



Meeting (No) **Environmental & Sustainability Sub-committee (2)**

Time & Date **5pm Tuesday 22 November 2022**

Place **Neston Town Hall**

Document **Draft Minutes**

**Present:** Cllr Samuel (Chair), Mr J Allcock (non-voting member), Cllr Marple and Cllr Wastell

**In attendance:** Miss A Duncan (Governance & Operations Manager)

<b>PART 1: Items considered in the presence of the press and public</b>	
<b>14</b>	<b>Questions and comments from residents</b>
	There were no questions or comments from residents.
<b>15</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b>
	The Committee received apologies for absence from Cllr Townsend (personal) and <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept the reason for absence.
<b>16</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>
	No declarations of interest were received.
<b>17</b>	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b>
	<b>RESOLVED</b> to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Environmental & Sustainability Sub-committee meeting held on 06.09.22. The Chair signed the minutes.
<b>18</b>	<b>Exceptions report</b>
	It was noted that there were no exceptions to report for the Environmental & Sustainability Sub-committee.
<b>19</b>	<b>Governance &amp; Operations Manager's report and officer delegated decisions</b>
a	<p>The Committee received the Governance &amp; Operations Manager's report:</p> <p><u>Sub-committee membership</u> Cllr Marple had been appointed as an additional member of the Sub-committee.</p> <p><u>Neston Earth Festival</u> It had been Neston Earth Group's intention to use the Neston Earth Festival to raise awareness of Plastic Free status and encourage volunteers for the project. The Festival was cancelled as it fell within the period of National Mourning but Neston Earth Group planned to reschedule the Neston Earth Festival for spring 2023.</p> <p><u>Budget and Terms of Reference</u> The Community and Environment Committee had agreed to include an environment &amp; sustainability budget in 23/24 and provide the Sub-committee with delegated spending powers for this budget. The Sub-committee's terms of reference had been updated accordingly.</p> <p><u>Environmental Policy</u> The Community and Environment Committee had agreed that the draft Environmental Policy, as amended by the Sub-committee on 6 September, should be recommended for adoption by Council on 29.11.22.</p>
b	It was noted that no delegated decisions relating to the Environmental & Sustainability Sub-committee had been taken since the last meeting on 06.09.22.
Chair's initials and date:	

<b>20</b>	<b>Public transport update</b>
	<p>Mr Allcock, Chair of the Wrexham-Bidston Rail Users' Association, gave an oral update on rail development relating to Neston.</p> <p><u>AGM</u></p> <p>At the WBRUA AGM on 12 November the Chair of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee gave a presentation on the future development of the Liverpool City Region rail network including Borderlands. Whilst there is an aim to extend services from Borderlands into Liverpool, there are currently barriers to progress. Mr Allcock agreed to advise in due course how and when the Town Council might offer support by writing to relevant authorities.</p> <p><u>Train Timetable</u></p> <p>The issues with conflicts with freight services on the line have not yet been resolved and therefore a two trains per hour service from Wrexham to Bidston is unlikely to be introduced in December. TFW are aiming to introduce a 30-minute service at some point during 2023.</p> <p><u>Class 230 trains</u></p> <p>The Class 230 trains are still scheduled to be introduced on the Wrexham to Bidston line and there is a possibility that Class 197 units might also be added in the future.</p> <p><u>Ticket Machine/Passenger count</u></p> <p>The lack of a ticket machine at Neston station still needs to be resolved. It was noted that automatic passenger count was a feature of new trains but that this was not a feature that could be utilised on the current Wrexham to Bidston service.</p>
<b>21</b>	<b>Cheshire &amp; Warrington Sustainable &amp; Inclusive Growth Commission</b>
	<p>The Sub-committee considered paper ES2/20: <i>Towards a Sustainable &amp; Inclusive Cheshire &amp; Warrington – Final Report (September 2022)</i> and agreed that the aims of the Commission as detailed in the report should be taken into account when planning the Sub-committee's work programme.</p> <p>It was noted that rail, unlike bus services, was not mentioned specifically in the Sustainable Transport section of the report. It was agreed to request that the Commission clarifies the status of rail within its plans.</p>
<b>22</b>	<b>Terms of reference and work programme</b>
	<p>The Sub-committee considered its terms of reference and relevant sections of the Town Council's Strategy 2022-25.</p> <p>The Sub-committee agreed to focus on two priorities for the remainder of the Council year, both of which fulfilled Sub-committee terms of references section five "promote environmental awareness within the community and work with the local community in partnerships to achieve environmental change" and also strategic plan section one "work with our communities and local groups to develop progressive local solutions in response to the climate and ecological crisis".</p> <p>Priority one: that Neston Town Council engages proactively with the next Food Waste Action Week (6-12 March 2023).</p> <p>Priority two: that Neston Town Council devises an environment and sustainability award scheme to recognise environmental innovation, improvement and best practice of individual local businesses.</p> <p>It was agreed that Councillors would investigate both these priorities and report back to the next meeting.</p>
Chair's initials and date:	

<b>23</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b>
	It was agreed to hold the next meeting of the Environmental & Sustainability Sub-committee at 5pm on Tuesday 10 January 2023.

The meeting closed at 5.45pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_