

Congleton Town Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at Congleton Town Hall on 9th February 2023

Please note these are draft minutes which will be ratified at the next meeting of the Council

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the [Meeting Agenda of the Council 9th February 2023](#)

Present:

Councillors:

Margaret Gartside (Mayor)
Duncan Amies
Martin Amies
Suzanne Akers Smith
Russell Chadwick
Robert Douglas
Paul Duffy
Suzy Firkin
Sally Ann Holland
Robert Hemsley
Amanda Martin
Rob Moreton
Denis Murphy
James Smith
Kay Wesley

Congleton Town Council Officers: David McGifford (Chief Officer) Ruth Burgess, Serena Van Shepdael and Mark Worthington

- There were no members of the press in attendance.
- There was 1 member of the public in attendance

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from cllrs David Brown and Jean Parry

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

CTC/42/2223 RESOLVED to approve and sign the Minutes of the Council meeting on the [8th December 2022](#)

3. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

Councillors Suzie Akers Smith, Sally Ann Holland, Rob Moreton and Denis Murphy all 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 she had fulfilled.

7. Outstanding Actions

There were no outstanding actions from previous meetings.

8. Paddling Pool refurbishment

CTC/43/2223 RESOLVED to approve up to £13,125 for the replacement of the soft play surface at the paddling pool

9. Finance and Policy Committee

CTC/44/2223 RESOLVED to approve the [minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee meeting held on 24th November 2022.](#)

10. Budget update

CTC/45/2223 RESOLVED to approve the requested movement from Earmarked Reserves for 2022-2023 and to approve the movement between EMR

11. Reserves Policy report

CTC/46/2223 RESOLVED to approve and adopt the Reserves Policy as presented

12. Personnel Committee

CTC/47/2223 RESOLVED to receive the [minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on 4th August 2022.](#)

13. Planning Committee

CTC/48/2223 RESOLVED to receive the [minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 17th November and 15th December 2022.](#)

14. Town Hall, Assets and Services Committee

CTC/49/2223 RESOLVED to receive the [minutes of the Town Hall, Assets and Services Committee meetings held on 20th October 2022.](#)

15. Remote public access to meetings

CTC/50/2223 RESOLVED to defer this matter to the adopted Council in May 2023

16. Cheshire East Councillors' Reports

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

17. Resolution to Exclude the Public and Press from Items 18 and 19

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 private staffing matters.

CTC/51/2223 RESOLVED to pass the resolution to exclude members of the public and press

18. Drugs and Alcohol Policy

CTC/52/2223 RESOLVED to agree the need for a Drugs and Alcohol Policy but further work is required on the detail, such as

- Frequency of testing
- Reason for testing
- Clarification on zero tolerance
- Amnesty period.

19. Honorary Burgess of the Town of Congleton

CTC/53/2223 RESOLVED to approve the proposed appointment of the named resident as an Honorary Burgess

To: All Members of the Council

CC: Youth Committee, Burgesses (3), Congleton Information Centre,
Congleton Library, MP and Press (3)

**Margaret Gartside
(Town Mayor)**