



*Meeting (No)* **PLACES COMMITTEE (8)**  
*Time & Date* **6pm 26 February 2019**  
*Place* **Town Hall**  
*Document* **Minutes**

**Present:** Cllrs Roberts (Chair), Edwards, Griffiths, Kynaston and Wastell.

**In attendance:** Miss A Duncan (Governance & Operations Manager), Cllr Barker, Cllr Pilley and one resident.

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

**80 Questions and comments from residents**

A resident reiterated concerns that he had raised at previous Places Committee meetings about the safety of the A540 junctions through Neston.

**81 Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**82 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**83 Minutes of the last meeting**

**RESOLVED** to approve minutes of the meeting held on 04.12.18 as a true and correct record. The Chair signed the minutes.

**84 Governance & Operations Manager's report**

The Committee considered the Governance & Operations Manager's report and noted in particular that two replacement trees for Drake Road were being purchased by Mersey Forest.

Agenda item 88c was brought forward by common consent.

**88c Marsh Working Group meeting 11.01.19**

- c The Committee considered the meeting notes and accompanying paper.

**RESOLVED**

- i. that monitoring would continue during 2019 (maximum cost £800 from budget line 4320);
- ii. to purchase two new traps at a maximum cost of £1800+VAT & delivery from EMR 9325;
- iii. that the traffic light forecast would continue during 2019;
- iv. to provide the 2019 forecast via the Neston Life app at a maximum annual cost of £100+VAT from budget line 4230 (marshes/mosquito monitoring).

Cllr Barker left the meeting.

**85 Committee budget**

- a The Committee's budget and EMRs were considered.
- b **RESOLVED** to merge EMR 9320 (benches) and EMR 9335 (environmental improvements) and transfer unspent revenue from budget line 4208 (environmental improvements) to the combined EMR.

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- c **RESOLVED** to transfer unspent revenue from budget line 4230 (marshes/mosquito monitoring) to EMR 9325 (de-silting).
- d **RESOLVED** to remove EMR 9332 (bus and transport) and reallocate funds to EMR 9325 (de-silting).

## **86 Strategic objectives**

- a The Committee considered the current status of its annual objectives.
- b The progress ratings were updated:
  - Public Transport Standard – amber
  - Greening contract – green
  - Benches – amber
  - Appearance of station – green
  - Mosquito problem – green
  - NNP monitoring – red.
- c The update report was noted. It was agreed to add bulb planting to the next agenda so that consideration could be given to enhancing the greening contract by planting large drifts of spring bulbs.

## **87 Community Pride Competition**

The Committee considered feedback reports on the 2018 entries for Neston/Little Neston and Parkgate. Members noted in particular the negative feedback on the Chester Road car park toilets and agreed to pursue with CWaC whether these facilities should remain.

## **88 Working Group Meetings**

- a Transport Working Group 18.01.19

The Committee considered the meeting notes and requested that the TWG investigate the potential impact of the forthcoming Mersey Tunnel price rises on Neston commuters. Members noted in particular that Justin Madders MP had started a petition against the increase.

- b Neston Looking Better Group 21.11.18 and 16.01.19

The meeting notes were considered.

- c Agenda item 88c was considered earlier following item 84.

## **89 Grant Applications**

- a The Committee agreed to apply for grant funding to purchase replacement Town Council benches.
- b It was noted that the NLBG had expressed a preference for oak benches to remain in the town centre with recycled benches being installed in the outlying areas.
- c The Committee agreed that, should grant funding be unavailable or insufficient to meet the cost of replacement, the Committee would consider utilising funds from the environmental improvement EMR for replacing a limited number of benches.

## **90 War Graves**

The Committee considered advice from the CWGC on potential restoration of WWI war graves within Neston and decided not to pursue further restoration of the war graves or moving of the Falklands Conflict memorial stone located beyond the boundary of the war memorial.

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## **91 Directional signage to Sytchcroft Park**

The Committee agreed to CWaC adding a further finger post to the signpost at the Raby Road entrance to Market Square and noted that the cost would be met from CWaC's Sytchcroft improvement budget.

The Committee agreed that the sign would need to angle diagonally under the bridge and that ideally the post should read "Sytchcroft Play Area (under bridge & turn left)". However, members appreciated that the additional direction could only be added if space allowed.

## **92 Other items**

There were no other items.

## **93 Next scheduled meeting**

The date of the next scheduled meeting was noted as 26.03.19.

## **94 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 considered in the absence of the press and public**

### **95 Bench restoration**

The Committee noted that three quotations had been sought but only one quotation had been submitted.

**RESOLVED** to appoint Northwich Town Council to collect, rub down and stain the bench previously located opposite the Royal Oak in Little Neston and then remove an in-situ bench (location to be decided) and replace with the restored bench at a cost of £197+VAT from the newly combined EMR 9335 (see minute 85b above).

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Signed



Date

26 MARCH 2019