

	<i>Meeting (No)</i>	Full Council Meeting (5)
	<i>Time & Date</i>	24th October 2023 at 6pm
	<i>Location</i>	Neston Town Hall
MINUTES		

Present: Cllrs: Wastell (Mayor), Braithwaite, Davies, Edwards, Griffiths, Jones, Kynaston, Marple and Warner.

In attendance: Z. Dean (Locum Chief Officer)

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

51	Apologies for Absence It was RESOLVED: To accept the following apologies for absence: Cllr Hardcastle – Personal reasons Cllr Hudspeth – Holiday To note Cllrs: Doughty and Townsend were absent.
52	Declarations of Interest No declarations of interest were received from members.
53	Minutes It was RESOLVED: To accept and sign the minutes from the Full Council meeting held on 11 th July 2023 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 21 st September 2023.
54	Questions and Comments from Residents No members of the public were present.
55	Committee Minutes a) It was RESOLVED: To approve the minutes from the Finance & Admin Committee held on 12/09/2023. b) It was RESOLVED: To approve the minutes from the Market & Town Hall Committee held on 26/09/23. c) It was RESOLVED: To approve the minutes from the Community & Environment Committee held on 18/07/2023 d) It was RESOLVED: To approve the minutes from the Community & Environment Committee held on 22/08/2023 e) It was RESOLVED: To approve the minutes from the Community & Environment Committee held on 10/10/2023.
56	Town Hall Proposal The Chair amalgamated this item with 59 to follow below (item 59).
57	External Audit Report 2022/23 Council noted that it was a very good the External Audit report which contained no actions. It was RESOLVED: To accept the External Audit Report 2022/23.
58	Full Council Year End Financial Report 2022/23 a) The Chair allowed adequate opportunity for all councillors to make comment on the report. A question was asked appertaining to the redundancy payment which was

	<p>clarified. Members noted that no questions had been received in advance of the meeting, as requested when the agenda pack was distributed.</p> <p>The Chief Officer clarified the Council's financial position: Neston Town Council has unfunded pension costs going forward over the next 3 years, starting from the current financial year (2023/24). Council needs to consider how this cost will be funded.</p> <p>A report detailing the Council's General Reserves will be brought before the next meeting.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED: To accept the Financial Report 2022/2023 and the supporting documentation.</p>
59	<p>Aspirations for the Town Hall</p> <p>a) It was RESOLVED: To receive the overall outline and agreement in principle to start exploring broad concepts, whilst reopening a dialogue with Cheshire West & Chester Council regarding the future of the Town Hall.</p> <p>b) It was RESOLVED: To delegate authority to the Chief Officer to refine details, where necessary, and enter into dialogue with CW&C Council moving forward.</p>
60	<p>Christmas Closedown</p> <p>Members noted that the Town Council offices will be closed for the Christmas break from 22/12/2023 – 02/01/2024.</p>
61	<p>Chester Road Car Park (CE5-53)</p> <p>Council noted that the bulk of the recommendation had already been acted upon.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED: To write to CW&C Council, thanking them for acting upon comments received from residents, whilst clarifying the unitary authority's plans for the reinstatement of directional arrows and requesting that new signage is adequate.</p>
62	<p>Candidates for Co-Option</p> <p>The Council received one application for co-option, however the interested person has since requested for the application to be placed on hold for the time being.</p>
63	<p>Locum Chief Officer's Report</p> <p>It was RESOLVED: To receive the Locum Chief Officer's Report.</p>
PART 2: Items considered in the absence of the Press and Public	
64	<p>It was RESOLVED: To enter Part 2.</p>
65	<p>Future Plans for Neston Town Hall</p> <p>It was RESOLVED: To accept the recommendation contained within the report, with an addendum to involve the Chair of the Market & Town Hall committee with work ongoing through the Community & Environment Committee, reporting regularly to Council.</p>

Meeting closed at 18:38.

Signed_____ **Dated**_____