

	<i>Meeting (No)</i>	<b>Community &amp; Environment (10)</b>
	<i>Date</i>	<b>6 February 2024</b>
	<i>Document</i>	<i>Ref No</i>
	<b>C&amp;E Manager's report</b>	<b>CE10/107</b>

### **Community Event Donations (minute 90b, 05/12/23)**

Flowers were sent to the Hip & Harmony Director at a cost of £40.



### **D-Day Commemorations (minute 56, 10/10/23 & minute 86 05/12/23)**

A meeting was held with members of the Neston branch of the Royal British Legion. It was decided that the town would take part in the "ringing out for peace" at 6.30pm on 6 June to coincide with a service of commemoration at St Mary's & St Helen's. The British Legion representatives wanted a lasting memorial (rather than a beacon) and designs/prices for a pavement plaque have been sought. The plaque will be unveiled during the service and then installed outside the Town Hall at a later date. The details of the commemorations will be advertised nearer the time and an invitation list was agreed during the meeting with the British Legion. Councillors should contact me if they would like to make any additions to the invitation list (please provide name, organisation and contact email address).

### **Donations (minute 52c, 10/10/23)**

The Little Actors Neston Theatre Arts Festival Spacehive bid reached its target and the event will take place in the Town Hall during July.

### **Christmas Planning Meeting (minute 90b, 05/12/23)**

An initial meeting was held on 11 January after which invitations were sent out to various community organisations and contacts to engage with the preparations for this year's event. A second meeting is planned for 9 February.

## **Emergency Plan Meeting (minute 88(ii), 05.12.23)**

An initial meeting has been arranged for 12 February. CWaC Cllr Millar and Cllr Braithwaite will be attending. PCSO Harwood has sent apologies but will attend future meetings.

## **Allotments**

Two tenants at the Raby Park Road site have given notice and their plots are in the process of being allocated.

A quotation for clearance of two severely overgrown plots has proved to be prohibitively expensive. The plots will therefore need to be cleared in phases over a longer period of time by volunteers. This will necessitate purchase of equipment and hiring of skips. Officers have begun the process by creating access paths through the plots.

The drainage issues at the Parkgate site continue. We are attempting to arrange a site meeting with all parties (Highways, Welsh Water and CWaC Infrastructure Team) in order to find a solution agreeable to all.

The demand for plots remains high and increased staff numbers will allow us to carry out monthly site inspections throughout 2024 growing season. All tenants will be advised of this during the renewal process and they will be reminded that plots must be kept in full cultivation.

## **Greening Contract**

The contract review is now overdue and a reminder has been sent to the contractor to arrange a meeting date.

## **Christmas Lights**

We are currently looking at options for staged process of updating of Christmas lights (as opposed to waiting and changing all in one go). This will spread the cost whilst also bringing variety to the display. Costs will be brought to a future C&E meeting for consideration.

## **Fingerpost Signs**

The fingerpost signs in the town centre are starting to look weathered and the paint is flaking. We are currently seeking costs for repainting. Costs will be considered at a future meeting.

## **Marsh Working Group**

A meeting is being arranged for March to finalise details for the 2024 dredging programme after which a quotation for the work will be obtained and considered at a future C&E meeting.

## **Cheshire Archives and Local Studies**

Jo Harding and I attended an online information session on 18 January about the Gems project due to go live in 2025. We will look to engage with Cheshire Archives as part of the Committee's objective to create a local heritage strategy.

Audrey Duncan  
Community & Environment Manager