

## Congleton Town Council

### Minutes of the Council Meeting held at Congleton Town Hall on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the [Meeting Agenda of the Council 9<sup>th</sup> 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 [8<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> August 2022.](#)

### **13. Planning Committee**

**CTC/48/2223 RESOLVED** to receive the [minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 17<sup>th</sup> November and 15<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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)**