

It was noted that the Elizabeth's Group and the artist prefer a location at the centre of Bridge Street.

Further input from individual town councillors or residents can be made as part of the planning application process.

21. Town Hall Projections

CTC/38/2122 RESOLVED to approve the spend of up to £3,500 from Ear Mark Reserve for Town Hall projections.

**Denis Murphy
(Town Mayor)**