



Meeting (No) **PLACES COMMITTEE (7)**
Time & Date **6pm 5 September 2017**
Place **Town Hall**
Document **Minutes**

Present: Cllrs Chambers (Chair), Griffiths, Kynaston and Roberts.

In attendance: Miss Duncan (Governance & Operations Manager, Cllr Chapman (from agenda item 52e), three residents (Ms Derraugh, Mr Pearman, Mr Hughes) and one resident representative (Mr Aspey).

PART 1: Items considered in the presence of the press and public

39 Questions and comments from residents

Ms Derraugh, a resident of Upper Raby Road, spoke about planning application 17/03326/FUL and reiterated the points raised in her comment submitted on CWaC's planning website. Ms Derraugh was of the opinion that there were inaccuracies in the application: her property was only 55 metres from the proposed new building, whereas the application stated that the distance to the nearest sensitive property was 450 metres. Ms Derraugh stated that the noise levels from the business were already unacceptably high and the issue of noise had not been adequately addressed within the application. In addition, she stated that the proposed location for the new kennels was closer to the boundary with her property than the existing kennels which would exacerbate the noise problem. Ms Derraugh informed the Committee that, in addition to a recent visit by the Planning Officer, an Environmental Health case officer had also been appointed to investigate the issues of noise.

Mr Aspey represented Mr Pearman, a resident of Upper Raby Road. Mr Aspey explained that he had a background in health and safety management and substantial experience of resolving noise issues. Mr Aspey was concerned that, whilst noise attenuation measures were mentioned in planning application 17/03326/FUL, the application lacked detail about what would actually be done to reduce noise. Mr Aspey was of the opinion that it would be possible in this instance to introduce acoustic screening which would go some way to mitigating the problem, but added that it was important that the specification of any such measures should be detailed within the planning application.

It was noted that the Planning Officer had recently visited the site and the Committee confirmed that it would consider an amended application if requested to do so.

The Chair thanked the residents for their contribution. Ms Derraugh, Mr Pearman and Mr Aspey left the meeting.

40 Apologies for absence

RESOLVED to accept apologies for absence from Cllr Barker (business) and Cllr Cray (business).

41 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Kynaston declared a pecuniary interest in relation to agenda item 62.

42 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED to approve minutes of the meetings held on 30.05.17, 07.06.17, 20.06.17 and 06.07.17, and the meeting note of 27.06.17. The Chair signed the minutes and meeting note.

Chairman's initials and date:

DR 10th OCTOBER 2017

43 Governance & Operations Manager's report

The Committee considered the Governance and Operations Manager's report (PL7/43) and noted in particular:

Tree Planting

- Mersey Forest would be proceeding with additional tree planting between November '17 and March '18 (as per decision of the Planning & Environment Committee).
- Mersey Forest had confirmed that it would take responsibility for engaging with residents to ensure that those living in the immediate vicinity were in agreement with the proposed locations of the trees.
- Mersey Forest had confirmed it would take responsibility for obtaining all necessary permissions and licences relating to the planting of the trees and that CWaC would carry out routine maintenance (pruning) and assume responsibility should the trees be damaged or cause damage at some future date after planting.

MP Correspondence

Correspondence had been received from Justin Madders MP regarding a response sent by CWaC to a constituent who had concerns about the speed limit on Upper Raby Road. A response was issued as per agenda item 46.

In addition, the Governance and Operations Manager reported that the next ChALC Parish Forum (Cheshire West Area) would be held on 3 October and would focus on the new CWaC planning portal.

Agenda items 51 and 52 were brought forward by common consent.

51 Gateway Walls, Liverpool Road

- a The Committee noted the withdrawal of the contractor appointed to construct "Welcome to Neston" Gateway Walls on Liverpool Road as a consequence of the requirements of the NRSWA Schedule 50 Street Licence.
- b **RESOLVED** to discontinue the gateway walls construction project.

52 Monitoring the Neston Neighbourhood Plan

- a The Committee considered report PL7/52a on monitoring the Neston Neighbourhood Plan.
- b **RESOLVED** to change the name of the Neighbourhood Plan Community Monitoring Group to Neston Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Group.
- c Membership structure

RESOLVED to create a new membership structure for the Neston Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Group comprising:

- no fewer than 5 and no more than 10 residents of Neston not eligible for appointment under any other category below, appointed by the Council;
- no more than 3 Members of Neston Town Council;
- no more than 3 persons with specialist knowledge or skills deemed by the group to be of value and appointed by it;
- the Chairman (and Vice-Chairman should the group consider such an appointment necessary) shall be appointed by the Council on the recommendation of the Group for a period not exceeding a normal council year, and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

Chairman's initials and date:

DR.

Terms of reference

RESOLVED that the terms of reference of the Neston Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Group would be:

- to monitor the implementation of the Neston Neighbourhood Plan;
- to draw the attention of relevant groups via the Council's Proper Officer to opportunities for the implementation of policies and recommendations within the Neston Neighbourhood Plan;
- to undertake on behalf of Neston Town Council other aspects of the implementation and promotion of the Neston Neighbourhood Plan as the Council, or the Council's relevant committee sees fit;
- to report to the Council via its relevant committee(s), at least annually on the extent to which the Neston Neighbourhood Plan is being implemented or observed;
- to bring forward to the Town Council or its relevant committee any proposals for amendment to the Neighbourhood Plan consistent with the terms of the 2017 Neighbourhood Planning Act that it considers advisable.

- d RESOLVED** that invitations to join the Group should be issued to all residents who were members of the previous Neighbourhood Plan Community Monitoring Group (Mr T Nolan, Mr R Hughes, Mrs R Hetherington, Mrs M Eveleigh, Mr P Hughes). In addition, invitations to join the Group should be issued to Mr R Ward (Civic Society), Mr D Johnson (Parkgate Society) and Mr M Shipman.

Cllr Chapman joined the meeting.

- e** The Committee noted that Cllr Kynaston was already a member of Group and agreed to request that Council appoint two additional councillors to the Monitoring Group.
- f** (i) **RESOLVED** to update the terms of reference for both the Neston Looking Better Group and the Transport Working Group to incorporate the relevant priorities of the Neston Neighbourhood Plan as detailed in report PL7/52a.
(ii) The Committee agreed to provide guidance for the groups on prioritising the new additions to the terms of reference on an as and when needed basis.
- g** The Committee agreed to recommend to Resources Committee that the Economic Plan Delivery Group's terms of reference be updated to incorporate the relevant priorities of the Neston Neighbourhood Plan as detailed in report PL7/52a.

Mr Hughes left the meeting.

44 Budgets

The Committee considered the Committee's budgets and EMR report and noted that dredging of Parkgate marsh would be undertaken once RSPB had received all necessary permissions and issued the contract.

RESOLVED to rename both budget line 4208 and EMR 9335 as "Environmental Improvements".

45 Strategic objectives

The Committee considered the Places Committee's objectives for 2017/18 and chose not to make any changes.

Chairman's initials and date:



46 Highways Update

The Committee considered an update (PL7/46) relating to ongoing highways issues raised previously with CWaC.

A540 traffic management

- £15,000 had been allocated by CWaC for a small-scale junction improvement at the A540/Raby Park Road junction involving kerb realignment.
- CWaC's road safety team would be undertaking a speed limit review on the A540 between Raby Park Road and Lees Lane during 2017.
- The feasibility of match funding would need to be explored by CWaC in order to take forward the suggestion of interactive signs on the A540 either side of Raby Park Road.

Review of town centre traffic flows/pedestrian safety (request made by Planning & Environment Committee – minute 117, 08/03/16)

- CWaC's Principal Engineer had questioned the usefulness of such a review given that a section of Brook Street was one-way which left no alternative but for a lot of traffic to use Ladies Walk, Raby Road and Tannery Lane as a gyratory system.

Brook Street (request made by Planning & Environment Committee – minute 128, 07/03/17)

- Installation of pavement-edge bollards currently being investigated by CWaC but the Principal Engineer cautioned that there may not be sufficient space to accommodate this suggestion.
- Entry restrictions – the Principal Engineer advised that any restrictions would always need to include "except access" which would not mitigate the concerns raised by the Committee. The Committee agreed to follow the Principal Engineer's suggestion that the Town Council enters in dialogue with Tesco in order to find a solution.

Speed Limit – Upper Raby Road (request made by Planning & Environment Committee – minute 112, 19/01/13)

The Committee noted that CWaC had undertaken a speed limit assessment in 2014 but had not progressed the matter further. Following recent correspondence from Mr Madders MP and the Governance & Operations Manager's subsequent discussions with the Principal Engineer, CWaC had agreed to undertake a consultation and might request Town Council support for this at a future date. It was noted that the consultation would not be immediate as CWaC's current priority was implementation of the 20MPH speed reductions.

47 Deployment of traffic enforcement officers in Brook Street, Neston

- a The Committee considered CWaC's response to a freedom of information request regarding the deployment of traffic enforcement officers in Brook Street.
- b The Committee chose not to take any further action resulting from the response.

48 Planning applications

- a The Committee discussed the current planning applications procedures and agreed to recommend to Council that the final paragraph of the procedure be updated to read:
"Neston Town Council will only submit responses to planning applications following discussion by Committee."

Chairman's initials and date: DR

- b** The Committee considered planning application 17/03416/LDC – Raby Park Paddock, Raby Park Road, Neston (change of use from agricultural barn to existing mixed use of an agricultural barn & residential living accommodation).

RESOLVED not to submit a comment on application 17/03416/LDC.

- c** The Committee noted the Borough Council planning decisions.
- d** The Committee noted comments submitted to planning applications.

49 Refurbishment of Footpath 10, Manorial Road, Parkgate

The Committee agreed to support Policy Committee's recommendation to Council that a contribution of £750 be made towards the cost of refurbishing Footpath 10 from budget line 9333 (unallocated New Homes Bonus).

50 Cheshire West and Chester Council Consultation: Draft Tree and Woodland Strategy

- a** The Committee considered CWaC's draft Tree and Woodland Strategy document.
- b** The Committee chose not to comment on the draft strategy document.

Agenda items 51 and 52 were taken earlier (after agenda item 43).

53 Marsh Working Group

Group membership was noted as Cllr Barker (lead), Professor M Clarkson, Mr C Wells (RSPB). It was also noted CWaC Cllr Gittins would be invited to attend the meetings when appropriate.

RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Roberts as an additional member of the Marsh Working Group.

54 Project Rural Matters

The Committee noted that representation on Project Rural Matters would be taken forward by the People Committee as per amended terms of reference.

55 Mosquito monitoring

The Committee noted that CWaC would be making a contribution of £250 towards the cost of mosquito monitoring for 2017/18.

56 Transport Working Group

- a** The Committee noted that Mr Lloyd (lead) was no longer a member of the Transport Working Group.
- b** Group membership was noted as Cllr Chambers and Mr J Allcock (Wrexham-Bidston Rail Users' Association).
RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Chapman as an additional member of the Transport Working Group.
- c** It was clarified that updating of bus/train timetables on the community website would continue to be undertaken by the community website volunteers.

57 Neston Looking Better Group

The Committee noted the record of the meeting held on 07.06.17.

58 Representation on CWaC's S106 Group

The Committee noted that Cllrs Chambers and Lloyd would be attending S106 Group meetings as Town Council representatives.

59 Other items

There were no other items.

Chairman's initials and date: DR

60 Next scheduled meeting

The next scheduled meeting was noted as 10.10.17 at 6pm.

61 Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED to exclude the public and press for the remaining items because of likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

PART 2: Items to be considered in the absence of the press and public

Agenda items 62 and 63 were considered in reverse order by common consent.

63 Contract for the provision and maintenance of floral arrangements

- a The Committee considered the current contract for the provision and maintenance of floral arrangements.
- b **RESOLVED:**
 - To enter into a six month contract (from 1 October 2017 to 31 March 2018) with the current contractor to provide and maintain floral arrangements (six month proportion of the annual estimated cost of £31,582 will be weather dependent).
 - To create a Task & Finish Group (membership Cllrs Chambers (lead), Griffiths, Kynaston and Roberts) with a remit to investigate options for redesign of the provision of floral arrangements, draft an appropriate specification and report back to Committee before the end of 2017.

Cllr Kynaston left the meeting.

62 Benches

- a The Committee considered quotations for restoration of Neston Town Council benches and also for repositioning of the second Town Council bench at the Ropewalk (subject to relevant permission being granted by CWaC).

It was noted that five quotations had been sought for restoration of the benches, but only two quotations had been received.

It was noted that one quotation had been sought and received for repositioning of the second Town Council bench at the Ropewalk as this was CWaC's preferred contractor.

- b
 - i. **RESOLVED** to appoint David I Roberts (Engineering Services) Ltd as contractor to restore nine Neston Town Council benches at a cost of £1,000 (excluding VAT) plus additional cost of materials. £600 to be paid from EMR 9320 (benches) and the remainder to be paid from budget line 4208 (environmental improvements).
 - ii. **RESOLVED** to appoint P&A Benbow Ltd as contractor to reposition the second Ropewalk bench to the edge of the path (in line with the first bench) at a cost of £200+VAT, from budget line 4208 (environmental improvements), subject to obtaining all necessary permissions from CWaC.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Signed



Date

10 OCT 2017