

	Meeting (No)	<b>Community &amp; Environment (1)</b>
	Date	<b>9 June 2026</b>
	Document	Ref No
	<b>C&amp;E Manager's Report</b>	<b>CE1/7</b>

In addition to the usual record of expenditure and update on actions relating to the previous meeting, this report will also provide some information on a few of the ongoing and planned tasks and projects, which it is hoped will be of benefit to new C&E members. Relevant minute references are included where appropriate.

## EXPENDITURE SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING

**Equals Card Payments** (C&E Minute 130, 09.04.24 / C&E Minute 64d, 25.11.25)

Civic Pride project – letterboxes purchased at a cost of £184.72+VAT. Payment assigned to account code 4217 (minute 100, 31.03.26).

### Other Expenditure

Allotments - annual pest control contract for Raby Park Road site renewed at a cost of £245.63+VAT. Payment assigned to account code 4180 (minute 112b, 06.02.24).

Village Fair (Town Council Stand) - two traditional wooden games purchased at a cost of £483.33 including delivery. Payment assigned to account code 4301 (minute 113c, 14.04.26).



## RESTORATION OF TELEPHONE KIOSKS IN LITTLE NESTON

Cost of securing the refurbished telephone kiosks to the new footings will be £350+VAT per kiosk. Payment to be assigned to account code 4208/EMR 335 (minute 126c, 12.05.26).

The off-site restoration work of both kiosks is scheduled to begin in August. Officers will arrange a return date to ensure best haulage rates as it is significantly less expensive if the return can be timed to coincide with other deliveries in the area (minute 126c, 12.05.26).

The Guides are still very interested in running a children's book swap or something similar from the kiosk opposite the Royal Oak.

It had been suggested the Landseer/Raeburn kiosk might be a useful location for a defibrillator. Upon investigation, however, it would appear that the cost of installing

an electricity supply would be prohibitively expensive. Officers are therefore currently discussing the possibility of installing a defibrillator at a nearby location outside the Neston Clinic on Mellock Lane (minute 126a, 12.05.26). The kiosk itself will be retained as a valued part of the area (the overwhelming majority of responses from local residents were in favour of the kiosk being reinstated) and it is possible that the painting of seasonal images to the glass could be considered to further enhance this location and make the kiosk a focal point.

It has been agreed that the transoms for both kiosks should read "Community Box" which will cover multiple future uses (*minute 126b, 12.05.26*).

## **GREENING CONTRACT**

Replacement of Bushell Fountain planters – the contract has been confirmed as per minute 123b, 12.05.26.

Replacement of parish church planters – the contract has been confirmed as per minute 123c, 12.05.26. The church will keep the best two of the old planters and take responsibility for their maintenance and planting.

Following discussion with the contractor, it has been agreed that the church planters will be upgraded first, followed by the Bushell Fountain later in the year. Some interim seasonal planting has been added to the Bushell Fountain to add colour during the summer.

Spring/summer hanging baskets have now been installed by the contractor.

All old perennial planting has been removed from the planters at the front of the Town Hall and replaced with a new scheme.

The current greening contract will end on 30.09.27. The process will now begin to agree a new contract specification and seek quotations for consideration at a future C&E meeting. This work must be concluded by 31.03.27 at the latest.

## **NTC COMMUNITY SPACES INITIATIVES 25/26: CIVIC PRIDE PROJECT**

*Relevant C&E Minutes: 74-76 25.11.25 / 100 31.03.26 / 127b 12.05.26*

*Account code 4217 / EMR 343 (88b 03.02.26)*

Metal work painting – complete.

Town Hall window and door refurbishment – in progress.

Signwriting – delivery/installation scheduled for w/c 08.06.26.

Window box restraints – to be ordered following completion of window/door refurbishment.

## **NTC COMMUNITY SPACE INITIATIVES 26/27**

*Relevant C&E Minute: 127a 12.05.26*

Initial conversations have taken place with the M&TH Committee Chair.

## **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS CONTRACT**

Officers have met with several companies and we await final quotations. An extra C&E meeting will be required during the summer to consider options and appoint a contractor.

## **PROFESSOR CLARKSON ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS**

The Professor Clarkson Environmental Awards scheme was created as a fitting tribute to the late Michael Clarkson who was instrumental in implementing environmentally sensitive mosquito control techniques on the marshes and was always supportive of young people as well as being a passionate advocate for high quality education. Awards are presented annually by Mrs Clarkson to a Year 6 pupil from each of the four primary schools following nomination by the head teachers.

The process is currently underway for the 2026 nominations. It is hoped that the winners will be able to attend at the beginning of a future C&E meeting to receive their awards.

## **ALLOTMENTS**

Legionella risk assessment/testing has been arranged for all sites on 15 June (minute 122a, 12.05.26). The cost will be £158.24+VAT per site and the payment will be assigned to account code 4180.

Site clearance: officers have arranged a meeting with a contractor to discuss options for clearing the rubbish from one section of the Raby Park Road site (a long-standing issue inherited when NTC assumed responsibility for the allotments). The hope is to be able to agree a plan to clear the area over a series of years, thereby spreading the cost of disposal. A report will be made to the next meeting.

There are currently 53 people on the allotment waiting list. There is one vacant plot which it is hoped will be tenanted within the next week.

## **DONATIONS**

A meeting has been held with representatives of Neston Female Society and the Secretary of the Society has been asked to confirm the organisation's funding requirements for 2027.

## **TASK & FINISH GROUPS**

As part of agenda item 9c, members may wish to consider whether there is a requirement to form any task and finish groups to undertake preparatory work for some of the C&E-related projects, possibly including Christmas lights, Christmas event, greening specification, and NTC community space initiatives. In order to maximise effectiveness and efficiency, parent committees should provide T&F groups with clear and realistic remits.

Audrey Duncan  
Community & Environment Manager