



<i>Meeting (No)</i>	Community & Environment Committee (1)
<i>Time & Date</i>	6pm Tuesday 9 June 2026
<i>Place</i>	Neston Town Hall
<i>Document</i>	Minutes

Present: Cllrs Braithwaite (Chair), Dignam-Gill, Griffiths, Halford, Marple, David Ruscoe and Swaffer

In attendance: A Duncan (Community & Environment Manager), Cllr Davies and two residents.

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

1 Election of Chair

Cllr Marple opened the meeting and requested nominations for the position of chair.

RESOLVED to elect Cllr Braithwaite as Chair of the Community & Environment Committee for the ensuing year.

Cllr Braithwaite chaired the remainder of the meeting.

2 Election of Vice-Chair

RESOLVED to elect Cllr Marple as Vice-Chair of the Community & Environment Committee for the ensuing year.

3 Public Participation

A member of Neston Female Society stated the financial contribution that would be required from the Town Council for 2027. The Neston Female Society member also stated that the Society would not be concerned should there be no entertainment provided for Ladies Day in future years and she requested that the Town Council communicates any decision about installation of bunting for next year at the earliest opportunity.

(Clerk's note: officers had previously written to the Secretary of Neston Female Society requesting both details of the Society's requirements for the 2027 parade and also confirmation of the financial contribution required. The C&E Manager will report back to the next meeting once written confirmation from the Secretary has been received.)

4 Apologies for Absence

All members were present.

5 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

6 Minutes of the Last Meeting

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Community & Environment Committee meeting held on 12.05.26. The Chair signed the minutes.

Chair's initials and date:

7 Community & Environment Manager's Report

The Committee received report CE1/7 and noted several items of expenditure since the last meeting:

- Civic Pride project – letterboxes purchased at a cost of £184.72+VAT (minute 100, 31.03.26). Payment assigned to account code 4217;
- allotments – annual pest control contract for Raby Park Road site renewed at a cost of £245.63+VAT (minute 112b, 06.02.24). Payment assigned to account code 4180;
- Neston Village Fair (Town Council stand) – two traditional wooden games purchased at a cost of £483.33+VAT (minute 113c, 14.04.26). Payment assigned to account code 4301.

8 Committee Budgets

The month one committee budget and the current earmarked reserves were received. It was noted that members would be required to undertake detailed analysis of earmarked reserves at the next meeting.

9 C&E Committee Terms of Reference and Working Groups

a Neston Looking Better Group

RESOLVED to confirm the continuation of the Neston Looking Better Group and approve the terms of reference as set out in paper CE1/9a.

RESOLVED to appoint Cllrs Griffiths, Kynaston and Marple as councillor members of the group.

b Marsh Working Group

RESOLVED to confirm the continuation of the Marsh Working Group and approve the terms of reference as set out in paper CE1/9b with one alteration: replace "Neston app" with "the Town Council's Facebook page/local social media".

RESOLVED to appoint Cllrs Davies, Dignam-Gill and Swaffer as councillor members of the group. It was noted that other members of the group would be the RSPB Site Manager, CWaC Cllr Barker and Dr Enevoldson.

c Task & Finish Groups

The Committee considered its terms of reference and **RESOLVED** to establish four task and finish groups and appoint councillor members in each case:

- Christmas lights (contract for replacement lighting scheme) – Cllrs Braithwaite, Griffiths and Davies;
- Christmas event 2027 (event planning/resources) – Cllr Dignam-Gill and it was also agreed to invite Cllr Nikki Ruscoe;
- Greening (drafting new contract specification) – Cllrs Braithwaite and Davies;
- NTC Community Space Initiatives (drafting initial plan) – Cllrs Braithwaite and Swaffer in liaison with Cllr Jones.

It was noted that additional task and finish groups could be established throughout the course of the year as required.

Chair's initials and date:

10 Appointment of Representatives to External Organisations

The Committee considered a number of events that the Town Council had supported financially and three of these were selected as being appropriate for councillor liaison with the event organisers.

Neston Library – Summer Reading Challenge

Given his extensive relevant professional experience, it was **RESOLVED** to invite Cllr Adderley to be the point of liaison between the Town Council and Neston Library in support of child-focused projects.

Neston Royal British Legion – Civic Remembrance

RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Dignam-Gill to be a point of liaison between the Town Council and Royal British Legion (Neston branch) in any matters relating to acts of civic remembrance.

Prior to the decision being taken, Cllr Dignam-Gill informed the Committee that he was a Royal British Legion member.

Neston Female Society – Ladies Day

It was agreed to ask Council to consider appointing a councillor representative to liaise with Neston Female Society.

11 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next scheduled would be held on 06.10.26 at 6pm and also that an extra meeting would need to be called during the summer.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.

Signed _____ Date _____