Neston Town Council	Meeting (No)	**Full Council Meeting (2)**
	Time & Date	**14th July 2026 at 6.00pm**
	Location	**Neston Town Hall**
		MINUTES

Present: Cllrs: Davies (Chair), Adderley, Braithwaite, Dignam-Gill, Jardine, Jones, Kynaston, Marple, D. Ruscoe, N. Ruscoe, Swaffer and Wastell. In attendance: Z. Dean (Chief Officer). 4 x members of the public.	
PART 1: Items considered in the presence of the press and public	
	There was a brief disturbance at the beginning of the meeting from the public gallery, causing a five-minute delay. The member of the public left and the meeting resumed.
28	**Apologies for Absence** **It was RESOLVED:** To accept the following apologies for absence: Cllr Griffiths – personal reason Cllr Halford – holiday Cllr Hudspeth – personal reason Cllr Warner – another meeting Cllr Doughty was absent.
29	**Questions and Comments from Residents** Three members of the public were present, none of whom wished to speak.
30	**Minutes of the Meeting** **It was RESOLVED:** To accept and sign the minutes from the Annual Council meeting held on 19th May 2026 as an accurate record of that meeting.
31	**Declarations of Interest** None received.
32	**Committee Minutes**
a)	**It was RESOLVED:** To accept the minutes from the HR Committee meetings held on 02/06/2026.
b)	**It was RESOLVED:** To accept the minutes from the Finance & Administration Committee meeting held on 02/06/2026.
c)	**It was RESOLVED:** To accept the minutes from the Community & Environment Committee meetings held on 09/06/2026.
	It was RESOLVED: To accept the minutes from the Market & Town Hall Committee meeting held on 23/06/2026. Cllr Adderley noted that he was liaising with the library regarding the summer reading scheme, which encourages children to read six books over the summer and adults to read two. Councillors were urged to get involved.
33	**Policies and Procedures**
a)	**It was RESOLVED:** To approve and adopt the revised Performance Management Policy. Members noted a further revised version had been circulated.
b)	**It was RESOLVED:** To approve and adopt the revised Quality Policy.

Mayor's Initial & Date:

c)	**It was RESOLVED:** To approve and adopt the revised Training and Development Policy for Staff & Councillors.
d)	**It was RESOLVED:** To approve and adopt the revised Winter Maintenance Policy for Neston Market Square & Town Hall Policy.
e)	Members discussed the revised Recording and Photography Policy in detail, noting that users needed to be mindful of trailing cables and the need for equipment to be properly tested. It was noted that an accompanying operating procedure could address these areas. It was agreed to bring these back to the next meeting. **Item deferred.**
f)	**It was RESOLVED:** To approve and adopt the revised Risk Management Policy, adding in the changes regarding Martyn's Law once they come into effect. *Cllr David Ruscoe entered the meeting at 6.16pm.*
g)	**It was RESOLVED:** To approve and adopt the revised Customer Care Policy.
h)	**It was RESOLVED:** To approve and adopt the revised Modern Slavery Transparency Statement.
i)	**It was RESOLVED:** To approve and adopt the revised Dignity at Work Policy. Members noted a further revised version had been circulated.
j)	Members discussed the new Urgent Information Procedure Policy in detail. It was noted that there should be a focus on the urgency and nature of any said issue, identifying what needed to be acted upon instantaneously and other things that were less urgent. It is anticipated that the Mayor will look at the issue with senior colleagues and put out a considered message. **It was RESOLVED:** To refer this policy back to the next meeting, during the interim period, if an urgent matter arises out of hours, the Mayor is to publish an acknowledgement post on social media then consult senior officers before making an official statement. Council agreed to defer the working procedures of this policy until the next Full Council meeting in October.
34	**Finance**
a)	**It was RESOLVED:** To approve current account expenditure of £109,657.85 net authorised by the RFO from 01/04/26 to 31/05/26 and Equals card payment of £914.74 net from 01/04/26 to 31/05/26.
b)	**It was RESOLVED:** To note the current account income of £521,194.89 net from 01/04/26 to 31/05/26.
c)	**It was RESOLVED:** To agree the reconciliation of the Council's three bank accounts to 31/05/26.
d)	**It was RESOLVED:** To receive the current Full Council Committee budget/EMRs.
35	**Recommendation from Community & Environment Committee**
	To appoint a councillor representative to liaise with Neston Female Society Cllr Marple introduced the item. Cllr P. Kynaston declared a non-pecuniary interest in the item due to being a member of the society. **It was RESOLVED:** To appoint Cllr S. Adderley as a councillor representative for Neston Female Society.
36	**Recommendation from Market & Town Hall – Sound System**
	Cllr Jones introduced this item, noting that the recommendation provided a cheaper solution for improved sound in the Main Hall by upgrading some existing equipment, as well as a loop system which could be used for Council meetings. Other aspiration plans would be passed to the Town Hall Vision Group. The Chief

	Officer clarified that the request was for £1,500 to be drawn down from the Special Project Fund, with a total budget contingency of £2,000. The remaining funds for which would be met from the general M&TH Maintenance budget. **It was RESOLVED:** To draw £1,500 down from the Special Project Fund for the purpose of upgrading the Main Hall Sound System.
37	**Chief Officer's Report** The Chief Officer noted that an update on the Banking Hub appeal process was included within the report and work had been completed in partnership with NCYC and CWaC Ward Councillors to present the strongest possible case for Neston. The Mayor thanked the Chief Officer for the additional work undertaken on the appeal. **It was RESOLVED:** to receive the report.
40	**Date of next meetings** The next scheduled Full Council meeting would be held on 20th October 2026 at 6pm.
41	**Exclusion of the Press and Public**
	To consider 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 item of business on the grounds that it involves 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.
PART 2: Items considered in the absence of the press and public	
	There was no confidential business.

Meeting closed at 18:55.

Signed: ______________________________________ **Dated:** ________________