



# Congleton Town Council

Historic market town

Town Clerk: BRIAN HOGAN



29<sup>th</sup> January 2014

Dear Councillor,

**Community, Environment and Services Committee – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

You are requested to attend a meeting of the Community, Environment & Services Committee, to be held in the Town Hall, High Street, Congleton on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at **7.00pm**.

**NB**

**At 6.30pm there will be a briefing for Councillors concerning Britain's Public Health Crisis presented by Cllr Robbie Brightwell**

**The Public and Press are welcome to attend the meeting.** There may be confidential items towards the end of the meeting which the law requires the Council to make a resolution to exclude the public and press.

Yours sincerely,

TOWN CLERK

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence. (Members are reminded of the necessity to give apologies in advance of the meeting and to give reasons for absence).
2. Minutes of Last Meeting (enclosed)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2013 as a correct.

3. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to declare both "pecuniary" and "non pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

Congleton  
**beartown**  
where friends are made

Congleton Town Council, Town Hall, High Street, Congleton, Cheshire CW12 1BN

Tel: 01260 270350 Fax: 01260 280357

Email: [info@congletontowncouncil.co.uk](mailto:info@congletontowncouncil.co.uk) [www.congleton-tc.gov.uk](http://www.congleton-tc.gov.uk)

4. Outstanding Actions

None

5. Boat on the River Dane (enclosed)

To receive and consider correspondence from Cllr G Baxendale concerning the issue of the Boat on the River Dane.

6. Peel Bridge (enclosed)

To consider a response from Cheshire East Highways concerning the planned works to be undertaken at Peel Bridge.

7. CCTV (enclosed)

To review and consider a report from a meeting with Cheshire East Council concerning CCTV.

8. Cheshire East Highways (enclosed)

To consider a summary of activities being undertaken by Cheshire East Highways.

9. Streetscape Services (enclosed)

To receive and consider a report on Streetscape Services and recommendations on the purchase of new equipment.

10. Mechanical Sweeping (enclosed)

To consider correspondence from Cheshire East Council concerning the provision of mechanical sweeping in the Town.

11. Support for Neighbours Credit Union (enclosed)

To receive a report provided to Cheshire East Cabinet on credit union provision.

12. Disposal of Public Open Space and Leisure Centre Sites (enclosed)

To consider information emanating from Cheshire East Council concerning the disposal of public open space and leisure centres.

13. Dog Fouling

To consider a report on dog fouling to be submitted by Cllr G Williams.

14. Mountview Care Home

To receive an update on the latest situation concerning the future of Mountview Care Home.

15. Minutes of the Floral Arrangement Working Group (enclosed)

To receive the minutes of the Floral Arrangement working Group dated 31<sup>st</sup> October 2013.

16. Cheshire Police

To receive and consider a verbal report from a representative of Cheshire Police on Policing matters affecting Congleton.

To	Members of the Community and Environment Committee
	Appointed Member, Hon Burgess Mrs M M Williamson
ccs.	Other members of the Council and Honorary Burgesses (4) for Information; Press (3)

## CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2013

PRESENT:                      Councillors      G S Williams (Chairman in the Chair)  
   Mrs D S Allen  
   P Bates (Vice Chairman)  
   G Baxendale  
   D T Brown  
   G R Edwards  
   G P Hayes (Town Mayor)  
   Mrs A M Martin  
   D Murphy  
   D A Parker  
   Mrs J D Parry  
   N T Price  
  
   Mr E Clarke (Appointed Member)

#### 1. APOLOGIES.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Miss R K Williams, Ms L Bours and J S Crowther.

Apologies were also received from Cllr L Barker who is not a member of this particular Committee.

#### 2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

**CES/38/1314 RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2013 to be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are requested to declare both "pecuniary" and "non-pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

Cllr G Baxendale declared a non-pecuniary interest in any matters related to Cheshire East Borough Council.

#### 4. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

##### **CES/34/1213**

The Committee support the "Responsible Dog Scheme" pilot being introduced at Bromley Farm and will evaluate its success at the next meeting with a view to rolling out the scheme throughout the town.

##### **CES/05/1314**

That the proposed arrangement on CCTV provision be reviewed at the next meeting.



## **5. CONNECTING CHESHIRE**

The project update on rolling out broadband in Cheshire was considered. It was noted that 96% coverage has been achieved so far and the aim is to improve to 98%.

**CES/39/1314 RESOLVED** that:-

1. The project update from Connecting Cheshire be received.
2. Cheshire East to be thanked for providing fibre broadband.

## **6. BOAT ON THE RIVER DANE**

Correspondence from Fiona Bruce MP who took advice from the House of Commons to contact the Canal River Trust, was considered.

It was noted however, that the Canal River trust has no control over this particular area of the River Dane.

**CES/40/1314 RESOLVED** that: -

1. The letter from Fiona Bruce MP be received.
2. The Town Clerk to thank Fiona Bruce MP for her efforts in trying to resolve this matter.

## **7. MANCHESTER ROAD SIGNAGE**

Correspondence from Cheshire East Highways concerning the Speed Signage on Manchester Road confirmed that this work was scheduled for completion at the end of March 2014.

**CES/41/1314 RESOLVED** that the correspondence and verbal update from Cllr G Baxendale be received and noted.

## **8. PEEL BRIDGE**

Cllr David Topping confirmed that Cheshire East Highways would be picking up this matter. It was further noted that the issue had been discussed at the Highways Committee and a scheme was being discussed with Railtrack. It was noted however, that there was already an objection from a nearby resident to any proposed scheme.

**CES/42/1314 RESOLVED** that: -

1. The Town Clerk confirm the Councils' support for the scheme with Cheshire East Highways.
2. The Town Clerk to contact Astbury Parish council seeking their support.

## **9. CARBON REDUCTION SCHEME**

A letter from Cheshire East Council regarding the Street lighting Carbon Reduction scheme was considered.

**CES/43/1314 RESOLVED** that the correspondence be received.

#### **10. MAKING CHESHIRE SAFER**

A report on Making Cheshire Safer produced by Cheshire Fire Authority was discussed by members.

**CES/44/1314 RESOLVED that** a working group consisting of Cllrs G. P Hayes and G.S Williams complete the questionnaire provided with the report on behalf of the committee.

#### **11. COMMUNITY RIGHTS**

A guide produced by the Department for Communities & Local Government on Community Rights was discussed.

**CES/45/1314 RESOLVED that:-**

1. The Guide be received and noted.
2. The Guide to be placed on the Town Council website.

#### **12. TOWN TWINNING**

A letter from the Belgian Town of Quievrain proposing a Town Twinning project was discussed by members.

**CES/46/1314 RESOLVED that :-**

1. The letter be received.
2. Cllr G. P Hayes to set up a small working group to consider this issue and to make appropriate recommendations.

#### **13. PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOLS**

A letter from Cllr David Topping confirming that Cheshire East Council are undertaking an assessment to determine the resources required to implement Traffic Regulation Orders outside all schools was considered.

**CES/47/1314 RESOLVED that** the letter be received and noted.

#### **14. NO PARKING AT MERESIDE**

The issue of replacing a car parking sign on Mereside was discussed by members of the committee.

**CES/48/1314 RESOLVED that:-**

1. The Town Clerk to raise the matter with Alan Lawson to request the issue is raised at the Highways Meeting of the LAP.
2. New Life Church, via Cllr Mrs A M Martin to be requested to ask churchgoers to not use Mereside for parking.

#### **15. FELLOWSHIP HOUSE CONDITIONS OF HIRE**

The Fellowship House Conditions of Hire were considered.

**CES/49/1314 RESOLVED** that the Conditions of Hire be approved for the Town Clerk to sign.

#### **16. RURAL FAIR SHARE PETITION**

A letter from Fiona Bruce MP concerning the presentation of the Rural Fair Share Petition in Parliament was discussed.

**CES/50/1314 RESOLVED that:-**

1. The correspondence be received.
2. Fiona Bruce MP to be thanked on behalf of the Council for her efforts in making Parliament aware of this matter.

#### **17. CEBC GREEN WASTE COLLECTION**

Concern was expressed by members at Cheshire East Council's decision to cease collection of green waste during the winter. It was noted though that the Borough had amended this decision and residents can place green waste in the in the next two collections of black bins.

**CES/51/1314 RESOLVED** that the verbal report be received.

#### **18. VEHICLE ALLOCATION SCHEME**

The Committee discussed the Vehicle Allocation Scheme and Transport and Accessibility Grants Scheme proposed by Cheshire East Council to support community led initiatives to improve access to key areas.

**CES/52/1314 RESOLVED** that Cllr G.S Williams set up a Task and Finish Group to consider this issue and produce a report for the Full Council to consider on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013.

#### **19. CHESHIRE POLICE**

There were no representatives of Cheshire police present.

G Williams  
Chairman (In the Chair)



## Brian Hogan

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**From:** BAXENDALE, Gordon (Councillor) <Gordon.Baxendale@cheshireeast.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 20 January 2014 13:29  
**To:** Brian Hogan  
**Subject:** FW: Boat on river Dane

Brian, latest info from planning enforcement, yet more delays, cannot get any word from Scarborough re start date  
Regards Gordon

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** ACKERLEY, Deborah  
**Sent:** Friday, January 17, 2014 03:22 PM GMT Standard Time  
**To:** BAXENDALE, Gordon (Councillor)  
**Subject:** RE: Boat on river Dane

Dear Councillor Baxendale

Happy New Year to you too.

After a meeting with the boat's owner and his agent it was agreed that the S215 (Untidy Site) Notice would be withdrawn in order that an amended notice could be issued with further clarify on a particular point, i.e. the cutting back of overgrown vegetation. This should cut down on any grounds of appeals that the owner may decide to lodge. An amended notice was issued on 2nd January 2014 and comes into effect on 8th February 2014 unless an appeal is lodged against it.

I have had no contact from the owner since issuing the revised notice but anticipate he will leave any such contact, particularly regarding any appeal, until the 11th hour.

I trust that the above information is of use to you.

Regards

Deborah

-----Original Message-----

**From:** BAXENDALE, Gordon (Councillor)  
**Sent:** 16 January 2014 14:52  
**To:** ACKERLEY, Deborah  
**Subject:** Boat on river Dane

Deborah, have we any update on the " pearl of the Dane" it seems a while ago that any information has been given out, Best regards and a belated happy new year Gordon

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

\*\*\*\*\*  
Confidentiality: This email and its contents and any attachments are intended only for the above named. As the email may contain confidential



## Brian Hogan

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**From:** BAILEY, Rhoda (Councillor) <Rhoda.Bailey@cheshireeast.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 23 December 2013 20:58  
**To:** Pointon, C  
**Cc:** Brian Hogan  
**Subject:** FW: Peel Lane Bridge, Astbury

For your information, gentlemen.

The compliments of the season,  
Rhoda.

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**From:** WHITEHEAD, Ian  
**Sent:** 23 December 2013 11:27  
**To:** BAILEY, Rhoda (Councillor)  
**Cc:** MADHAVAN, Naresh; WELCH, Rob; KEDDIE, Bill  
**Subject:** RE: Peel Lane Bridge, Astbury

Dear Councillor Bailey

I am responsible for the design and installation of the Peel Lane Scheme. The works will include the installation of new Trief Kerbs over the bridge and the signalisation of the bridge.

The works will take place early March 2014 and will take around 3 weeks to complete.


There will be a consultation undertaken with all councillors, Stakeholders and residents in the area by Naresh Madhavan (Traffic and Road Safety, Client Officer) early in the new year.


If you need any further information on this scheme or would like me to talk you through the proposals please do not hesitate to contact me on the number below.

Best wishes

**Ian Whitehead**  
**Senior Engineer | Capital Programme Delivery**  
**Cheshire East Highways**

Direct Line: 01270 686354 | Fax: 01270 375216  
Mobile: 07834 503458

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**From:** WELCH, Rob  
**Sent:** 23 December 2013 10:50  
**To:** WHITEHEAD, Ian  
**Cc:** MADHAVAN, Naresh  
**Subject:** FW: Peel Lane Bridge, Astbury

Ian

See below. Can you respond please

Rob

Rob Welch

## Brian Hogan

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**From:** CHARLIE POINTON <astcfp@tesco.net>  
**Sent:** 26 November 2013 15:13  
**To:** Brian Hogan  
**Cc:** Rhoda BAILEY (Councillor)  
**Subject:** Re: Peel Road Bridge

Brian - I am sending to you separately, copy of an email to Rob Welch who I am led to understand is the engineer responsible for the road safety element of CE Highways and which contains the outline of the interest shown and attempts made by my council to obtain closure of the Peel Lane rail bridge problem.

These attempts date back over approximately 5 years and have involved Cheshire County officers and councillors, their Cheshire East successors and also Fiona Bruce. To date to little avail. We would obviously support any efforts to ensure action but suggest that any CE councillor you may involve would liaise with our Ward Councillor, Rhoda Bailey who I am copying in to this message.

I am not sure of any protocol which may exist in such matters but am certain that assistance is never regarded as other than helpful.

Best Wishes Charlie Pointon

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Brian Hogan <[bh@congletontowncouncil.co.uk](mailto:bh@congletontowncouncil.co.uk)>  
**To:** [astcfp@tesco.net](mailto:astcfp@tesco.net)  
**Sent:** Tue, 26 Nov 2013 08:09:06 -0000 (UTC)  
**Subject:** Peel Road Bridge

Charlie,

Whilst Peel Road Bridge is in Astbury, the Town Council has become very concerned at the number of accidents which have taken place in its vicinity, mainly caused by speeding, which may one day lead to a more

serious incident on the railway line unless further action is taken to install some sort of traffic calming measures in the immediate vicinity of the bridge.

Cllr David Topping from Cheshire East has raised this with the Highways Committee and hopefully action will be taken. But, if Astbury would add its support to the proposal for action to be taken, this would add even more weight to the pressure for calming measures to be introduced sooner rather than later

Kind regards

Brian

## Brian Hogan

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**From:** CHARLIE POINTON <astcfp@tesco.net>  
**Sent:** 26 November 2013 15:16  
**To:** Brian Hogan  
**Subject:** Fwd: FW: Peel Lane Railway Bridge, Newbold Astbury

Brian - emails as promised in earlier send. CP

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Rhoda BAILEY (Councillor) <[Rhoda.Bailey@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:Rhoda.Bailey@cheshireeast.gov.uk)>  
**To:** Rob WELCH <[Rob.Welch@cheshireeasthighways.org](mailto:Rob.Welch@cheshireeasthighways.org)>  
**Cc:** C Pointon <astcfp@tesco.net>  
**Sent:** Mon, 25 Nov 2013 17:11:49 -0000 (UTC)  
**Subject:** FW: Peel Lane Railway Bridge, Newbold Astbury

Original email below for your attention, Rob.

Rhoda.

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**From:** Pointon, C  
**Sent:** 24 November 2013 16:26  
**To:** BAILEY, Rhoda (Councillor)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Peel Lane Railway Bridge, Newbold Astbury

Rhoda - this email, copied to you last week, has been returned "delivery failure". Please do you have an email address for Rob Welch which will get to him ? Charlie Pointon

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** CHARLIE POINTON <astcfp@tesco.net>  
**To:** Rob Welch <[Rob.Welch@cheshireeasthighways.org](mailto:Rob.Welch@cheshireeasthighways.org)>  
**Cc:** Rhoda BAILEY (Councillor) <[rhoda.bailey@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:rhoda.bailey@cheshireeast.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** Thu, 21 Nov 2013 15:55:10 -0000 (UTC)  
**Subject:** Peel Lane Railway Bridge, Newbold Astbury

Rob - the parapet corner of this rail bridge has been hit again, apparently by road traffic, just a few days after it's most recent repair. You may remember that a solution to this continuing problem has been requested by my Council for several years, commencing a few years before Cheshire County ceased to exist and a local highways committee existed. In fact, in our file we have a copy of the traffic light scheme which CCC proposed and which has apparently now been lost or forgotten. No Information has been forthcoming since Naresh Madhavan left CEC.

Please advise your plans to conclude this matter before a future collision with the stonework results in a major rail accident. Please also let us know contact detail at the rail authority of the person who we can inform of this and any further damage.



**Brian Hogan**

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**To:** astcfp@tesco.net  
**Subject:** Peel Road Bridge

Charlie,

Whilst Peel Road Bridge is in Astbury, the Town Council has become very concerned at the number of accidents which have taken place in its vicinity, mainly caused by speeding, which may one day lead to a more serious incident on the railway line unless further action is taken to install some sort of traffic calming measures in the immediate vicinity of the bridge.

Cllr David Topping from Cheshire East has raised this with the Highways Committee and hopefully action will be taken. But, if Astbury would add its support to the proposal for action to be taken, this would add even more weight to the pressure for calming measures to be introduced sooner rather than later

Kind regards

Brian



Report to Community, Environment and Services Committee

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2014

CCTV Meeting

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013

Present

Martin Forshaw CEBC  
Jan Griffiths CEBC  
Mark Riley CEBC  
Cllr Gordon Baxendale  
Cllr Glen Williams  
Sgt Russ Thomas  
PC Carole Rayne's  
PCSO Carole Holmes

The objective of the meeting was to determine the crime and disorder statistics in relation to the provision and positioning of CCTV equipment in the Town and to identify whether or not the cameras were placed in the most appropriate positions, to decide whether more or less cameras were required.

The police strongly believe that CCTV is a deterrent as offenders knowing that CCTV is present tend to commit less crime.

There are two stages of usage, in the first instance the police will contact the monitoring office when a crime is being committed to determine what is happening. This can also happen in reverse with the monitoring office contacting the police when they can see a crime being committed on the camera.

Secondly the police will use the system to investigate a crime once it has occurred to gather information and evidence.

CCTV is very good at picking up professional shop lifters and can spot when such groups hit the Town.

A report is attached which lists the current locations of cameras, their condition and whether additional cameras are required.

The general conclusion was that Congleton is light on CCTV coverage for the size of town.

The next stage is to contact Peter Hartwell from CEBC to determine what the next steps are in the process and costs.

Brian Hogan

## CCTV Review – Congleton

Total number of CCTV cameras in operation = 7

Camera Location	Camera Number	Recommendations	Completed Improvements	Comments
Bridge Street/Mill Street	207	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trim back tree obstructing view along Bridge Street.</li> </ul>		Location satisfactory
High Street	208	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise CCTV tower by @ one metre to enable camera to view over the car lights (Mark Brierley).</li> </ul>		Location satisfactory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New camera to be fitted/attached to the Town Hall building (in order to view High Street and up towards Chapel Street). (Mark Brierley to cost)</li> <li>Examine how permissions can be granted to locate camera on the Town Hall (Brian Hogan).</li> </ul>
Market Street	209	To remain		Location satisfactory
Lawton Street	210	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider moving camera 210 to the end of Lawton Street or onto Bromley Road (Mark Brierley to provide costings)</li> <li>Camera 210- to remain in situ until above is finalised</li> </ul>		Location satisfactory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medium/High priority (Police require it as it controls a red route to Bromley Farm: CCTV operators state it may not be required if a new camera was fitted outside the Town Hall)</li> <li>This camera has had issues regarding its 'touring' facility. The parts have gone away for repair and the camera should be fully functional in the near future.</li> </ul>

<b>Congleton Park (Central)</b>	211	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Camera to be replaced with a predator camera</li> </ul>	Location satisfactory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The area surrounding the play park is to be redeveloped, which may provide funding opportunity for the CCTV improvements (Jan Griffiths to liaise with Julie Byrne re availability of funding from the new development)</li> </ul>
<b>Congleton Park (Entrance)</b>	212	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be removed</li> </ul>	Low priority
<b>Bromley Farm</b>	213	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infra-red capability to be fixed (Mark Brierley)</li> </ul>	Location satisfactory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consideration should be given to upgrading this camera to next generation predator type camera</li> </ul>

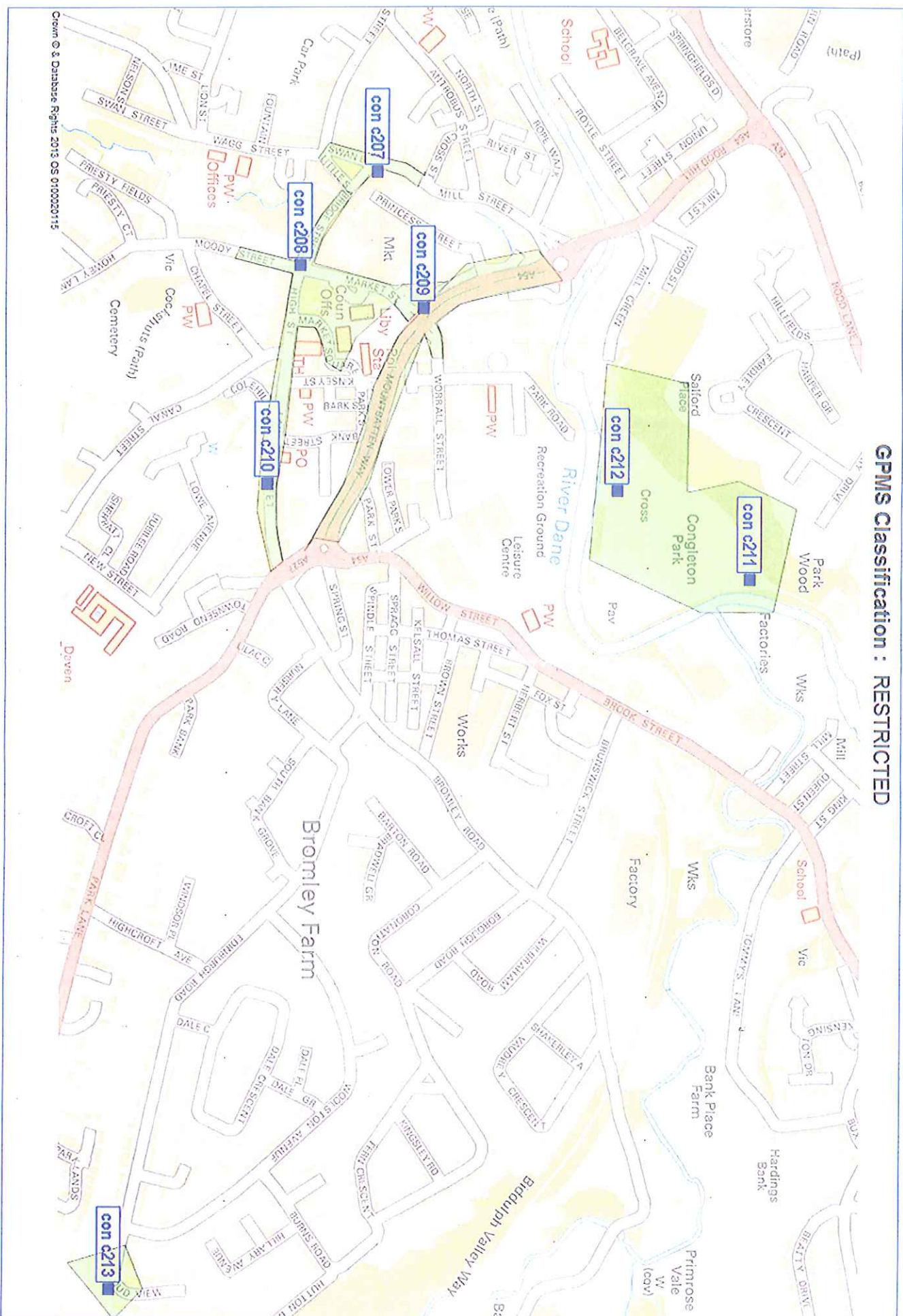
### Additional caveats and recommendations

<b>Request Owner</b>	<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Attention of / Action for</b>
<b>Requirement of Police</b>	Camera to be placed at the apex junction of Swan Street and Little Street (due to increase and influx of licensed premises and late night economy).	Costings by Mark Brierley
<b>Requirement of Police</b>	Camera to be placed on West Street (due to increase and influx of licensed premises and late night economy).	Costings by Mark Brierley
<b>Requirement of Police and Congleton Town Council</b>	Camera to be placed on either: Traffic light junction Rood Hill/Rood Lane, or At roundabout junction to Tesco superstore and retail park.	Costings by Mark Brierley
<b>Requirement of CCTV officers</b>	Camera to be placed on Bridge Street/Victoria Street/Princes Street area	This action to be held over until decision in respect of Bridestones 2 development is concluded.
<b>Requirement of CCTV officers</b>	Camera to be placed on Antrobus/Mill Street area	Mark Brierley to work on potential that the camera at junction of West Street and Antrobus Street covers that location.
<b>Requirement of Police</b>	Camera to be placed on approach to railway station (due to continued antisocial behaviour at that location)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Costings by Mark Brierley</li> <li>Martin Forshaw to liaise with BTP</li> </ul>



# COVERAGE GIVEN BY LOCAL AUTHORITY CCTV CAMERAS – CONGLETON

## GPMS Classification : RESTRICTED





Google

To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.



**Camera 207 – Bridge Street, Congleton**

Google

To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.



Camera 208 – High Street, Congleton

Google

To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.



**Camera 209 – Market Street, Congleton**



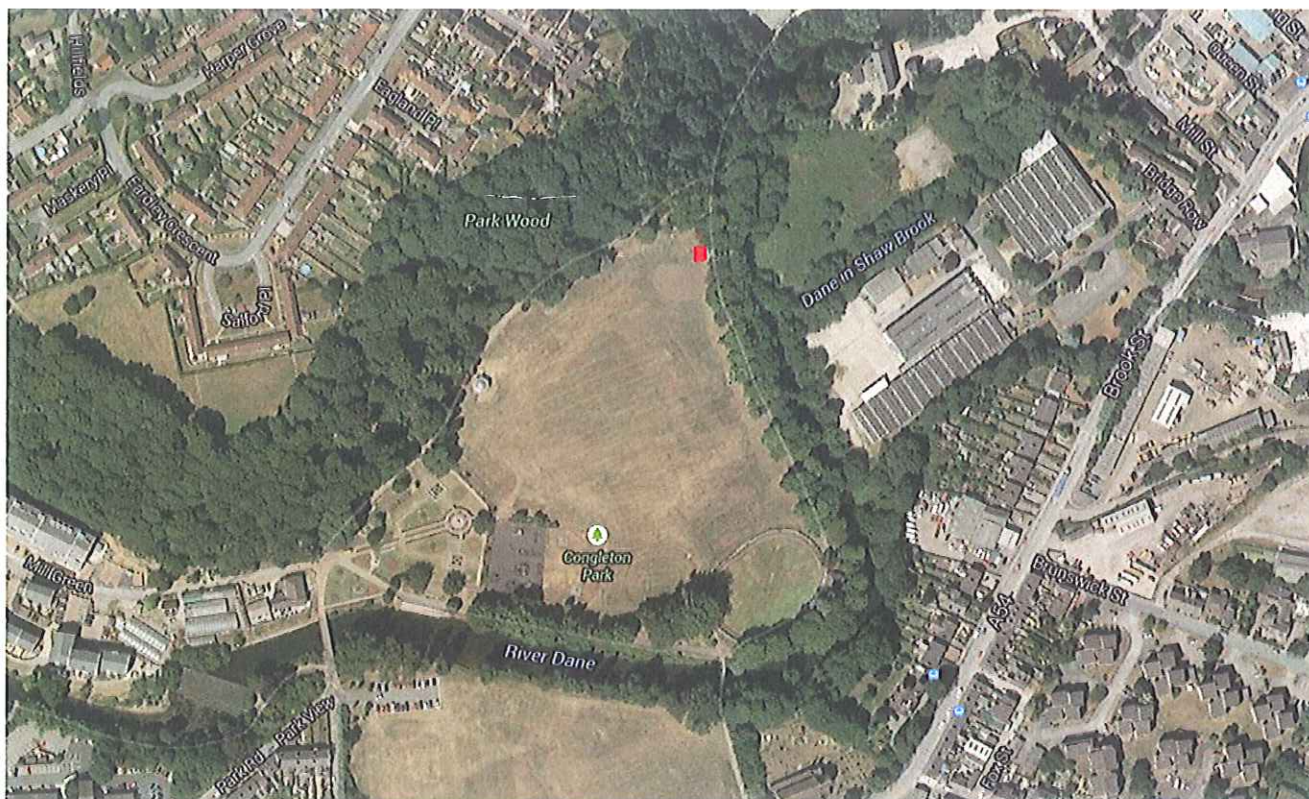
Google

To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.



Camera 210 – Lawton Street, Congleton





Camera 211 – Congleton Park, Congleton



Camera 212 – Congleton Park, Congleton



Google

To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.



**Camera 213 – Bromley Farm, Congleton**



Camera No: 208

Location: High Street, Congleton

<u>Camera Type</u>		<u>Camera Quality - Day</u>	<u>Camera Quality - Night</u>
Dome	<div><u>Age:</u> 2 years</div>	Good	Good NB – see obstructions (below)
<b><u>Line of Sight Obstructions:</u></b>  This camera loses its effectiveness at night time when viewing longer distances along Moody Street and along High Street (as far as Market Square). This is caused by the angle of the road making car lights to point directly towards the camera lens.			
		<b><u>Priority:</u></b>  High	
<b><u>Recommendations:</u></b>  1. Raise CCTV tower by @ one metre to enable camera to view over the car lights (Mark Brierley).			
<b><u>Actions/other comments:</u></b>  1. New camera to be fitted/attached to the Town Hall building (in order to view High Street and up towards Chapel Street). (Mark Brierley to cost)  2. Examine how permissions can be granted to locate camera on the Town Hall (Brian Hogan).			

## Brian Hogan

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**From:** BAXENDALE, Gordon (Councillor) <Gordon.Baxendale@cheshireeast.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 06 January 2014 09:18  
**To:** Brian Hogan  
**Subject:** FW: Happy New Year

FYI  
Gordon

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** TICKLE, John  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2014 09:02 AM GMT Standard Time  
**To:**  
**Subject:** RE: Happy New Year

Dear Councillor

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year and to advise you of some of the works programmes that we will be carrying out in the early months of 2014.

Over recent years, the winter weather has presented us with challenging conditions, with prolonged periods of snow and ice. However, with a robust Winter Service Plan we have been able to keep the majority of the highway network clear. So far this year, the weather has thrown different problems at us in the shape of strong winds and heavy rain. Again, by providing adequate resources and close working with a number of supply chain partners, we have been able to remove all fallen trees and respond to numerous flooding incidents. It is not possible to forecast how the rest of the winter will turn out but you can be assured that we are as prepared as ever to respond to any ice and snow events as well as to any further highway flooding incidents.

Most routine maintenance activities either slow down or stop completely at this time of year. The urban grass cutting will begin again as soon as the grass starts to grow, and it is likely that rural swathe cutting will take place in May or June as required. Gully emptying is continuing on the A road network which will be completed before the end of March. Although we are yet to finalise the Business Plan for 2014/15, the gully emptying programme will be published in detail in advance of the start in April. This programme is being developed using the information collected from the last cycle, and also with reference to flood risk management data, proximity to schools, transport hubs, town centres etc. Hopefully this will provide more detailed and accurate information than in previous years.

We are continuing to carry out drainage investigation and repair works, identified during cyclic gully emptying or from reports from members of the public, where there is a risk of flooding to property or a danger to highway users. Each job is assessed and prioritised but with the number of such problems, it can take some time for the less urgent ones to be resolved.

I would like to remind you about the availability of our Community Gang. This resource can be made available to carry out relatively minor works in local communities and which would ordinarily



fall outside the scope of general maintenance activities. A good example is where we have been able to install commemorative benches or parish notice boards. Please let me know if you are aware of any work which could be carried out by this gang.

The Highways Investment Programme and other capital programmes will begin again after 1<sup>st</sup> April. However, you will be aware that an enormous amount of work is being carried out by the team in order to identify, prioritise, design and programme the large number of resurfacing and surface dressing schemes. Details will be provided separately in due course.

We continue to carry out the scheduled safety inspections, identifying potholes and other 'CAT 1' defects. Thankfully, the number of such defects and the number of enquiries and complaints regarding potholes is lower than this time last year. This is as a direct result of the investment made in the network through the Highways Investment Programme. We have been able to repair all such potholes and defects within the timescale required, which is usually by the end of the next working day. This has been made possible through the introduction of a more robust process and the provision of sufficient resource. Again, we are mindful that the weather may change, creating conditions where potholes will develop.

Now that the Christmas holiday period is over, I will re-commence sending the 'Members weekly update' starting this Friday, to give regular information regarding highways issues/works within the Congleton LAP.


In the meantime, if I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.


Kind regards

John

**John Tickle**  
**Local Highways Officer (customer services) Team**  
**Cheshire East Highways**

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Report to Community, Environment and Services Committee  
6<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Streetscape Services

The equipment inherited from Cheshire East Borough Council is in the main not fit for purpose. However a comprehensive condition survey has been undertaken of each item transferred as shown in appendix 1.

As can be seen from this list whilst some items are in good condition and will be retained, a number of others need replacing which have been detailed in appendix 2.

There are 27 items of ancillary equipment, of which 9 will be kept and one item has been returned. Of the 17 items of remaining equipment that could be replaced, this has been reduced to 9

Congleton Garden Machinery	£	Other co's	£
2 x Ariens mowers	2802	2 x Ariens mowers	2398
1 x Hayter Condor	6098	1 x Hayter Condor	6098
4 x John Dere JX9OCB	5784	4 x HRH536 HX*	6012
2 x Stihl FS410 C-E	1338	2 x Stihl FS410 C-E	1149.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,022</b>		<b>15,657.6</b>

\*Prefer this specification

The quotation has been provided by a local company but, to satisfy our financial regulations other quotes will be obtained and the most competitive quote will be used, although every attempt will be taken to purchase locally.

One vital item of equipment is the Ransome Ride on Mower which has been returned to Cheshire East as it was borrowed from Macclesfield. To replace the machine new would cost in the order of £35,000, but, it is proposed that a good second hand machine is purchased at an approximate cost of £20,000, see appendix 3

Cheshire East provided a £50,000 grant to pay for equipment that would need replacing and to pay for other start-up costs associated with the transfer of the Streetscape function, which so far includes livery for the new vehicles, new uniforms for the Streetscape Team and new software to record customer orientated tasks.

In terms of reserves there is also the following put aside which has been built up over a number of years for this purpose:-

Devolved Services	£57,250
Toilet refurbishment	£20,000

Recommendation

1. To purchase new replacement ancillary equipment at an approximate cost of £16,000
2. To purchase a second hand Ransome Ride on Mower at an approximate cost of £20,000

Brian Hogan  
13.01.14

## Appendix 1

## Condition Survey of Plant and Equipment

Fleet/Reg No	Area	Fleet No	Detail	Comments
2201	CONG	2201	Stolen	
2202	CONG	2202	Stolen	
2217	CONG	2217	Bolens	Needs Replacing
2344	CONG	2344	Bowling Green Mower	Good
2350	CONG	2350	John Deere	Needs Replacing - Like for Like
2354	CONG	2354	John Deere	Needs Replacing - Like for Like
2381	CONG	2381	Ransomme Multi Mower	Poor Condition - Like for Like
2387	CONG	2387	Ferris	Poor Condition - Like for Like
6624	CONG	6624	Strimmer	Good
6625	CONG	6625	Strimmer	Good
6626	CONG	6626	Blower	Good
6627	CONG	6627	Blower	Good
6628	CONG	6628	Hedgecutter	Good
6629	CONG	6629	Hedgecutter	Good
2244	CONG	2244	John Deere	Poor - Like for Like
2260	CONG	2260	Bolens	Needs Replacing
2220	CONG	2220	Bolens	Needs Replacing
DG02 UEM	CONG	2210	JOHN DEERE RIDE ON	Poor - Like for Like
2222	CONG	2222	Bolens	Needs Replacing
PF02 RXM	CONG	4122	RANSOMME RIDE ON	Returned to CEBC
2382	CONG	2382	Ransomme Multi Mower	Poor - Like for Like
2312	CONG	2312	Strimmer	Poor - Like for Like
2401	CONG	2401	Strimmer	Poor - Like for Like
2313	CONG	2313	Strimmer	Poor - Like for Like
757	CONG	757	Flymo mower	Good
2400	CONG	2400	Blower	Poor - Like for Like
0022	CONG	0022	Hayter Harrier	Good
2133	CONG	2133	Trailer	Good
2142	CONG	2142	Trailer	Good
2129	CONG	2129	Trailer	Good
L593LHJ	CONG		Small Ford Tractor	Old, but,reasonable





## QUOTE

Quote Date: 24<sup>th</sup> November 2013  
Quote Number: 23489

### Congleton Town Council

To quote of the following -:

4 x Ariens WAW 34 lawnmower with mulch plate	£5604.88
This replaces the Bolens pedestrian machines	
2 x Hayter Condor Hydro with 5 blades (verge mower)	£13248.00
This replaces the Ransomes multi mower	
1 x Hayter Condor Hydro with rotary deck	£6098.00
This replaces the Ferris HW32KAR	
3 x John Deere JX90CB	£4338.00
This replaces the JX75,80 and 85	
3 x Stihl FS410 C-E	£2007.00
This replaces the FS400	
1 x Stihl BR350	£324.17
This replaces the BR380	
Less discount	£6017.00
Sub Total	£25603.05
VAT @ 20%	£5120.61
TOTAL	£30723.66

Unit 7, Congleton Trade Centre, Back Lane, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 4XJ



## RANSOMES HIGHWAY 3 Diesel in Newark

£19,500 +VAT

## Contact Seller

☎ 0845 0175177

☎ 07970 805357

## Your Notes:



- Ground Care Equipment
- 300 Hrs Used
- Diesel
- Ride On
- Excellent Body Condition
- 100% Tyre Condition
- Ride on Mowers
- 33 HP
- Green
- Excellent Overall Condition
- Excellent Interior Condition

33 hp kubota diesel engine, hydrostatic transmission, 4 wheel drive, fitted with 6 knife sports units, ROPS, beacon full LED road lighting kit & Road registered. For more information please call Alan Fores on 01777 870111 or 07970 805357. Alternatively please send an email to [sales@golfandturfmachinery.com](mailto:sales@golfandturfmachinery.com) £19,500 +VAT

## ABOUT THIS DEALER

The objective of our business is to give the customer excellent value for money and create a strong and lasting working relationship based upon our industry knowledge and a full understanding of your requirements. We believe that we offer an unrivalled range of quality products- The right machine for the job- and most importantly the ultimate in after care.

## Buying Checklist:

- Past proof of purchase seen
- Working / Operating
- Hours checked
- Tyres/Tracks checked\*
- Servicing certificates\*
- Seller researched
- History checked

\* Where applicable

## 7 POINT BUYING GUIDE

# TER



THE NATIONAL PLANT  
& EQUIPMENT REGISTER

1. Research the market and compare prices so you know the price you're paying is a fair one.
2. A close up, 'physical' inspection will help determine its age, its condition and its value.
3. View the machinery in daylight and at the seller's premises; check that the address matches the address on any paperwork.
4. Get the equipment checked by an independent mechanic to ensure it is mechanically sound.
5. Check the serial / chassis / VIN number plate is intact and complete; has it been tampered with?
6. Are all the keys - universal or unique - being supplied?
7. Check for theft & outstanding finance, run a check with The Equipment Register (TER) ([www.ter-europe.org](http://www.ter-europe.org)).

## Brian Hogan

---

**From:** Brian Hogan  
**Sent:** 15 January 2014 10:42  
**To:** 'MELLING, Kevin'  
**Cc:** EDWARDS, Gareth; BROWN, David (Councillor); 'Bob Edwards (bobed@sky.com)'; TOPPING, David (Councillor) (David.Topping@cheshireeast.gov.uk)  
**Subject:** RE: Streetscape Congleton

Kevin,

Mechanical street cleaning was never out of scope, when discussions on devolved services first started it was clearly understood by both CEBC and CTC that the Town Council was going to take over mechanical street cleaning. When Phil Sherratt left the Borough, discussions came to a halt for almost a year and was restarted with Gareth and Peter Hartwell.

Fairly early on in the recommenced discussions we were informed that all mechanical street cleaning was being transferred to Ringway Jacobs in September 2013. No one bothered to inform us that this had not in fact happened and we only found out ourselves by accident a week or so before Xmas, otherwise this would have been a feature of our negotiations.

Mechanical sweeping then was and is very much in scope and I would request that this is looked at again for the Mini Sweeper only, as it makes no sense whatsoever for CEBC to retain this function which is entirely Congleton based.

Kind regards

Brian

---

**From:** MELLING, Kevin [<mailto:Kevin.Melling@cheshireeast.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 15 January 2014 08:39  
**To:** Brian Hogan  
**Cc:** EDWARDS, Gareth; BROWN, David (Councillor); 'Bob Edwards ([bobed@sky.com](mailto:bobed@sky.com))'  
**Subject:** RE: Streetscape Congleton

Brian

Happy to push the payment but the sweeping was part of the full network resource and was agreed previously to be out of scope.

Kevin

Gareth - Please chase-up the payment.

Kevin Melling  
Head of Environmental Protection & Enhancement.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Brian Hogan [[bh@congletontowncouncil.co.uk](mailto:bh@congletontowncouncil.co.uk)]



**Sent:** Tuesday, January 14, 2014 08:09 AM GMT Standard Time  
**To:** MELLING, Kevin  
**Cc:** EDWARDS, Gareth; BROWN, David (Councillor); Bob Edwards ([bobed@sky.com](mailto:bobed@sky.com))  
**Subject:** Streetscape Congleton

Kevin,

Some assistance would be greatly appreciated in the following areas:-

1. We have still yet to receive the first payment for Streetscape Services devolved to the Town Council. You sent me the final contract well before Xmas which is approved, it seems shocking that your legal department who are only required to alter the amount that we are to be paid, which will probably take all of 10 seconds, have so far failed to carry out this task almost a month later??
2. I did request that you consider transferring the Mini Sweeper to the Town Council. This item of equipment works exclusively in and around Congleton and is an integral part of the Streetscape Team here. It seems difficult to comprehend how this service can be best managed remotely from Crewe

Kind regards

Brian

\*\*\*\*\*

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# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

## Cabinet

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**Date of Meeting:** 7<sup>th</sup> January 2014  
**Report of:** Finance Policy Development Group  
**Subject/Title:** Council Support for Cheshire Neighbours Credit Union  
**Portfolio Holder:** Cllr Peter Raynes, Finance

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### 1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 This report presents the recommendations of the Finance Policy Development Group (the Group) in relation to Council support for Cheshire Neighbours Credit Union (CNCU) to be presented to Cabinet for consideration.
- 1.2 The recommendations below are those of the Finance Policy Development Group and as such have not been fully considered in terms of legal, financial, risk management and policy implications. Further work is needed to consider whether the actions recommended are viable, and Cabinet is there by asked in the first instance to formally respond to the recommendations at a subsequent meeting.
- 1.3 The report contains an overview of the Group's work on developing its recommendations as well as a brief summary of the current climate within the credit union industry. The report also contains details about the Group's recommendations.

### 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That Cabinet note the Finance PDG's Report.
- 2.2 That Cabinet endorse the PDG's recommended aims and objectives for the Credit Union as set out in section 11 of the report.
- 2.3 That Cabinet consider the following recommendations and approve the suggested approach to implementation in paragraph 13.1 of the report:
  - 2.3.1 That CNCU be given access to the libraries in Nantwich, Middlewich, Alsager, Sandbach and Macclesfield for at least two hours per week to increase visibility and to improve public access to its services. This would include, where possible, access to private meeting rooms for interviews and confidential discussions with members.
  - 2.3.2 That library staff in the libraries listed above be enabled to handle enquiries and general information requests about CNCU by receiving a training brief from CNCU.
  - 2.3.3 That consideration be given to providing CNCU with access to suitable Council owned office premises in Crewe, free of charge if possible. Ideally



the office would allow public to access services from the street as well as storage space and access to private meeting rooms for interviews and confidential meetings.

2.3.4 That the payroll deduction scheme offered by CNCU be promoted to Cheshire East employees via the CEntranet and Staff Notice Boards.

2.3.5 That recruitment of volunteers from within the Council with marketing, finance or IT skills to help CNCU be carried out via CEntranet, Staff Notice Boards and the Council Website.

2.3.6 That Cheshire East Councillors be encouraged to support credit unions by promoting them within their communities and sharing expertise through volunteering.

2.3.7 That the Council encourage partners such as Citizens Advice Bureau, Registered Social Landlords and Community Groups to support and promote CNCU within their memberships.

2.3.8 That links to CNCU's website be included on the Council's website.

2.3.9 That a scheme to provide Cheshire East Care Leavers with membership to CNCU be initiated including funding for membership fees.

### **3.0 Reasons for Recommendation**

3.1 A variety of initiatives have been implemented by the Council recently to discourage residents from turning to payday lenders for high interest short term loans that can lead to significant fees that people are unable to afford causing them considerable financial difficulty. The Group's aim in making these recommendations is to create a viable and ethical alternative to pay day lenders for residents across Cheshire East that provides quality services and is financially sustainable.

3.2 More detail on the reasons for recommendations is contained within the report below.

### **4.0 Wards Affected**

4.1 All Wards

### **5.0 Local Ward Members**

5.1 All Ward Members

### **6.0 Policy Implications**

6.1 Not known at this stage.



## **7.0 Financial Implications**

7.1 Not known at this stage.

## **8.0 Legal Implications**

8.1 Not known at this stage.

## **9.0 Risk Management**

9.1 There are no identifiable risks.

## **10.0 Background**

- 10.1 Credit Unions are not for profit savings organisations or co-operatives whose members pool their savings to provide each other with credit at a low interest rate. Credit Unions also provide many other services such as financial advice, help with making sure bills are paid and saving for events such as Christmas. Credit Unions are able to offer small to medium loans that many high street banks may not be willing to provide at rates that massively undercut the interest rates charged by pay day lenders.
- 10.2 However due to the low interest rates paid by borrowers, many Credit Unions struggle to cover the costs of administering the loans and other services meaning they often rely on financial support from Government or Local Councils to subsidise their activities. This is unsustainable in the long term and with viable alternatives to pay day lenders being sought there is a desire nationally to make changes to the credit union industry.
- 10.3 The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has provided £38 million for the Credit Union Expansion Project to aid in modernising and expanding credit unions in a way that makes them financially sustainable. This project will be carried out by Association of British Credit Unions Ltd (ABCUL) which was awarded the contract following a procurement exercise. The Government will also be helping credit unions to increase revenues by increasing the cap on interests charged by credit unions from 2% per month to 3%.
- 10.4 At a local level CNCU is looking to become financially sustainable by making significant changes to its operations and increasing its membership across Cheshire. To do this it is seeking support from the Council and the Group has been asked to consider and make recommendations to Cabinet on what support it thinks the Council should provide.
- 10.5 At its September meeting the Group met with John Weir, Chairman of the Board of CNCU and Sharon Angus-Crawshaw who is Nantwich LAP Manager as well as a president of ABCUL. Mr Weir gave an overview of CNCU's current status, future challenges and areas where it required support. At the subsequent meeting in October Mr Weir presented a more detailed list of proposals requesting support from the Council in various aspects of CNCU's activities which the Group considered in detail on 5 November and developed suggestions for support to be offered. On 2

December the Group met with Mr Weir once more to discuss its suggestions for support and CNCU's specific requirements to form the Group's recommendations.

## **11.0 Aim and Outcomes of Support**

11.1 During its deliberations over CNCU's proposals for support the Group developed an idea of what position the credit union was likely to hold in the financial services market and concluded that it would:

- Occupy the low end of the market, targeting people who cannot obtain a loan or savings account with a high street bank.
- Target people on benefits who need help with budgeting and making sure their bills are paid.
- Provide ethical financial advice and help people to avoid debt, as well as provide low cost loans where they were needed.
- Provide access to people who want to save money for philanthropic reasons where it will be used to help others.

11.2 Having developed this idea of where the credit union will be in the financial services market and considered its requirements for doing so the Group has established the following aim for the Council:

*"To assist CNCU in becoming financially sustainable in the long term creating a viable and ethical alternative to high street banks and pay day lenders for residents and workers in Cheshire East."*

11.3 To help achieve this aim the Group has developed the following outcomes which, if realised, should help CNCU to become financially sustainable in the long term.

- Reduce CNCU's running costs
- Increase CNCU's revenue from services and loans
- Improve CNCU's service provision
- Increase CNCU's membership throughout Cheshire East

## **12.0 Support to be provided**

12.1 To assist CNCU in becoming financially sustainable the Group has made the recommendations set out in section 2 of this report. This section explains those recommendations in more detail.

- *That CNCU be given access to the libraries in Nantwich, Middlewich, Alsager, Sandbach and Macclesfield for at least two hours per week to improve its members' access to services. This would include, where possible, access to private meeting rooms for interviews and confidential discussions with members.*
- *That library staff in those libraries be enabled to handle enquiries and general information requests about CNCU by receiving a training brief from CNCU.*



- 12.2 The Group suggests that to help increase CNCUs membership it needs to be able to access residents in more locations throughout the Borough. One way of increasing this access is to provide space for CNCU employees and volunteers to be available to the public in various libraries around the Borough. As well as providing local access to its members CNCU would also benefit from increased visibility in the community by being more conspicuous to the libraries' other visitors who may be interested in joining the credit union.
- 12.3 Services the public would need access to include: completing membership applications, pre-paid card applications, setting up savings products and general information and financial advice. There would be no cash exchange or handling in libraries.
- 12.4 To carry out these activities in libraries CNCU would require space in each library for two to three hours per week on a specific day and time which would be advertised to members and the public so they know when a CNCU employee/volunteer is available in their area.
- 12.5 CNCU has laptops that their staff could use however access to a computer in the libraries would be useful. Access to a room where private and confidential information could be discussed with customers would be valuable however this would be in addition to a desk in the open area of the library to ensure CNCU was visible. To maintain visibility and access to services, CNCU can offer a short training brief to library staff to enable them to signpost customer to CNCU effectively.
- 12.6 The Library Service is developing Cheshire East's libraries to become community hubs providing a place for a range of community partners to engage with customers in the community; by providing a space for CNCU the libraries would be fulfilling this role.
- 12.7 The Group believes that CNCU should not be over stretching its ability to offer quality services to members by trying to access all libraries in the Borough. Therefore it is suggested that the libraries in Nantwich, Macclesfield, Middlewich, Alsager and Sandbach be targeted as the most effective locations for increasing membership. However the Group suggests that should CNCU be successful in increasing its membership through the libraries above then consideration should be given to extending to the other libraries in the Borough.
- *That CNCU be offered access to a suitable office premises within Council accommodation in Crewe free of charge. Ideally the office would allow public to access services from the street as well as storage space and access to private meeting rooms for interviews and confidential meetings.*
- 12.8 One of the main obstacles for credit unions in becoming financially sustainable is high running costs compared to revenue generated from its products. To enable CNCU to become financially sustainable the Council can provide low cost or free accommodation for back office activities.



- 12.9 CNCU currently occupies a head office located at Breeden House on Edleston Road in Crewe which is supported by a second office in Wyvern House, Winsford which is provided by Cheshire West and Chester Council free of charge.
- 12.10 CNCU is considering reducing their back office operations to a single location, preferably in Crewe to minimise disruption to staff and Board Members. Rent at Breeden House is currently £11,500 per annum however CNCU has reported that this may be increasing to £20,000 in the near future due to landlord's demands. This is a significant proportion of CNCU's fixed costs.
- 12.11 Given that CNCU is converting to a cashless system it will no longer require the front office high street access that Breeden House currently provides. It would however require similar access for the public as in the libraries as discussed above. An ideal location for CNCU's operations would provide accommodation for six people, with access for members of the public including disabled access, access to private rooms for confidential discussions and space for storage of files and records.
- 12.12 The Group has been informed by Officers that accommodation may be available in the municipal buildings in Crewe. Currently there are several options being considered for the available space however facilities at the municipal buildings may be suitable for CNCU with a reception area and interview rooms available for public access.
- 12.13 More detailed information about CNCU's requirements and the facilities available needs to be considered before a decision on whether the space at the Municipal Buildings is suitable. The Group also notes that CNCU is currently under contract with its landlord until 2015 although negotiations are taking place to change this.
- *That recruitment of specialist volunteers with marketing, finance or IT skills to help CNCU be carried out via CEntranet, Staff Notice Boards and the Council Website.*
  - *That the payroll deduction scheme offered by CNCU be promoted to Cheshire East employees via the CEntranet and Staff Notice Boards.*
- 12.14 CNCU currently employs four part time staff in its offices in Crewe and Winsford with an apprentice in each office and 25 volunteers providing services across Cheshire East. CNCU is finding that volunteers are becoming more difficult to recruit particularly younger generations. CNCU requires more volunteers with skills that are relevant and of a sufficient standard to provide quality services to members.
- 12.15 During discussions with the Group, CNCU had originally proposed that the Council provide temporary secondment of relevant employees to provide expertise to help CNCU develop its operations and services. The Group has ruled this out as CNCU would be unable to fund any secondments at this time and the Council cannot afford to allow staff to be diverted from services that are already under pressure in the current budgetary climate.
- 12.16 Instead the Group is suggesting that the Council encourages its employees to consider giving up some of their free time to become a CNCU volunteer. CNCU requires general volunteers with basic IT skills to carry out general administration but



also requires some specialist volunteers with specific skills such as marketing, financial management and advanced IT skills to carry out specific pieces of work.

- 12.17 Some Cheshire East employees are already members of CNCU through their payroll deduction scheme and may be willing to volunteer having not considered doing so previously. A campaign to encourage employees to volunteer for CNCU could be carried out via CEntranet and the social message board. The Chief Executive could also be requested to raise the issue in his weekly Team Talk news letter which is emailed to all staff every week.
- 12.18 The Group suggests that a recruitment campaign amongst the Council's employees may only be a sort term solution to volunteer recruitment and may not be effective over the long term. To have stable recruitment of volunteers over the long term the Group suggests that CNCU develop its own engagement strategy for long term recruitment. One example suggested by the Group was targeting local rotary clubs for volunteers as many of them have members who are retired with excellent skills and experience that would be of great value to the credit union.
- 12.19 As well as promoting the recruitment of volunteers, the CEntranet and social message boards could also be used to promote CNCU's payroll deduction scheme to increase its membership within Cheshire East employees. Pay roll deduction is a straight forward way for members of the credit union to have funds transferred directly into their savings accounts.
- *That Cheshire East Councillors be encouraged to support credit unions by promoting them within their communities and sharing expertise through volunteering.*
  - *That the Council encourages partners such as CAB, RSLs and Community Groups to support and promote CNCU with their memberships.*
- 12.20 As well as asking employees to volunteer their time and skills to support CNCU the Group believes that the Council should encourage Councillors to use their visibility and contacts in their local communities to promote credit unions as an alternative to pay day lenders and high street banks, and offer their valuable skills and experience as volunteers where possible.
- 12.21 The Group notes that Cabinet has already shown support for CNCU at a recent Council meeting by signing up as members of the credit union and encouraging other members to do the same.
- 12.22 Councillors are also in a position, as board members and governors of other local community organisations, schools and registered social landlords (RSLs) to encourage them to work closely with CNCU to recruit new members and share resources to improve the lives of local people.
- 12.23 One significant opportunity for CNCU to work with other organisations is for RSLs to encourage their tenants to use CNCUs Jam Jar Accounts. Through Jam Jar accounts CNCU can ring fence part of the members' savings/income to ensure that rent and



other bills are paid on time and in full, leaving them free to access the remainder of their money each month.

12.24 Jam Jar accounts ensure that RSLs receive rent from their tenants and earn CNCU £5 each month in charges for administering the accounts. The Group is aware that some RSLs in the Borough have already made agreements with CNCU to pay the £5 per month service charge on behalf of their tenants as an investment in ensuring their rent is paid.

12.25 The Group is keen to see all RSLs in the Borough sign up to this initiative, particularly as more and more social housing tenants will be moving onto the Government's Universal Credit benefit scheme where they will be responsible for managing their own benefits instead of having their rent paid directly to their landlords as has been the case in the past.

- *That links to CNCU's website be included on the Council's website.*

12.26 The Group believes that the Council should assist CNCU with promotion of its products and services to local people by including links to the CNCU's website on its own web pages.

12.27 Nationally credit unions will struggle to compete with payday lenders that have significant resources to invest in large national marketing campaigns. The Council should do what it can to promote credit unions as a viable, cheap and ethical alternative to payday lenders to help residents avoid huge debts and interest payments associated with payday lenders.

12.28 As well as being able to offer their members small to medium sized loans at very affordable rates, credit unions support members by providing financial and budgeting advice to help people spend wisely, save and avoid needing payday loans or incurring overdraft fees with high street banks.

- *That a scheme to provide Cheshire East Care Leavers with membership to CNCU be initiated including funding for membership fees.*

12.29 As well as supporting CNCU in increasing its membership among adults the Group believes that more should be done to encourage young people to consider using credit unions and increase the number of people contributing to Junior Savers accounts for their children.

12.30 By targeting young people CNCU could benefit from establishing them as life time savers ensuring the long term stability of its overall membership. Offering financial advice and services to young people may also help to foster a culture of financial responsibility and saving across the Borough, helping hundreds of people to stay out of financial difficulty.

12.31 The task of targeting young people in schools and colleges across the borough is a difficult one that the Group has been unable to consider in detail during its work. Instead the Group has considered how it can target a smaller group of young people that would benefit from financial advice and support, namely Care Leavers.



- 12.32 As their corporate parent the Council is in prime position to assist Care Leavers by setting them up with a CNCU membership that will allow them to access financial advice and services that will be invaluable in helping them to become independent when they leave care.
- 12.33 According to Officers this is an initiative which would be welcomed by the Cared for Children service with funds being available to cover each Care Leavers £5 membership fee to join CNCU.
- 12.34 Despite not considering the concept in detail during its work, the Group suggests that targeting young people in schools should be considered further. This may be carried out by establishing a pilot scheme in a single school/college that could then be expanded if successful in encouraging young people to become members or parents to set up junior savers for their children.

### **13.0 Conclusion and Next Steps**

- 13.1 The Group believes that each of the recommendations above should contribute towards achieving the outcomes required to help make CNCU financially sustainable. However the Group is aware that further work is required to put in place viable and effective support. Therefore it is suggesting that in considering the Group's recommendations Cabinet and Officers engage with John Weir of CNCU to establish precise requirements and feasibility of the options available to implement the recommendations.
- 13.2 The Group notes that there are several other credit unions located in the Borough operating on a much smaller scale than CNCU however experiencing similar challenges in the current climate. Whilst these credit unions may have relatively small scope and impact the Council may wish to consider supporting them in similar ways that it is requested to support a larger credit union in CNCU.

### **14.0 Access to Information**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name: James Morley

Designation:

Scrutiny Officer

Tel No: 01270 6 86468

Email: [james.morley@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:james.morley@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

# Cheshire East Disposal of Public Open Space

## Disposal of Public Open Space - Various Leisure Centre Sites

- [Crewe Swimming Pool](#)
- [Nantwich Swimming Pool](#)
- [Barony Sports Complex](#)
- [Shavington Leisure Centre](#)
- [Victoria Community Centre \(Oakley Centre and Cumberland Track\)](#)
- [Sandbach Leisure Centre](#)
- [Congleton Leisure Centre](#)
- [Macclesfield Leisure Centre](#)
- [Wilmslow Leisure Centre](#)
- [Knutsford Leisure Centre](#)
- [Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre](#)
- [Alsager Leisure Centre](#)
- [Poynton Leisure Centre](#)

## Details of Proposal

### 1. Plan

It is proposed that Cheshire East Borough Council ("the Council") dispose of the premises at:

- [Crewe Swimming Pool, Flag Lane, Crewe, CW2 7QX \(PDF, 412KB\)](#)
- [Nantwich Swimming Pool, Wall Lane, Nantwich, CW5 5LS \(PDF, 204KB\)](#)

- [Barony Sports Complex, Barony Road, Nantwich, CW5 5QY \(PDF, 518KB\)](#)
- [Shavington Leisure Centre, Rope Lane, Shavington, CW2 5DJ \(PDF, 596KB\)](#)
- [Victoria Community Centre \(Oakley Centre and Cumberland Track\), West Street, Crewe, CW1 2PZ \(PDF, 264KB\)](#)
- [Sandbach Leisure Centre, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, CW11 1FH \(PDF, 327KB\)](#)
- [Congleton Leisure Centre, Worrall Street, Congleton, CW12 1DT \(PDF, 285KB\)](#)
- [Macclesfield Leisure Centre, Priory Lane, Macclesfield, SK10 4AF \(PDF, 406KB\)](#)
- [Wilmslow Leisure Centre, Rectory Fields, Wilmslow, SK9 1BU \(PDF, 217KB\)](#)
- [Knutsford Leisure Centre, Westfield Drive, Knutsford, WA16 0BL \(PDF, 534KB\)](#)
- [Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre, Selkirk Drive, Holmes Chapel, CW4 7DZ \(PDF, 304KB\)](#)
- [Alsager Leisure Centre, Hassall Road, Alsager, ST7 2HP \(PDF, 314KB\)](#)
- [Poynton Leisure Centre, Yew Tree Lane, Poynton, SK12 1PU \(PDF, 357KB\)](#)

The extent of the premises is shown edged red on the attached plans. The Council is the freehold owner of the premises.

The open space land which it is proposed to dispose of is within the redline boundary shown on the plan. Rights of way will be granted over the areas of land coloured blue and brown and hatched and shown on the plans. Easements will be granted and reserved in the lease in respect of the premises and the Council's adjacent retained land.

The premises are used for leisure services. The Council proposes to grant leases for each site for a term not exceeding 125 years, together with such rights of way and easements over the premises and the Council's adjacent retained land as are necessary to facilitate use of the premises, to Everybody Sport and Recreation.

Suki Binjal  
Interim Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer  
Cheshire East Borough Council  
Westfields  
Middlewich Road  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1HZ



Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980

## Disposal of Public Open Space

- Land at Congleton Lesiure Centre, Worrall Street, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1DT
- Land at Sandbach Leisure Centre, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, Cheshire, CW11 1FH
- Land at Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre, Selkirk Drive, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire, CW4 7DZ
- Land at Alsager Leisure Centre, Hassall Road, Alsager, Cheshire, ST7 2HP

1. Notice is hereby given that Cheshire East Borough Council proposes, in accordance with Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by Section 118 of the Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980) to dispose of the land including any public open space by way of granting a lease together with such rights of way and easements over the land and the Council's adjacent retained land as are necessary to facilitate use of the land at:

Congleton Leisure Centre, Worrall Street, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1DT.  
Sandbach Leisure Centre, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, Cheshire, CW11 1FH.  
Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre, Selkirk Drive, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire, CW4 7DZ.  
Alsager Leisure Centre, Hassall Road, Alsager, Cheshire, ST7 2HP.

2. Full details of this proposal have been deposited together with plans at the Reception of Cheshire East Borough Council, Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, Cheshire CW11 1HZ and may be inspected free of charge Monday to Friday, during normal office hours.

3. Any representations or objections with respect to the proposal must be made in writing to Suki Binjal, Interim Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer, Cheshire East Borough Council, Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, Cheshire CW11 1HZ, quoting reference TL.10509 and should be received no later than 5pm on 13th February 2014. Please state the grounds upon which any representation or objection is made.

Dated: 23rd January 2014

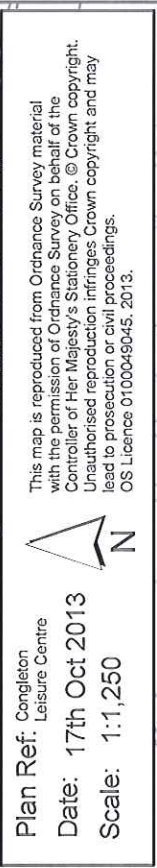
Suki Binjal

Interim Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer

Cheshire East Borough Council, Legal Services,

Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, Cheshire CW11 1HZ

CESHIRE EAST BOROUGH COUNCIL Local Government Act 1972 as amended  
by the Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980





## Brian Hogan

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**From:** BAXENDALE, Gordon (Councillor) <Gordon.Baxendale@cheshireeast.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 10:28  
**To:** Brian Hogan  
**Subject:** FW: Mountview Community Care Home, Congleton

Brian, FYI seems like it is ok for moment at Mountview I am doubtful for next community so could you flag it up  
Regards Gordon

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** TOPPING, David (Councillor)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 29, 2014 08:28 AM GMT Standard Time  
**To:** BROWN, David (Councillor); BAXENDALE, Gordon (Councillor); DOMLEO, Roland (Councillor); THWAITE, Andrew (Councillor); MASON, Peter (Councillor)  
**Subject:** FW: Mountview Community Care Home, Congleton

Congleton colleagues

FYI

David Topping (Cllr.)  
Cabinet Member for Environment  
Cheshire East Council  
Tel: 01260 272987

e-mail: david.topping@cheshireeast.gov.uk

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**From:** CLOWES, Janet (Councillor)  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 23:22  
**To:** JONES, Michael (Councillor) (Leader of Cheshire East Council); 'Fiona Bruce'  
**Cc:** Cheshire East Cabinet  
**Subject:** FW: Mountview Community Care Home, Congleton

Dear Colleagues

Following the emails from Margaret Ranger (Congleton Labour Party) please note my factual and polite response.

Regards

Janet

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** CLOWES, Janet (Councillor)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2014 11:19 PM GMT Standard Time

To: 'Margaret Ranger'  
Subject: RE: Mountview Community Care Home, Congleton

Dear Margaret

Rather than wait, I have pursued this via other routes including HR and thereby getting a copy of the briefing which was sent to staff members - which no doubt your contacts have already shared with you.

Following a JCNP meeting on the 9th January 2014 with HR and the Unions it was highlighted that, in line with HR guidelines, that Mountview staff have now been identified as 'at risk' for 12 months.

You will recall from our correspondence last year, that whenever POTENTIAL changes are to be explored that MAY result in a service closure, staff must be notified and put on an 'At Risk' re-deployment register at that point.

The briefing letter sent to staff makes it clear that the decision to close Mountview has not been overturned but after a period of 12 months, removal from the register is "...consistent with decisions that are unlikely to be implemented in the foreseeable future" - hence these posts are "... not considered to be formally at risk". "Staff details will (therefore) be removed from the redeployment register".

There is NO reference to any timescale in this briefing.

I hope this clarifies the context in which the staff briefing has been issued.

In relation to the Social Isolation event in Nantwich (which was repeated in Macclesfield), thank you for your positive feedback - it is much appreciated!

Following this, and the conference we held with the Ageing Well board in July 2013 to mark the Launch of the Campaign Against Loneliness, we have, this week, had the issue of social isolation incorporated explicitly to our Joint health & well-being strategy (JHWS) to enhance our focus on mental health and well-being priorities.

With best wishes

Janet

Cllr Janet Clowes : Wybunbury Ward  
Portfolio Holder: Health & Adult Social Care

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

From: Margaret Ranger |  
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 01:21 PM GMT Standard Time  
To: CLOWES, Janet (Councillor); BISHOP, Nikki  
Cc: Margaret Ranger  
Subject: Re: Mountview Community Care Home, Congleton

Hello Janet

I haven't received a reply to my email dated 20th January - see below.

I really would be grateful to have some confirmation.

Regards

Margaret Ranger  
Savemountviewcampaign

Sent from my iPad

> On 20 Jan 2014, at 19:12, Margaret Ranger  
>

> Hello Janet  
>  
> Happy New Year!  
>  
> You will remember that many people campaigned to keep Mountview open as well as handing in a petition. Today someone phoned me to say that staff at Mountview have received letters stating that there will be no changes at Mountview until after the General Election.  
> If this is correct it is indeed good news.  
>  
> I envisage people from our group will want such information confirming and some will be phoning me for confirmation. Can you confirm therefore, if this is true as I don't want to pass on incorrect information?  
>  
> On another point, I meant to write to you some time ago to say that I thought the seminar, held at Richmond House in Nantwich, regarding loneliness and isolation was really interesting and useful. Lovely venue too! Thank you to all for arranging.  
>  
> Regards  
>  
> Margaret Ranger  
> Savemountview campaign  
>  
> Sent from my iPad

\*\*\*\*\*  
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# MINUTES OF THE FLORAL ARRANGEMENT WORKING GROUP

Thursday 31st October 2013

## Present

D Brown (Chairman)  
B Edwards  
G Williams  
P Pinto  
B Hogan  
J MacArthur  
C Jones

1. Apologies for absence (Members are respectfully reminded of the necessity to submit any apology for absence in advance and to give a reason for non attendance)

There were no apologies for absence

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to declare both "pecuniary" and "non pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

There were no declarations of interest

4. Preparation for 2014 and Britain in Bloom

Toilets need improving  
Litter bins in the Town Centre need sorting out  
New planters and towers in pedestrian area and around Town  
More coordinated displays  
Additional sites to be identified for more Involvement of community  
Key routes into town for additional displays  
Troughs to be installed at town boundary signs  
More story boards  
Hanging baskets in West St and Mill St  
Outside Cricket Club to be planted  
Funding for peat free compost to be used in selected areas  
Back of Fairground site to be improved, install an orchard and wild flowers  
Wild flowers on grass verges  
Improve railway station  
Readesmoor and Antrobus St to be improved

Planter at Fire Station  
Schools to enter  
Need judges marking sheet  
Require criteria for Britain in Bloom

5. Volunteers

Essential that we have a greater number of permanent volunteers and an overall leader for the activities in the Town

Having small groups responsible for clearing up, planting and maintaining discrete areas in Congleton is an aspiration

Approach some of the pressure groups to ask for support

Organise a celebration evening and invite people to attend with the aim of recruiting volunteers

6. Selection of Planting

The group to select the plants is, DB, PP, GW and Ruth Boffey

7. Date of Next meeting

TBA



D Brown  
Chairman