

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 8.00 PM ON MONDAY 18TH MARCH 2025 AT THE CIVIC HALL POYNTON
PRESENT

Mayor. Cllr Ms H Whittaker

Cllrs: P Bailey, M Beanland, D Belcher, K Booth, L Clarke, S Lees, P Oakes, M Sewart, Mrs J Saunders, T Swatridge. J Waterhouse.

Officers in attendance Haf Barlow (Clerk). K McDowell (Deputy Clerk)

81. To note, if anyone attending or present at the committee meeting is making, or intends to make, an audio recording or film of the meeting.

The Mayor confirmed that the meeting is recorded for the purpose of minute taking and the recording is deleted when the draft minutes are agreed. There were no other declarations of a recording of the meeting.

82. Questions from members of the public

There were no members of the public present.

83. Apologies for absence

Cllrs L Podmore

84. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary or other interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary or other interests

85. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 9th December 2024

It was noted that Cllr Oakes was present at the meeting but not recorded on the minutes. Members also agreed that the impact of the library funding should be included in the item on the precept.

RESOLVED: That subject to the above amendments, the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 9th December 2024 are approved as an accurate record. (10 for, 2 abstentions)

86. To note the action list for the Town Council for 2024-2025

RESOLVED: That the action list for the Town Council 2024-2025 is noted (NC)

87. To note the Mayor and Deputy Mayor's engagements/ announcements

The Mayor advised members her current challenge is to run 100 miles in March and she will also be undertaking some events over the Easter holiday. There were no updates from the Deputy Mayor.

RESOLVED: That the Mayor and Deputy Mayor's engagements/announcements are received and noted (NC)

88. To receive and consider and adopt the draft investment policy.

The draft policy had been reviewed by the Finance & General Purposes (F&GP) Committee and recommended to Town Council for approval.

RESOLVED: That the draft investment policy is adopted. (NC)

89. To receive, consider and adopt the draft Financial Regulations

The Clerk advised members the Financial Regulations have been reviewed by both the Financial Regulations Working Group and the F&GP Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Financial Regulations be adopted (NC)

90. To receive and consider the Local Nature Recovery Plan and to agree a response to the consultation.

Members discussed a possible response and wanted to highlight the loss of Greenbelt and peatlands as a result of changes to planning legislation and the use of these habitats for high density housing.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Beanland completes the consultation questionnaire on behalf of the Council and the Clerk will circulate before submission. (NC)

91. To receive and consider the recommendation from the F&GP Committee regarding virements and the use of any surpluses to fund a replacement vehicle

The Clerk gave an overview of the report. Members discussed replacing the Town Council vehicle.

RESOLVED: That the recommendation from the F&GP Committee regarding virements and the use of any surplus to fund a replacement vehicle is considered and approved (NC)

92. To receive and consider the request from the Management & Establishment Committee regarding apologies and the early circulation of minutes.

The Chair of Management & Establishment committee reminded members to send their apologies if they are unable to attend meetings. He also advised that going forward minutes will be sent out to the Chair and circulated following approval by the Chair within a two week timeframe. Councillors should address spelling and grammatical errors and raise any issues regarding accuracy at this point. Minutes will still be approved as an accurate record at the subsequent meeting. The agenda will continue to be sent out on Wednesday.

The Clerk confirmed that Councillors can substitute and are also entitled to attend committee meetings unless there is confidential matter to be discussed.

RESOLVED: That the proposals put forward by Cllr Belcher on behalf of the Management & Establishment Committee are approved (NC)

93. To receive and consider the response from the Cabinet Office in relation to the naming of the road to the Civic Hall

Members considered the response. Cllr Clarke suggested calling the road to the Civic Hall, Civic Way, this would require approval from Cheshire East

RESOLVED: That the Clerk writes to Cheshire East Council to see if they would agree to naming the road Civic Way (NC)

94. To receive and consider the Local Transport Plan and to agree a response to the consultation

The Clerk gave an overview of the Transport Plan. Members discussed possible responses and reflected on the current poor road maintenance in Cheshire East.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council respond as a Town Council to the consultation outlining its disappointment that only one of the previous schemes outlined for Poynton has been completed and this was done by the Town Council and not Cheshire East Council. That the Town Council would rather the money was spent on road maintenance and an increased bus service (NC)

95. To agree an amendment to the schedule of meetings to include an additional Management & Establishment Committee meeting on 19th May 2025 at 7pm

RESOLVED: That an amendment to the schedule of meetings to include an additional Management & Establishment Committee meeting on 19th May 2025 at 7pm is agreed (NC)

96. To note that the Strategic Planning Meeting will take place on the 30th April at 7pm

RESOLVED: That the Strategic Planning Meeting will take place on the 30th April at 7pm is noted (NC)

97. To note the Town Council's successful challenge to the business rates valuation.

The Clerk gave an update on the successful appeal against the business rate valuation and the level of savings achieved.

RESOLVED: That the successful challenge is noted (NC)

98. To consider the format of the annual assembly meeting and the Town's Annual report

The Clerk advised members the annual assembly meeting will take place next month and the format of the meeting and the report needed to be agreed. Overall members were happy with the format of the meeting and it was agreed that although the report was long, it gave a good overview of the work of the Town Council and other groups in the Town.

RESOLVED: That the format of the annual assembly meeting and the Town's Annual report remains the same (11 for, 1 abstention)

99. To consider the request from Party in the Park for a joint media release and to sell tickets for the event at reception

The Clerk advised members Party in the Park would like to acknowledge the Town Councils support in a press release. The Clerk advised the media release would be sent for her approval before release. Members discussed the sale of Party in the Park tickets at Reception. It was noted that there would be a card reader and cash sales would not be available.

RESOLVED: That the request from Party in the Park for a joint media release and to sell tickets for the event at reception is approved (NC)

100. To note the SO51 decision to agree the precept media release

RESOLVED: That the decision to agree the precept media release is noted (NC)

101. To receive a verbal report from the Clerk on Poynton Pool

The Clerk advised members she attended a meeting with Cheshire East and Friends of Poynton Pool to discuss options for the work at Poynton Pool. Cheshire East want to proceed with their current proposals. The Clerk would attend a further technical meeting on Friday 21st March.

The Clerk advised members she had written to the Environment Agency asking them to revise the flood maps in light of the new information. It was also noted that some points raised in the Town Council's response to the planning application had still not been addressed. It was agreed that Tim Roca MP should be copied in to the correspondence relating to these issues.

RESOLVED: That the verbal report from the Clerk on Poynton pool is received. (NC)

102. To receive and adopt the minutes of Committees

Community Order and Public Safety Committee 18th November 2024

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Order and Public Safety Committee held on the 18th November 2024 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development Committee 4th November 2024

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development Committee held on the 4th November 2024 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

Finance & General Purposes Committee 2nd December 2024

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on the 2nd December 2024 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

Management & Establishment Committee 7th October 2024

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Management and Establishment Committee held on the 7th October 2024 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

Management & Establishment Committee 20th January 2025

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Management and Establishment Committee held on the 20th January 2025 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

Planning & Environment Committee 25th November 2024

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on the 25th November 2024 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

Planning & Environment Committee 16th December 2024

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on the 16th December 2024 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

Planning & Environment Committee 13th January 2025

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on the 13th January 2025 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

Planning & Environment Committee 3rd February 2025

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on the 3rd February 2025, and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

103. To consider and agree to enter into a 5 year contract for the provision of the Town Council's phone and broadband services

The Clerk gave an overview of the quotes obtained and services that would be provided.

RESOLVED: That to enter into a 5 year contract for the provision of the Town Council's phone and broadband services (NC)

104.To consider any Communication Messages from this meeting

Nature recovery consultation

Transport consultation

Town assembly

RESOLVED: That the above communication messages are agreed (NC)

105. To resolve to exclude the press and public on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

RESOLVED: That the press and public are excluded on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted (NC)

106. To receive the email regarding a proposed free bus service

RESOLVED: That the Clerk would contact Macclesfield and Bollington Town Councils to ascertain their position in relation to the proposal. The Town Clerk would seek further information in relation to the proposer of the scheme (NC)

Meeting end time: 9.25pm

Chair

Dated.....