



<i>Meeting (No)</i>	Community & Environment Committee (7)
<i>Time & Date</i>	6pm Tuesday 25 November 2025
<i>Place</i>	Neston Town Hall
<i>Document</i>	Minutes

Present: Cllrs Marple (Chair), Adderley, Griffiths, Halford, David Ruscoe, Swaffer and Wastell.

In attendance: A Duncan (Community & Environment Manager)

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

59 Public Participation (maximum of three minutes per person)

There were no comments from members of the public.

60 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

61 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

62 Minutes of the Last Meeting

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Community & Environment Committee meeting held on 28.10.25. The Chair signed the minutes.

63 Community & Environment Manager's Report

The report was received.

Equals card payments totalling £496.03 were reported. The payments related to preparations for the Christmas event, refreshments for a Junior Council meeting and a voltage detector required prior to removal of the Little Neston telephone kiosks.

Perimeter safety pruning at the Marshlands Road allotment site completed at a cost of £150.

Transportation of the two Little Neston telephone kiosks completed without incident at a cost of £1,275+VAT. This cost included removal/disposal of concrete bases. New concrete bases laid (£1,260+VAT) ready for the return of the kiosks in 2026.

The four new junior councillors had their first meeting on 4 November and accompanied the Mayor/Deputy Mayor to the Remembrance Sunday commemorations. Junior Councillors laid a wreath at the war memorial and a donation of £25 was paid to Royal British Legion from account code 4371 (youth engagement).

64 Committee Budgets

- a The Committee received the month six Committee budget and the current earmarked reserves.

Chair's initials and date:

- b The Committee reviewed the projected budget expenditure for the current financial year.
- c **RESOLVED** to approve the draft C&E budget for the financial year 26/27 as set out in paper CE7/64 and agreed to submit the request for consideration by Council.
- d **RESOLVED** to increase the C&E Manager's Equals card spending limit to £500.

65 NADAS Annual Art Exhibition

RESOLVED to fund room hire fees for the NADAS Annual Art Exhibition on an ongoing basis until such time as C&E Committee decides otherwise. Officers to confirm the cost and arrange the payment on an annual basis from account code 4360 (grants).

66 Friends of Marshlands Eco Park

- a The Committee considered additional information supplied by Friends of Marshlands Eco Park in relation to an earlier grant request for funding to purchase a noticeboard (minute 39b). The additional information confirmed permission to install a noticeboard and identified the location for installation.
- b **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £1,656 to Friends of Marshlands Eco Park for the purchase and installation of a noticeboard.

67 Little Neston Consultations

- a **RESOLVED** to consult with residents living in the immediate vicinity of the Raeburn Avenue/Landseer Avenue kiosk, seeking views on the possibility of repurposing the kiosk to house a defibrillator. It was noted that the cost to purchase a defibrillator and heated external cabinet was approximately £1,500 and that there would be an additional cost to install a new electricity supply plus an ongoing cost for electricity bills.
- b **RESOLVED** to consult with residents living in the immediate vicinity of the telephone kiosk located opposite The Royal Oak, seeking views on the possibility of repurposing the kiosk as a community box. It was noted that solar-powered light could be used for this kiosk to avoid the cost of installing a new electricity supply.

68 Planning Application

Brook Meadow Church Lane Neston CH64 9AE

The Committee reviewed planning application 25/03346/S73 /FUL (variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning application 19/02087/FUL allowed on appeal) and **RESOLVED** to submit the following comment to the Planning Authority:

If this had been a new application, Neston Town Council would still have had grave concerns, but the suggested alteration to the approved application appears positive in that a reduced number of units will go some way to improving access issues.

69 Civic Pride Project

The Committee considered paper CE7/69: a suggested a scheme of improvement to the front of the Town Hall. It was noted that the suggested

Chair's initials and date:

scheme had been devised in consultation with the chairs of the Community & Environment and Market & Town Hall Committees and that any associated cost would be met from account code 4217 (ranger service).

RESOLVED to:

- restore and paint the external ground floor Town Hall windows and doors, the flower bed lampposts, the railing and the metal bin, along with the four heritage Market Square fingerpost signs;
- add a combination of Christmas tree/flag holders, hanging basket brackets and metal window boxes to the front of the Town Hall to provide a variety of opportunities throughout the course of the year to add cost-effective seasonal colour and interest to the building.

70 Christmas Lights

RESOLVED to provide delegated authority to officers to arrange purchase and installation of 13 analogue lighting column timers for the town centre Christmas lights. Cost to be met from account code 4330 (Christmas lights/decorations).

71 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next scheduled meeting of the Community & Environment Committee would be held on 03.02.26 at 6pm.

72 Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item - paragraph 3 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person).

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

73 Protocol for Marking the Death of a Senior National Figure

RESOLVED to approve the updated protocol and to appoint Cllr Wastell as an additional person with responsibility for lowering/raising the Town Hall flag.

74 Contract for Painting of Town Centre Finger/Lamp Posts and Metalwork

It was noted that six companies had been approached to provide quotations and two quotations had been received.

Following a vote (six in favour, one against), it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Groundwork and Leisure Services Ltd to repaint four town centre fingerpost signs, two Town Hall lampposts, a bin and railings at a cost of £2,050+VAT.

Cost to be met from account code 4217 (ranger service).

75 Contract for Refurbishment of Town Hall Windows and Doors

It was noted that eight companies had been approached to provide quotations and five quotations had been received.

Chair's initials and date:

RESOLVED to appoint Wirral Sash Windows to repair and paint five front ground floor windows at a cost of £5,750+VAT and both sets of ground floor front doors at a cost of £2,300+VAT.

Cost to be met from account code 4217 (ranger service).

76 Contract for Signwriting

It was noted that three companies had been approached to provide quotations and three quotations had been received.

RESOLVED to appoint Caldy Signs to supply two aluminium signs with a black background and "Town Hall" gold leaf lettering at a cost of £440+VAT.

The meeting closed at 7pm.

Signed _____ Date _____