



Meeting (No) **PLACES COMMITTEE (3)**
Time & Date **6pm 30 July 2019**
Place **Town Hall**
Document **Minutes**

Present: Cllrs Griffiths (Chair), Davies, Kynaston and Wastell

In attendance: Miss A Duncan (G&O Manager), CWaC Councillor Barker & four residents

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

28 Questions and comments from residents

Four residents voiced objections to planning application 19/02087/FUL (agenda item 37). They were concerned about the scale and layout of the development, the impact it would have on local residents, parking issues and increased vehicular activity in an already congested location.

29 Apologies for absence

RESOLVED to accept apologies from Cllr Edwards (personal), Flockhart (personal) and Hutt (personal).

30 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Agenda items 37 and 36 were brought forward by common consent

37 Planning applications

- a 19/02087/FUL Brook Meadow, Church Lane, Neston – erection of retirement living accommodation (category II type) together with communal facilities, landscaping and car parking.

RESOLVED to submit the following comment:

"Neston Town Council objects to this application on the grounds of over-development, access to the main road and also access from the site onto Church Lane via the existing narrow roads (there are existing issues with access for emergency vehicles). The Town Council feels the amount of car parking is underestimated in the application. There are also environmental health concerns given the proximity of the proposed development to a primary school."

- b 19/02353/FUL 7 Snabwood Close, Little Neston – change of use to HMO (retrospective).

RESOLVED to submit the following comment:

"Neston Town Council objects to this application on the grounds of increasing the number of vehicles in an area that is already highly congested. Already issues for access of emergency and service vehicles."

36 Kissing Gate on Footpath 46X (Church Lane)

The Committee considered a suggestion to remove the kissing gate on footpath 46X. The Committee noted that the gate was not owned or managed by Neston Town Council.

Chair's initials and date:

yl

15-10-19.

RESOLVED to inform CWaC that Neston Town Council had no objection to the replacement of the kissing gate as long as any replacement satisfied the safety concerns expressed previously by Highways. It was agreed to emphasise to CWaC that the gate was not owned by the Town Council nor was its maintenance the responsibility of the Town Council and, as such, the Town Council was not making a decision on this matter but merely offering an opinion.

Four residents and CWaC Councillor Barker left the meeting.

31 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED to approve minutes of the meeting held on 04.06.19. The Chair signed the minutes.

32 Governance & Operations Manager's report

The Committee considered the G&O Manager's report and noted in particular:

Benches (minute 26, 04/06/19) – new benches had been installed at The Ropewalk.

Meeting with Cheshire Community Action (minute 11d, 04/06/19) – a meeting had taken place on 23/07/19. The CCA report on the effectiveness of Neighbourhood Planning (planning & housing issues) currently in draft and not yet available for discussion at a public meeting.

33 Chair's report

This item was not discussed.

34 Committee budget

The Committee considered the current budget and EMRs. No changes were made.

35 Strategic objectives

- a The Committee considered its objectives.
- b An oral report on Reimagining Neston's work on planning was given by Cllr Kynaston (Cllr Kynaston did not attend Reimagining Neston meetings as a Town Council representative). It was noted that all four Reimagining Neston working groups would be meeting in September and agreeing a collective way forward.
- c The strategic objectives update was noted. It was agreed that there should be an agenda item at the next meeting to discuss ways to maximise historical interest in the town thereby encouraging tourism.
- d No changes were made to the RAG ratings.

Items 36 and 37 were considered earlier following item 30.

Cllr Kynaston temporarily left the meeting.

38 Communication with Highways

The Committee discussed options for improving and maintaining the flow of information between the Highways Authority and the Town Council. It was agreed to pursue with CWaC the possibility of having a named contact for routine communication.

39 Road safety

- a The Committee agreed that the Town Council should be represented on the recently formed local community group to address A540 safety issues.
- b **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Wastell as the representative on this group.

Chair's initials and date:

JC 15.10.19.

40 CWaC Dog Warden and Kennelling Service consultation

The Committee decided not to submit a response to this consultation.

41 Benches

- a The Committee considered the recently installed new and refurbished benches located at The Ropewalk and St Mary's & St Helen's Church and agreed that they were of a satisfactory standard.
- b The Committee noted that the oak bench on Park Street was missing (reported to police and insurance company).

RESOLVED to purchase a replacement recycled plastic bench at a cost of £430+VAT (including fixing kit) and maximum installation cost of £200+VAT from EMR 9335 (environmental improvements). Bench and installation to be the same specification/contractor agreed for The Ropewalk (minute 26, 04/06/19).

Cllr Kynaston returned to the meeting.

- c The condition of the remaining benches was discussed. It was agreed that the current condition of the two Romney Croft benches was acceptable.

RESOLVED to provide delegated authority to the G&O Manager to arrange for the restoration of the Well Lane and St Thomas' Church benches – using the same specification/contractor agreed for restoration of the bench located in the parish church grounds (minute 95, 26/2/19) – at a maximum cost of £400 from EMR 9335 (environmental improvements).

42 Neston Looking Better Group

- a Notes of the 10.07.19 meeting were discussed.
- b The Committee considered the recommendation to replace/remove the dead tree at the Drake/Liverpool Road junction. It was agreed to seek advice from Mersey Forest and consider at the next meeting.
- c **RESOLVED** to confirm the appointment of Cllr Roe to the Neston Looking Better Group.

43 Marsh Working Group

RESOLVED to approve the Marsh Working Group terms of reference.

44 Borderlands Steering Group

RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Kynaston as representative for the Borderlands Steering Group.

RESOLVED to suspend Standing Order 1y (*meetings shall not exceed a period of 2 hours*) in order to allow the meeting to continue beyond 8pm.

45 Greening of Neston

It was agreed to seek a quotation from the current greening contractor to provide and plant spring bulbs in two areas: the square between Morland Avenue and Landseer Avenue and also between the trees on Drake Road. Quotation to be considered at the next meeting with the aim of bulb planting in the autumn.

46 CWaC Local Plan (Part Two)

The Committee considered the Land Allocations/Policies & Sustainability Appraisal Report/Adoption Statement.

47 Other items: none.

Chair's initials and date:

15-10-19.



48 Next scheduled meeting

This was noted as 15.10.19 at 6pm.

49 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

50 Continuation of the contract for the provision/maintenance of floral arrangements

RESOLVED to approve the three year contract from 01.10.19 to 30.09.22 including the additions of:

- two plantings per year in the planters to ensure a more colourful display;
- increase in the number of hanging baskets from 23 to 30 to improve visual impact;
- additional watering in Parkgate to incorporate new planters added by the Parkgate Society.

It was noted that these additions would not incur any additional expenditure and would be absorbed within the existing contract costs as agreed by Places Committee on 26.03.19 (minute 107a).

51 Marsh dredging

This agenda item was deferred to the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signed



Date

15-10-19.