



Congleton Town Council

Historic Market Town

Chief Officer: David McGifford CiLCA

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting Held on Thursday, 21st May 2026 at 7 pm

Councillors Present: Susie Akers Smith

Dawn Allen
Charles Booth
Robert Brittain
Robert Douglas
Suzy Firkin
Sally Ann Holland
Amanda Martin
Susan Mead
Rob Moreton
Heather Pearce
Shaun Radcliffe
Heather Seddon
Richard Walton
Liz Wardlaw
Kay Wesley
Glen Williams

Officers Present: David McGifford (Chief Officer), Debbie Coxon (Marketing & Communications Manager), Cathy Dean (Communities Manager) and Jess Thyer (Information Centre Manager).

1. Election of the Town Mayor for the Ensuing Year

CTC/01/2627 Resolved to appoint Cllr Suzy Firkin as Mayor for the ensuing year.

2. Vote of Thanks for the Retiring Town Mayor

Cllr Sally Ann Holland proposed a vote of thanks for the retiring Town Mayor, Cllr Robert Brittain.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs David Brown, Russell Chadwick, Mark Edwardson, and Arabella Holland.

4. Election of Deputy Town Mayor for the Ensuing Year

CTC/02/2627 Resolved to appoint Cllr Robert Douglas as Deputy Mayor.

5. Council Committees and Quantity of Members

CTC/03/2627 Resolved to appoint the following committees and the quantity of members stated below:

Committee	Members
Community	10
Environment	10
Finance and Policy	10
Personnel	10
Planning Committee	10
Town Hall Assets and Services	10

6. Appointment of Chairs and Vice Chairs of Committees

CTC/04/2627 Resolved to appoint the Chair and Vice-Chairs of committees as stated below:

Committee	Chair	Vice Chair
Community	Cllr Kay Wesley	Cllr Robert Brittain
Environment	Cllr Heather Pearce	Cllr Susan Mead
Finance and Policy	Cllr Robert Douglas	Cllr Charles Booth
Personnel	Cllr Richard Walton	Cllr Sally Ann Holland
Planning	Cllr Amanda Martin	Cllr Charles Booth
Town Hall Assets and Services	Cllr Russell Chadwick	Councillor Liz Wardlaw

7. Appointment of Working Groups

CTC/05/2627 Resolved to appoint the working groups as stated below:

Working Group	Reporting to:
Community Safety	Community Committee
Congleton In Bloom	Environment Committee
Regeneration and Town Centre	Finance and Policy Committee
White Ribbon	Community Committee
Strategy working group	Council

8. Appointment of Councillors to Committees

CTC/06/2627 Resolved to appoint the following councillors to committees as stated below:

Committee	Qty	Councillors 2026-27
Community	10	David Brown, Robert Brittain, Mark Edwardson, Sally Ann Holland, Amanda Martin, Susan Mead, Shaun Radcliffe, Richard Walton, Kay Wesley, Glen Williams
Environment	10	Dawn Allen, Suzie Akers Smith, Charles Booth, David Brown, Sally Ann Holland, Susan Mead, Heather Pearce, Heather Seddon, Kay Wesley, Glen Williams
Finance and Policy	10	Dawn Allen, Suzie Akers Smith, Charles Booth, Russell Chadwick, Robert Douglas, Mark Edwardson, Arabella Holland, Rob Moreton, Heather Pearce, Liz Wardlaw
Personnel	10	Robert Brittain, David Brown, Russell Chadwick, Sally Ann Holland, Amanda Martin, Rob Moreton, Suzie Akers Smith, Richard Walton, Kay Wesley, Glen Williams
Planning	10	Dawn Allen, Suzie Akers Smith, Charles Booth, David Brown, Robert Douglas, Mark Edwardson, Amanda Martin, Rob Moreton, Liz Wardlaw, Kay Wesley
Town Hall Assets and Services	10	Liz Wardlaw, Suzie Akers Smith, Sally Ann Holland, Robert Brittain, Heather Seddon, Russell Chadwick, Richard Walton, Susan Mead, Heather Pearce, Glen Williams

8.1 To appoint Councillors to the Working Groups

CTC/07/2627 Resolved to appoint the following councillors to working groups as stated below:

Working Group	Councillors
Community Safety	Robert Brittain, David Brown, Suzy Firkin, Sally Ann Holland, Susan Mead, Shaun Radcliffe, Richard Walton, Kay Wesley, Glen Williams
Congleton In Bloom	Robert Brittain, David Brown, Russell Chadwick, Susan Mead, Rob Moreton, Heather Pearce, Heather Seddon, Glen Williams
Regeneration & Town Centre	David Brown, Russell Chadwick, Robert Douglas, Suzy Firkin, Amanda Martin, Susan Mead, Kay Wesley
White Ribbon	Robert Douglas, Mark Edwardson, Heather Pearce, Shaun Radcliffe, Richard Walton, Kay Wesley
Strategy	All Councillors

8.2 To Appoint Council Representatives to Outside Bodies

CTC/08/2627 Resolved to appoint the following councillors to outside bodies as stated below:

Outside Bodies	Qty	Councillors
Astbury Mere Trust	1	Cllr Heather Pearce
Chalc	1	Cllr Amanda Martin
Cheshire East Liaison	6	Congleton Ward Councillors
Congleton Museum Trust	1	Cllr Kay Wesley
Congleton Partnership Oversight Group	2	Cllr Kay Wesley Cllr Suzy Firkin
Hilary Avenue Allotment Assoc	1	Cllr Susan Mead
Congleton Community Projects	1	Cllr Kay Wesley
Bromley Farm Hub	1	Cllr Liz Wardlaw

8.3 To Appoint Councillors to Civic Responsibilities and Panels

CTC/09/2627 Resolved to appoint the following councillors to outside civic responsibilities and panels as stated below:

ROLE	Qty	
Macebearer	1	Suzy Akers Smith
Deputy Macebearer	1	Sally Ann Holland
PANELS AND SIGNATORIES		
Complaints Panel	7	Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor plus one from each group *
Selection Panel for co-option	7	Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor plus one from each group *
Cheque Signatories	8	Cllr Robert Douglas, Cllr David Brown, Cllr Amanda Martin, Cllr Suzy Firkin, Cllr Kay Wesley, Cllr R Moreton, Cllr Rob Brittain, Cllr Russell Chadwick

***Groups** Conservative, Independent, Liberal, Labour, Equality

9. Council Meeting Calendar 2026-27 (Enclosed)

CTC/09/2627 Resolved to approve the meeting Calendar for 2026-27

10. Civic Service and Sunday Parade

It was noted that the civic service will take place on Sunday, 13th September, with the parade commencing at Antrobus Street Carpark at 1:30 pm, followed by a reception at the Town Hall at 2pm.

To All Members of the Council

CC: Town Burgess (5), Congleton Information Centre,
Congleton Library, MP and Press (3)