

Main points arising: Agenda/ Mayor's announcements/ Mayor's regalia/ Civic Hall and Library project/ Shared Space remedial work/ Poynton Neighbourhood Plan/ Cheshire East Local Plan – Examination/ Adoption of Standing Committee records

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 8.00PM ON MONDAY 28th JULY 2014 AT THE CIVIC HALL, POYNTON.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr Ms R Horsman

Cllrs. G Bartos, L A Clarke, C Gorst, Mrs S Horsman, P Hoyland, G King, B Lewis, Mrs J Sewart, M C G Sewart, A Smith, G Smith and R West

29. Questions to the Mayor

There were no questions to the Mayor.

30. Apologies for absence

Cllrs. M Beanland, I Hollingworth, H Murray, Mrs J Saunders, and Mrs I Thornton-Maddocks.

31. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests

Cllr L Clarke declared a non-pecuniary interest in the agenda item dealing with the mayoral regalia, inasmuch as this has involved Poynton jeweller Christopher Evans, a former tenant of property owned by Cllr Clarke's family, and with whom Cllr Clarke has been acquainted in the past.

32. Agenda

With the Mayor's permission, the Clerk brought Members' attention to a slightly revised agenda, as he had omitted to include the M&E record of 15th April 2014 for adoption by the Town Council. Copies of the revised agenda and the record had been made available to Members at this meeting.

The Clerk went on to say that an urgent item of business had arisen since the agenda had been published, and this concerned the Cheshire East Local Plan – Examination. Subject to a ruling from the Mayor this could be included in tonight's agenda under SO 19(d), and he asked the Mayor to put this to Members.

RESOLVED: That under the terms of SO 19(d) an additional agenda item be permitted for discussion, namely the Cheshire East Local Plan – Examination, given that decisions were required in the short term, and that no Town Council meetings were scheduled within that timeframe (NC).

33. Mayor's announcements

The Mayor read out some highlights from her Mayoral engagements, a full record of which, with photographs, can be had from the Clerk.

34. Modifications to the Mayoral Regalia

The Mayor explained to Members the shortcomings of the mayoral regalia, in that the pins either side of it have been repaired on a number of occasions, and that the pins also damage clothing of the wearer. The Mayor was proposing that the regalia be given a felt backing, and a quote had been obtained from Poynton jeweller Christopher Evans for this work.

Cllr Lewis said that during his term of office he had fitted a ribbon across the regalia to keep it in place, and the colour of ribbon could be varied to match clothing. He also pointed out that the regalia was not ours to modify – it was on loan from the Macclesfield Trustees.

For his part Cllr Bartos said he had attached a separate chain to the regalia to keep it in place. Following some further discussion it was agreed that the suggested modification involving felt backing be carried out, with Cllr West suggesting that if the Trustees asked for the return of the regalia at any stage they could be charged for the modification.

RESOLVED: That the modification of the mayoral regalia be approved, and the work carried out, at a cost of £250 (10 - 2 against – 1abs)

35. Civic Hall/Library Integration Project and Civic Hall roof refurbishment

Cllr A Smith provided a brief summary of his written update, which had been circulated in advance. He added that there had been discussion at the PTC/CE Project Board about the creation of a quiet space/contemplative garden to be incorporated in the Civic Hall/Library external landscaping. This would be timely, as part of the First World War commemoration. The Board had thought this a good initiative, but agreed it was important to get everything else done first in terms of the main project.

RESOLVED: That the written and verbal update on the Civic Hall/Library integration project and Civic Hall roof refurbishment is received (NC)

36. Shared Space Remedial Work

Cllr A Smith provided a verbal update on the planned remedial work for the Shared Space area in Poynton. This would include fixing the light columns and the resin bonding. Cllr Smith added that this will cause disruption in Poynton, but that the priority work had been deliberately planned to take place during the schools' summer break. Any work left for completion should be scheduled for the next period of school holidays. He informed Members that Cheshire East Highways had been working hard with the original Phase 2 contractor, Caseys, to finally get this work done.

Cllr Clarke asked that the work be publicised widely, via the PUN and other channels.

RESOLVED: That Cllr A Smith's verbal update be received (NC)

37. Poynton Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Hoyland reported that Cheshire East were now actively supporting Neighbourhood Plans, and that at Cllr M Jones' invitation, both Poynton and Adlington had applied to become part of a Neighbourhood Plan 'vanguard' in Cheshire East. Poynton had managed to attract some 50 volunteers from among its residents, and that around 30 had attended two Neighbourhood Plan briefing/training sessions to date. The volunteers had been tasked with various jobs involving communication, project planning and evidence gathering, and Cllr Hoyland said he was hoping to meet with those groups to help get the work underway.

Cllr Hoyland explained that there were two main tasks that needed to be undertaken at present, namely to formalise governance, and to prepare a short submission for Cheshire East to get our Neighbourhood Plan area formally designated. The Poynton Neighbourhood Plan will also deal with Site Allocations, rather than have CE decide these for us.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Hoyland's verbal update be received (NC)

38. Cheshire East Local Plan – Examination

Cllr Clarke spoke to this item, and said that Mr John Knight had kindly agreed to represent the Town Council's interests in terms of our response to the Local Plan, adding that his support was invaluable. The Inspector had given a range of comments on the Local Plan submission, to which Cheshire East had responded. It was now for the Town Council to decide whether it wished to react to Cheshire East's response by way of a submission to the Inspector.

RESOLVED: That delegated powers be given to Cllr Clarke, as Chairman of the Planning and Environment Committee, his Vice-Chairman, Cllr R

West plus one other Councillor to take action on this issue, following advice due to be received from Mr Knight (12 – 1abs).

39. Minutes of Standing Committees

Cllr Lewis voiced his concern about the number of verbal reports being given, and also queried why the M&E Committee had discussed the management of meetings at their 15th April 2014 meeting. He went on to ask the Clerk for sight of that agenda.

For his part Cllr Clarke queried the use of Part B in meeting records, claiming that much of it was unnecessary.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Management and Establishment Committee meeting held on 15th April 2014 be received and adopted (10 – 1 against – 2abs)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development meeting held on 19th May 2014 be received and adopted (NC)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of Community, Order and Public Safety meeting held on 2nd June 2014 be received and adopted (NC)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the additional Planning and Environment meeting held on 23rd June 2014 be received and adopted (NC)

The meeting concluded at 8.50 pm