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|  | Meeting (No) | Full Council (6) | |
| | Date | 20th January 2026 | |
| | Document | Ref No | |
| | Neston Town Hall | | FC6/81 |

Background information

Cheshire West & Chester Council own all three of the major community assets within Neston. There has been speculation for a number of years that the borough council may wish to reduce the number of assets it maintains in the town to reduce the overall financial burden.

Following October's Full Council Meeting, where members discussed the future of the Town Hall, contact has been made with senior figures at Cheshire West & Chester Council to open up a dialogue about the building and how to take it forward. At the above meeting, held within Part 2, Neston Town Council resolved to undertake the following actions:

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| 63 | <p>Neston Town Hall</p> <p>Councillors discussed and debated the above item.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) To arrange to meet with senior leaders/property portfolio holders within Cheshire West & Chester Council to progress taking the building forward with a view to increasing the Town Council's stake in the asset by developing a future concept for Neston Town Hall and Neston library. ii) To state that Neston Town Council is willing to explore committing financially, to whatever development project may be desired, through a staged approach, and development of a five-year business plan for the Town Hall and library in partnership with Cheshire West. In the meantime, putting money aside in the 2026/27 budget to enable work to begin on a professional feasibility study. |
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I had an investigative meeting in December with Cheshire West and Chester's Communities and Engagement Senior Manager: Rural, Pam Bradley. Initial contact has been made with Cheshire Community Action and Localities for assistance with business planning and a request for any support these organisations may be able to offer the council. It is hoped that meetings will be arranged with these organisations in the coming weeks and months as we work towards engaging a company to undertake the required feasibility study.

Next steps

To appoint up to four Town Councillors to sit on a Town Hall working group alongside the Locum Chief Officer, the Town Hall Manager, and Cheshire West & Chester officers, to create a vision for the Town Hall.

Zoë Dean
Locum Chief Officer
January 2026