



Congleton Town Council

Historic market town

Town Clerk: **BRIAN HOGAN**



25th October, 2012

Dear Councillor,

Town Council Meeting – Thursday 1st November, 2012

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Council, to be held in the Town Hall, Congleton on **Thursday 1st November, 2012** commencing at **7.00pm**.

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,

B. Hogan
TOWN CLERK

AGENDA

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).
2. Minutes
To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 20th September, 2012. (enclosed)
3. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest
Members are requested to declare both "non pecuniary" and "pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become aware of it.
4. Mayor's Announcements (enclosed)
To receive any announcements by the Town Mayor and to receive a list of the Mayor's Engagements.

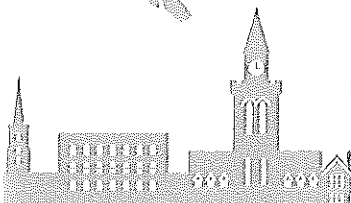


Congleton
beartown
where friends are made

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

Tel: **01260 270350** Fax: **01260 280357**

Email: info@congletontowncouncil.co.uk www.congleton-tc.gov.uk



5. Outstanding Actions

None.

6. Questions from Members of the Public

To receive any questions from Members of the Public, notified in advance in writing.

7. Cheshire East Councillors' Reports

To suspend Standing Orders to allow Councillors from the principal authority to report on relevant issues and to receive questions from members.

8. Planning Committee

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 27th September 2012 and 18th October. (enclosed)

9. Community, Environment & Services Committee

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 4th October 2012. (enclosed)

10. Finance & Policy Committee

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on the 18th October 2012. (enclosed)

11. Town Hall Committee

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 11th October 2012. (enclosed)

12. Accounts

(a) To approve payment of the accounts listed (enclosed).

(b) To approve payment of any expenditure agreed at this meeting.

13. Urgent Items

Members may raise urgent items but no discussion or decisions may be taken at the meeting.

14. Youth Committee/Junior Council

a) To receive the minutes of the Youth Committee meeting held on 4th September 2012, 13th September 2012 and 9th October 2012. (enclosed)

b) To deal with Questions from Members of the Youth Committee present at the meeting.

15. Public Question Time

To consider introducing a 10 minute public question time slot at Town Council meetings.

16. Quality Town and Parish Council Accreditation

To note the fact that the Town has been re-accredited to the Quality Parish Council scheme and to receive the re-accreditation certificate from the Chairman of ChALC. (enclosed)

17. Mayor and Deputy Mayors' Allowances

To consider the level of allowance awarded to the Mayor and whether an allowance provided to the Deputy Mayor should be paid in future.

18. Cheshire West and Cheshire Local Plan

To receive and consider correspondence from Cheshire West and Chester concerning the consultation programme for the Borough's Local Plan. (enclosed)

19. Boundary Commission

To receive and consider an extract from a report on the Boundary Commission's findings. (enclosed)

20. Fiona Bruce MP

To receive a letter from Fiona Bruce MP congratulating the Town Council on winning Best Market Town in Cheshire award. (enclosed)

21. Resolution to exclude the Public and Press (if necessary)

To consider passing a resolution in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that public and press be excluded from the meeting for the matters set out below on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information or staff matters.

To: Members of the Town Council, Press 3, Burgesses (5), Mayor's Chaplain,
Members of the Youth Committee
MP, Cheshire East Councillors (4), Library, Congleton TIC.

Congleton Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday,
20th September 2012 in the Town Hall, Congleton.

PRESENT: Councillors

L D Barker
D S Allen
P Bates
R I Brightwell
D T Brown
J S Crowther
G R Edwards
Mrs A M Martin
Mrs S A Holland
M J Hutton
D Murphy
D A Parker
N T Price
E Wardlaw
G S Williams
E Clarke

1. **APOLOGIES**

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).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G Baxendale, G P Hayes, J D Parry and R.K Williams

2. **MINUTES**

CTC/38/1213 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th September, 2012 be approved and signed by the Mayor.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST**

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

Councillor D Brown declared a non pecuniary interest in any matters related to Cheshire East Borough Council.

4. **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Town Mayor drew attention to the various engagements that she and the Deputy Mayor had fulfilled since the last Council meeting.

5. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

None.

6. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions received from members of the public.

7. **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Councillor Brown reported that Cheshire East Borough Council had approved funding to undertake a feasibility study on the Northern Link Road and extension of Radnor Park.

8. **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

CTC/39/1213 RESOLVED- That the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd August and 6th September 2012 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

9. **COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT & SERVICES COMMITTEE**

CTC/40/1213 RESOLVED- That the minutes of the meeting held on 29th August 2012 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

10. **FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE**

CTC/41/1213 RESOLVED- That the minutes of the meeting held on 29th August, 2012 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

11. **ACCOUNTS**

CTC/42/1213 RESOLVED-

- (a) That the Council approve the payment of the accounts listed.
- (b) That the Council approve payment of any expenditure agreed at the meeting, which included £15,000+ for an Outdoor Display Unit as recommended by the Finance and Policy Committee

12. **URGENT ITEMS**

Cllr Price provided an update on progress to remove the boat on the River Dane, and commented that he hoped to have obtained permission for this to happen in the next few days.

Cllr Brightwell expressed some concern at the P.A system in the Grand hall and requested that this be looked at.

13. **YOUTH COMMITTEE/JUNIOR COUNCIL**

CTC/43/1213 RESOLVED- That the minutes of the meetings held on the 4th September 2012 be received.

The Town Mayor then made a presentation to John Foster who was retiring from the Youth Committee to go onto University.

14. **RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS (IF NECESSARY)**

There was no resolution to exclude the public and press.

Mrs S A Holland

TOWN MAYOR

TOWN MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS

2012

21 st September	Visit to the Scholar Green School
22 nd September	A.T.C. Coffee Morning
23 rd September	Middlewich Civic Service
25 th September	Visit to Blackfirs School
10 th September	Visit to Astbury School
26 th September	East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Open Day
27 th September	Team Congleton Awards Evening
28 th September	Visit to Daven School
28 th September	Eaton Bank/Congleton High Honours Programme
30 th September	Churches Together – Bible Week-End Service – New Life Church
1 st October	Visit to Marlfields School
1 st October	Calendar Girls – Congleton Players – Daneside Theatre
2 nd October	Visit to Quinta School
2 nd October	Congleton Partnership A.G.M.
6 th October	Macclesfield Area W.I. Show New Life Church
6 th October	United Reformed Church Service
6 th October	British Legion Evening
7 th October	Congleton Half Marathon
8 th October	Rotary Presentation
10 th October	Buglawton Ladies Group Presentation
11 th October	Visit to Blackfirs School
12 th October	Visit to Mossley School

14 th October	Wedding Fayre – Congleton Town Hall
14 th October	Annual Wakes and Harvest Service – Astbury Church
15 th October	Visit to Eaton Bank School
16 th October	Visit to Bulawton School
17 th October	Visit to Scholar Green School
18 th October	Visit to Bosley School
19 th October	Visit to St. Mary's School
19 th October	Visit to Astbury School
21 st October	British Legion Service – St. Peter's Church
23 rd October	Congleton Musical Theatre – Annie – Daneside Theatre
25 th October	North West In Bloom Awards - Southport

DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR

29 th September	Churches Together Breakfast Meeting – United Reformed Church
6 th October	Scouts Charity Fayre – Town Hall
8 th October	Retirement Presentation – Congleton Town Hall
21 st October	Nantwich Civic Service

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, 27th SEPTEMBER 2012

PRESENT Councillor L. D. Barker (Chairman)

Mrs. D. Allen
P Bates
G. Brittain
J. S. Crowther
G. R. Edwards
Mrs. A. M. Martin
D. Murphy
Mrs. J. D. Parry

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors G. Baxendale, R. I. Brightwell, D. T. Brown, G. P. Hayes, Mrs. S. A. Holland, M. J. Hutton, D. A. Parker, N. T. Price, Mrs. E. Wardlaw and Miss R. K. Williams.

2. **MINUTES**

PLN/16/1213 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 6th September 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were reminded to declare both "personal" and "personal and prejudicial" interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS

There were none

5. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

PLN/17/1213 RECOMMENDED: That the following comments be made to East Cheshire Borough Council:

Week of 7th September 2012

12/2974C	29 Padbury Lane, Congleton, CW12 4LP	NO OBJECTION
12/3131C	The Shelling, Lamberts Lane, Congleton, CW12 3AU	REFUSED – DUE TO CONCERNS ABOUT HIGHWAY ISSUES AND ACCESS ONTO LAMBERTS LANE
12/3351C	111A Canal Road, Congleton CW12 3AP	NO OBJECTION
12/3363C	Hollybush Farm, Congleton Edge Road, Congleton, CW12	NO OBJECTION

(Subject to planners checking that there is no infringement on the Green Belt)

Week ended 14th September 2012

12/3258C	Mossley Primary School, Boundary Lane, Congleton	NO OBJECTION
12/3384C	7 Delamere Road, Congleton, CW12 4PA	NO OBJECTION

12/3414C	St. Mary's Primary School, Belgrave Ave., Congleton	NO OBJECTION
Councillor D. Murphy declared a personal interest in application 12/3414C		
12/3484C	Sewage Works, Barn Road, Congleton, CW12 1LJ	NO COMMENT

Week ended 21st September 2012

12/3393C	15 Bollin Drive, Congleton, CW12 3RR	NO OBJECTION
12/3517C	Little Moss Farm, Priory Close, Congleton, CW12 3JL	REFER TO
CHESHIRE EAST FOR CLARIFICATION THAT THIS APPLICATION IS SUITABLE ON GREEN BELT LAND		
Councillors G. R. Edwards, J. S. Crowther and D. Murphy declared a personal interest in application 12/3517C		
12/3560C	7 Bradbury Gardens, Congleton, CW12 3SR	NO OBJECTION
12/3597C	10 Higginson Close, Congleton, CW12 3SU	NO OBJECTION
12/3497T	Rear of 7 West Street, Congleton, CW12 1JN	NO OBJECTION
		Subject to usual conditions
12/3542D	Durham Ox, 54 West Street, Congleton, CW12 1JY	NO COMMENT
12/3590D	Land Off Canal Road, Congleton	NO COMMENT
12/3141C	Base Automotive, Thomas Street, Congleton, CW12 1QU	NO OBJECTION

6. PLANNING APPEALS

None to report.

7. LICENSING APPLICATIONS

None to report.

8. HIGHWAYS ISSUES

Concerns were expressed regarding the traffic problems caused by highway closures due to maintenance. The Town Clerk was requested to write to Cheshire East to request that road closures in the Town are communicated more widely to the public. Communication could include the Congleton Chronicle, schools, local radio and the Town Council Website where appropriate.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that a letter from Tesco dated 25th September 2012 reports that they propose to open a Tesco Express convenience store at the site of the Waggon and Horses public house on West Road, Congleton. A copy of the letter will be forwarded to Town Councillors.

It was noted that the date of the Planning Committee scheduled for 24th January has been re-arranged for 31st January 2013.

L. D. Barker (Chairman)

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, 18th OCTOBER 2012

PRESENT Councillor L. D. Barker (Chairman)

Mrs. D. Allen
P Bates
G. Baxendale
R. I. Brightwell
G. Brittain
J. S. Crowther
G. P. Hayes
Mrs. S. A. Holland
Mrs. A. M. Martin
Mrs. J. D. Parry
N. T. Price
Mrs. E. Wardlaw
G. S. Williams

Approximately 40 members of the public were present at the meeting until application 12/3536C was considered

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors G. R. Edwards, M. Hutton, D. Murphy, D. A. Parker, and Miss R. K. Williams.

2. **MINUTES**

PLN/18/1213 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 27th September 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

Councillor G. Baxendale declared a non pecuniary interest due to being a member of Cheshire East Council.

The Chairman reminded Councillors of their obligations regarding declarations of interests and the consideration of applications, discussions with members of the public and attendance at Public Meetings. It was noted that many Town Councillors had attended the Public Meeting held on 17th October at the Town Hall but no Councillor made any public comment at that meeting.

4. **OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

There were none

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

PLN/19/1213 RECOMMENDED: That the following comments be made to East Cheshire Borough Council:

Week of 28th September 2012

12/3536C Land East of Meadow Avenue, Congleton, CW12 4BX **REFUSED –**
Mr. N. Light spoke on behalf of local residents in objection to application 12/3536C

REFUSED DUE TO THE FOLLOWING REASONS –

- Outside the development zone
- Proposed on Open Countryside, not meeting the criteria in CBC Local Plan
- Unsustainable on highway grounds
- Traffic problems around Marfields School
- Plans are premature prior to the adoption of the Town Strategy and Local Plan
- Wildlife and Biodiversity

12/3403C Unit 7 – 12 Radnor Park Ind Estate, Back Lane, Congleton NO OBJECTION

12/3600C Springbank, Under Rainow Road, Congleton, CW12 3PN NO OBJECTION

12/3628C 17 Lamberts Lane, Congleton, CW12 3AU **NO COMMENT**

Concerns were expressed due to problems with smoke. The Planning Officer is asked to investigate the environmental aspects and the height of the chimney

12/3650C Brunswick House, 52 Brunswick Street, Congleton, NO OBJECTION

12/3668C 5A Nursery Lane, Congleton, CW12 3EX NO OBJECTION

Councillor G. P. Hayes declared a non pecuniary interest in application 12/3668C

12/3638T 5 The Mount, Congleton, CW12 4FD NO OBJECTION

Subject to usual conditions

12/3639T 31 Hulton Close, Congleton, CW12 3TF NO OBJECTION

Subject to usual conditions

12/3669D 5A Nursery Lane, Congleton, CW12 3EX NO OBJECTION

Councillor G. P. Hayes declared a non pecuniary interest in application 12/3669D

12/3670D 7 Nursery Lane, Congleton, CW12 3EX NO OBJECTION

Week ended 5th October 2012

12/3645C Land North of Banky Fields, Congleton NO OBJECTION

12/3713C 72 Leek Road, Congleton, CW12 3HU NO OBJECTION

Week ended 12th October 2012

12/3504C Albany Mill, Canal Street, Congleton, CW12 3AE NO OBJECTION

12/3772C 32 Birch Road, Congleton, CW12 4NR NO OBJECTION

12/3811C 26 Tidnock Avenue, Congleton, CW12 2HW NO OBJECTION

12/3817C 7 Windermere Drive, Congleton, CW12 4JB NO OBJECTION

12/3834C 6 Rood Hill, Congleton, CW12 1LG NO OBJECTION

12/3916D 20 Priory Close, Congleton NO OBJECTION

12/3886D Quinta School, Ullswater Road, Congleton, CW12 3JL NO OBJECTION

6. PLANNING APPEALS

None to report.

7. **LICENSING APPLICATIONS**

None to report.

8. **HIGHWAYS ISSUES**

The Chairman informed the meeting of correspondence dated 1st October 2012 from Cheshire East which gave information on the reporting of road works.

It was noted that there have been traffic problems due to temporary traffic lights on the A34 at Rood Hill.

9. **APPLICATIONS – 12/3028C LAND OFF THE MOORINGS, CONGLETON AND 12/3025C LAND OFF GOLDFINCH CLOSE AND KESTRAL CLOSE, CONGLETON**

It was agreed that Councillors Murphy and Mrs. Martin would attend and speak on behalf of the Town Council at the Cheshire East Meeting when the above applications are considered.

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillors expressed their very best wishes to Chris Young of the Congleton Chronicle on his move from the Chronicle to his new position. His support to the Council over the past five years is much appreciated.

L. D. Barker (Chairman)

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, 4TH OCTOBER 2012

PRESENT: Councillors G S Williams (Chairman in the Chair)
 Mrs D S Allen
 P Bates
 J S Crowther
 M.J Hutton
 Mrs A M Martin
 D Murphy
 Mrs J D Parry
 N T Price
 Miss R.K Williams
 E Clarke – Appointed Member

1. APOLOGIES.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr D.T Brown. Apologies were also received from Cllrs G. Baxendale, G.R Edwards, G.Brittain, G.P Hayes, S.A Holland and D.A Parker who are not members of this particular committee.

2. MINUTES

CES/13/1213 RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 29th August 2012 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.

There were no declarations of interest.

4. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

CES/02/1213

The Town Council to pursue all options available in order to resolve the problem of the Boat, including S215 enforcement via CEBC, in addition, the Clerk to contact McCarthy and Stone to elicit their assistance in the matter.

CES/03/1213 RESOLVED that Cllrs P Bates and G Williams determine how to move forward the notion of utilising the Community Payback scheme and report back to the next committee meeting.

CES/10/1213

1. The Town Centre Manager to provide an analysis of how effective the scheme has been during the past 12 months for retailers.
2. Approach Local Life to ascertain what additional support they can provide to promote the scheme in Congleton.

5. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

CES/14/1213 RESOLVED that:-

1. Cllr G Williams be elected Chairman.
2. Cllr P Bates be elected Vice Chairman.

6. BOAT ON THE RIVER DANE

Cllr N. Price provided an update on actions to resolve the problem of the boat on the River Dane. It was noted that Cllr Price was awaiting a letter from Mr Morris allowing permission for the boat to be removed.

CES/15/1213 RESOLVED that:-

1. Cllr Price be allowed time to resolve the issue of the boat on the River Dane.
2. No other options to be pursued until otherwise advised.

7. RESIDENTS STREET PARKING (enclosed)

A report on 'Off Street Parking' provided by Cllr Edwards was considered along with some notes on the matter provided by Cllr Thwaite of Cheshire East Borough Council.

CES/16/1213 RESOLVED that: -

1. The report from Cllr Edwards be received.
2. The action taken by Cllr Thwaite be approved.

8. 11 MILLION TAKE OVER DAY

Cllr Williams commented that the 11 Million Take Over Day is a national scheme operated by the Children's Commission and takes place on the 23rd November 2012. The idea is that children and young people get the opportunity to help run an organisation for a day.

CES/17/1213 RESOLVED that:-

1. The Town Council participates in the scheme in the following roles, Town Clerk, Town Centre Manager and Facilities Manager.
2. Cllr Williams to facilitate this day accordingly with a local High School.

9. ASTBURY MERE DEVELOPMENT

Concern was raised at the lack of a pedestrian crossing on Newcastle Road adjacent to the Astbury Mere development.

CES/18/1213 RESOLVED that:-

1. The Clerk to contact Cheshire East Highways to request the installation of a controlled crossing.
2. Cllr Crowther to provide information on the planning application which is suggested should provide a crossing in the area.

10. SPEED SIGN ON MANCHESTER ROAD

It was noted that Cheshire East Borough Council had agreed to move the speed restriction sign on Manchester Road further away from the residential area but, this has not been carried out.

CES/19/1213 RESOLVED that the Town Clerk contact Cheshire East Highways to request this work is undertaken urgently.

11. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

A letter from John Dwyer, a prospective candidate for a new Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire was considered.

CES/20/1213 RESOLVED that the correspondence be received.

12. CONGLETON'S CHILDREN CENTRE

The presentation from Congleton's Children Centre was postponed to a later date.

13. LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL GOVERNERS (enclosed)

Correspondence on the reappointment of a Local Authority Governor at Daven Primary School was discussed.

CES/21/1213 RESOLVED that:-

1. The correspondence be received.
2. Noted that Cllr G.Hayes has put his name forward for the position of School Governor at Daven Primary School

14. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

CES/22/1213 RECOMMENDED: that in accordance with the Public bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting for the matters set out below on the grounds that it could involve the likely discussions of private and confidential information or staff matters.

15. CHESHIRE POLICE

Inspector Mark Gamage reported that the Police had a very successful meeting with Fiona Bruce MP on drug misuse in the Town. It was noted that Congleton does not have a greater drug problem than other comparable towns.

The police have carried out a sting operation and made some arrests in respect of Theft from Vehicles.

The recent spate of anti-social behaviour at Bromley Farm Community Centre has been tackled and a number of arrests made which should result in court proceedings being taken.

The public were reminded to report any incidents they note directly to the police and not record them on Facebook or Twitter as this simply causes unnecessary problems.

It was noted that the police are very willing to cooperate with any Councillor who wishes to experience policing first hand and wants to go out on a patrol with a PC or PCSO.

16. AOB

i. River Dane Walkway

The Town Clerk reported that the third phase of refurbishing the River Dane Walkway is about to commence funded by The Congleton Partnership and Cheshire East Council. The walkway from Congleton Park to the Daneside industrial estate will be closed for 3 to 4 weeks to allow this work to take place. The work will be carried out under licence from the Town Council in partnership with Cheshire East Borough Council.

ii. Northern Link Road

It was noted that leaflets and other material will be produced to keep residents informed about progress on the Northern Link Road.

G Williams

Chairman

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, 18TH OCTOBER, 2012

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs J D Parry (Vice Chairman)
 L D Barker
 P Bates
 G Baxendale
 R I Brightwell
 G Brittain
 Mrs S A Holland
 Mrs A M Martin
 N T Price

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G R Edwards and D Murphy.

2. MINUTES

FAP/24/1213 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 29th August, 2012 be agreed 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.

Cllrs D.Brown and G Baxendale declared a non-pecuniary interest in any items related to Cheshire East.

Cllr G Baxendale and N T Price declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6(iii)

Cllr N T Price declared a non pecuniary interest in item 8.

4. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

There are no outstanding actions.

5. GRANT APPROVALS AND COMMITMENTS 2012/2013

A summary of grant approvals and commitments was considered by the committee and it was noted that £19,350 is available for grants.

FAP/25/1213 RESOLVED: That the grant summary be received.

6. NEW APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

FAP/26/1213 RESOLVED That:

- i) **Congleton Jazz & Blues Festival (retrospective application) – S145**
Grant deferred, Congleton Jazz & Blues Festival organisers requested to provide a full set of accounts for the event for further consideration.
- ii) **St Peter's Church – S215**
That a grant of £650 be approved...
- iii) **Congleton High School – S137**
That a grant of £300 be approved provided equipment can be used by other disabled students.

7. NEW GRANT ACTIVITIES MONITORING FORMS

A grant monitoring form which is to be used by all grantees to provide feedback on the successful use of funds provided by the Town Council was considered.

FAP/27/1213 RESOLVED: That the grant monitoring form to be used for all successful grant applications.

8. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS FOR APRIL - AUG 2012

FAP/28/1213 RESOLVED: That the Management Accounts for August be received.

9. ROTARY BONFIRE EVENT

The committee considered a request to underwrite any losses incurred as a consequence of Congleton Rotary Club organising the 2012 Bonfire Event.

FAP/29/1213 RESOLVED: That a maximum of £5,000 be earmarked to underwrite any potential losses incurred by the organisers of the event.

10. ANNUAL AUDIT 2011-12

FAP/30/1213 RESOLVED: To approve the 2011-2012 Annual Auditors' opinion and report.

11. APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR AND FEES

Correspondence from the Audit Commission confirming its appointment of new external auditors for 5 years from 2012-2013 was considered.

FAP/31/1213 RESOLVED: To receive and note that BDO LLP have been appointed as the Town Council's auditors for the next 5 years from 2012-2013.

12. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The Internal Audit report and recommendations was considered.

FAP/32/1213 RESOLVED: That the report be received and actions noted be approved.

Review of Corporate Governance

1. In order that members may demonstrate consideration of the relevant powers to be relied on, the minutes should also identify those powers.

Relevant powers will be included in all grant applications.

2. The Council should ensure compliance with its own regulatory framework and ensure that a form Register of tenders received and opened is maintained: ideally, a similar record should be maintained for any significant quotations in accordance with.

A tender register will be maintained when undertaking all tender applications.

3. The Council should ensure that it complies with national legislation and does not continue to make a separate allowance payment to the Deputy Mayor.

The Council will consider this at the next meeting of the Town Council.

Asset and Management of Risks

1. The Council should consider the level of Fidelity Insurance cover and formally minute their deliberations and conclusion identifying any basis for setting a level below the Audit Commission recommended level.

The Town Clerk will contact the Insurance Company and increase the Fidelity Insurance appropriately once the outcome of Devolved Services is known which will have an impact on this issue.

Review of Income

1. The Finance officer should take appropriate action to "write-off" the few unmatched receipts to appropriate income codes, thereby removing the detail from the Sales ledger.

This has been actioned.

13. GRANT AND FUNDING POLICY

The committee considered changes to the Grant Funding Policy, in particular clauses 11 and 17.

FAP/33/1213 RESOLVED: To approve the amended Grant and Funding Policy.

14. COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Noted that this item will be deferred to the November meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee.

15. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

FAP/34/1213 RESOLVED: That in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that the public and the press be excluded from the meeting for the matters set out below on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information or staff matters.

16. BUDGET 2013 - 2014

The Town Clerk outlined some of the main factors that will be taken into account when preparing the 2013-2014 Budget.

17. AOB

Cllr Baxendale requested that the Committee consider refunding the 4 month balance of the rent paid by community Projects who will be leaving the Town Hall in December 2012.

J D Parry
Vice Chairman

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN HALL COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, 11TH OCTOBER, 2012

PRESENT: Councillors D A Parker (Chairman in the Chair)
 Mrs D Allen
 G P Hayes
 Mrs S A Holland
 Mrs A M Martin
 Mrs J D Parry
 Mrs E Wardlaw
 N T Price
 G R Edwards

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L. D Barker, G.Brittain, G.Baxendale and J.S Crowther. Apologies were also received from Councillors P Bates and D Murphy who are not members of the committee.

2. MINUTES

THC/05/1213/RESOLVED- That the minutes of the Meeting held on 28th June, 2012 be 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. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

There are no outstanding actions.

5. CONGLETON HISTORY SOCIETY

Correspondence from Congleton History Society concerning the Society's 50th Anniversary, which will be celebrated by holding a History Fair in the Town Hall on Saturday 13th April 2013, was considered.

THC/06/1213 RESOLVED- That the Town Council will take part in the History Fair and display the Town Treasures.

6. LAND AT THE REAR OF THE TOWN HALL

The Town Clerk provided a verbal update on progress to resolve the issues of land at the rear of the Town Hall and parking access to 3 and 5 High Street.

THC/07/12313 RESOLVED that the verbal report be received.

7. TOWN HALL ROOF

The Town Clerk provided an update on the condition of the roof of the Town Hall. It was noted that various parts of the roof were letting in water during heavy rain.

THC/08/12313 RESOLVED THAT:-

1. A new roof to be installed on the Town Hall.
2. To engage the services of a Quantity Surveyor to produce a specification and oversee satisfactory completion of the works.
3. To invite suitably approved companies to apply for the contract for the work via a closed tender.

8. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS (IF NECESSARY)

THC/09/12313 RESOLVED that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the matters set out below on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information or staff matters.

9. TOWN HALL TRADING ACCOUNT

The Town Hall Trading account was considered by the Committee. It was noted that bookings for the Town Hall had been lost in July whilst the bar and kitchen areas were refurbished, but, the period from October to December 2012 is very busy.

THC/10/12313 RESOLVED that the report be received.

**D A PARKER
(CHAIRMAN IN THE CHAIR)**

Congleton Town Council

RBS Current/ Access Acct

List of Payments made between 01/09/2012 and 30/09/2012

Date Paid	Payee Name	Cheque Ref	Amount Paid	Transaction Detail
03/09/2012	Audit Commission	005628	£3,000	4041418/3367/Audit Commission
03/09/2012	British Telecom	005629	£321	74673400Q0251/3368/British Tel
03/09/2012	Cavern Protective Clothing	005630	£115	17248/3370/Boots for handymen
03/09/2012	Heads (Congleton) Limited	005631	£108	73607/3371/Sports awards ad
03/09/2012	Maxigiene Enviromental Service	005632	£45	14942C/3372/Legionella monitor
03/09/2012	Posh Nosh Parties Ltd	005633	£24	0013/3374/Partnership meet
03/09/2012	Prism Business Developments Li	005634	£233	7478/3375/instal paperport
03/09/2012	Talke Chemical Company Limited	005635	£438	62132/3379/Chemicals for pool
03/09/2012	Telecom Advance	005636	£114	123106/3380/Engineer visit
03/09/2012	Travis Perkins Trading Company	005637	£5	3640ACE827/3381/filler
03/09/2012	United Utilities	005638	£1,772	200812/3383/Water P Pool
03/09/2012	Zurich Management Services Ltd	005639	£72	1800001710/3386/LCAS Seminar
03/09/2012	St Peter's Church	005627	£886	Grant St Peter's Church grass
03/09/2012	Shell UK Ltd	dd	£115	S03818714/3376/Shell UK Ltd
03/09/2012	Cheshire East	DD	£2,107	Business Rates Town Hall
04/09/2012	T & S Electrical Limited	005641	£42	7788/3387/Fellowship house
04/09/2012	Allen Pavitt Contracts Ltd	005642	£1,100	S13268/3388/stage unit
04/09/2012	Councillor reimbursed expenses	005640	£35	print cartridge
07/09/2012	Community Garden volunteer	005643	£75	Community Garden expenses
07/09/2012	Petty cash	005646	£158	Petty cash
07/09/2012	T Mobile	DD	£21	V00857538066/3377/T Mobile
10/09/2012	North Rode Timber Co. Ltd	005644	£10	134502/3389/Wood for T H Bar
10/09/2012	Posh Nosh Parties Ltd	005645	£324	0014/3390/TC9839
10/09/2012	Purchase Power	Dd	£213	AF444486/3373/Purchase Power
11/09/2012	British Telecom	dD	£33	74673199Q049/3369/British Tele
14/09/2012	Wirehouse	DD	£102	Health & Safety support
17/09/2012	Cong Pentecostal Church	005647	£250	Grant Cong Pentecostal Church
17/09/2012	Congleton Harriers	005648	£250	Grant Cong Harriers half marat
17/09/2012	West Mercia Energy	dd	£7,611	1016438/3384/Gas/Electricity
19/09/2012	Wirehouse	DD	£154	HR Support
20/09/2012	Angel Springs	005649	£57	1584262/3392/Angel Springs
20/09/2012	Auditing Solutions Ltd	005650	£480	A2934/3393/Internal Audit
20/09/2012	Beartown FM	005651	£121	170912/3394/town hall advert
20/09/2012	Michael Brown	005652	£1,602	310812/3395/watering flowers
20/09/2012	Cheshire Association of Local	005653	£30	002127/3396/training P Bates
20/09/2012	Heads (Congleton) Limited	005654	£130	74139/3397/Team Cong Ad
20/09/2012	D C Derbyshire	005655	£480	1368/3399/Cycle network signs
20/09/2012	Gaffey Technical Services Ltd	005656	£99	46837/3400/Chemicals for pool
20/09/2012	Posh Nosh Parties Ltd	005657	£135	15217/3402/Y Comm TBC's
20/09/2012	The Stationery Cupboard	005659	£56	0091/3403/The Stationery Cupbo
20/09/2012	T & S Electrical Limited	005660	£240	7814/3404/repairs bar fridge
20/09/2012	United Utilities	005661	£28	110912/3406/allotment water
20/09/2012	Post Office Ltd	005658	£215	Van Tax disc
21/09/2012	Autopay October 2012	AUTOPAY	£24,094	Salaries October 2012
24/09/2012	Shell UK Ltd	DD	£2	S03834702/3405/Shell UK Ltd
25/09/2012	Autopay chgs	DD	£4	Autopay chgs
25/09/2012	Prism Business Developments	DD	£261	IT support monthly
28/09/2012	Allpay Ltd	DD	£36	Allpay Ltd
28/09/2012	Sita UK Ltd	dd	£202	28355849/3391/Sita UK Ltd

Total Payments £48,006

Congleton Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Youth Committee held on Tuesday 4th September 2012 in the Town Hall, Congleton

PRESENT Youth Councillor Maddy Summerfield (Chairman)
Jon Foster
Nathan Davies
Joseph Hearson
Jordan Goodwin

Mrs. Linda Minshull

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Hannah Booth, Gabrielle Booth, Beth Evans, Gabrielle Booth, Matthew Procter, Ellen Wilkinson and Councillors Larry Barker, George Hayes, Sally Holland and Liz Wardlaw.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 23rd July 2012 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. QUESTION TIME

Discussions took place regarding the Question Time event scheduled for 13th September 2012 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall. Chris from the Chronicle attended the meeting for this item to promote the event.

It was reported that the panelists who had confirmed attendance are the Town Mayor, Councillor Sally Holland, Councillor Glen Williams, Councillor Hilda Gaddum – Cheshire East Children and Family Services Portfolio Holder and Inspector Mark Gammage. The Chairman of the Panel will be Gabrielle Booth.

Suggested questions for the evening were discussed and agreed. Maddy will produce a list of questions based on each section of the report. The questions are designed to stimulate debate amongst the audience.

The requirements for the room set up and equipment were agreed with Chris Jones.

4. YOUTH COMMITTEE BANK ACCOUNT

It was reported that the balance stands at £622.22 as at 4th September 2012.

5. YOUTH COMMITTEE MEMBERS ITEMS

Team Congleton

Jackie MacArthur gave an update on the Team Congleton Sports Grant Scheme and asked members to promote the initiative.

Oatcake Day

Jackie thanked Youth Committee members for their help on the Oatcake Day.

Christmas Lights Switch-On

It was agreed that the Youth Committee would have a stall at the Christmas Lights Switch On Evening.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Youth Committee Meeting – date to be agreed

Maddy Summerfield (Chairman)

Congleton Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Youth Committee Question Time held on Thursday
13th September 2012 in the Town Hall, Congleton

PANEL Gabrielle Booth – Panel Chair
 Councillor Sally Ann Holland – Town Mayor
 Councillor Hilda Gaddum – Cheshire East Children and Family Services
 Inspector
 Mark Gammage – Cheshire Constabulary
 Councillor Glen Williams
 Jon Foster – Congleton Youth Committee

Approximately 30 members of the public attended the meeting including –

Town Councillors – Larry Barker, Bob Edwards, George Hayes, Paul Bates,
Denis Murphy,

Youth Committee Members – Maddy Summerfield – Chairman, Matthew Procter
Nathan Davies, Catherine Hassall, Kirby Jennings

Ann Webb – Head Teacher – Eaton Bank Academy
Mrs. Linda Minshull – Congleton Town Council
Chris Young – Congleton Chronicle

1. WELCOME

Maddy Summerfield, Chairman of the Youth Committee opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the Question Time event. Thanks were given to the members of the panel for their support. Maddy gave an overview of the Young Persons Report 2012 and explained that the report formed the basis for the topics for questions. Maddy handed over to Gabrielle to Chair the Panel.

2. TRANSPORT

The report highlighted problems for young people in regard to transport both in terms of cost and availability.

Discussions took place regarding public transport and funding, particularly the lack of funding for post 16 transport to schools and colleges.

It was suggested that the Youth Committee and Cheshire East work together to lobby the MP for additional funding for transport.

3. EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

It was acknowledged that the report had indicated positive feedback about the schools in Congleton.

Many of the young people had ambitions to attend University although the fees are causing concern.

It was noted that the reduction of careers advice and loss of the connections service in Congleton was causing problems.

Discussions took place regarding the importance of apprenticeships and work experience.

4. SOCIAL ISSUES

Inspector Gammage was asked questions regarding drugs use in Congleton.

It was agreed that prevention rather than reaction was the way forward. Drugs education in schools was highlighted as being a key area to develop.

The Youth Committee offered to work with both of the High Schools to develop a consistent approach.

5. CONCLUSION

The chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and hoped they had found the evening interesting. The Youth Committee is committed to working with various organisations to implement projects which will have a positive impact for young people in Congleton.

Maddy Summerfield (Chairman)

Congleton Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Youth Committee held on Tuesday 9th October 2012 in the Town Hall, Congleton

PRESENT Youth Councillor Maddy Summerfield (Chairman)

Beth Evans
Nathan Davies
Catherine Hassall
Jordan Goodwin
Eleanor Roberts
Ellen Wilkinson
Matthew Procter

Matthew Jones
Tom Heyes
Thomas Minshull

Councillors Sally Holland
George Hayes
Liz Wardlaw

Mrs. Linda Minshull

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Hannah Booth, Gabrielle Booth, Kirby Jennings, Joseph Hearson and Councillor Larry Barker.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 4th September 2012 and Question Time on 13th September 2012 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. QUESTION TIME

It was reported that the following correspondence had been received following the Question Time event on 13th September.

- Ann Webb – Eaton Bank Academy – dated 14th September 2012
- Fiona Bruce M.P. – letters dated 21st September and 25th September 2012

It was agreed that there would be an informal meeting of the Strategy Committee which would discuss transport issues and report back the next meeting.

George agreed to forward a copy of a British Youth Council Transport Report to Linda to distribute to members.

A discussion took place regarding issues raised in Question Time including education and employment and social issues and these will be discussed further at the informal meeting.

4. **MEETING WITH M.P.**

An update on the meeting with Fiona Bruce M.P. was given to members who were not able to attend.

Linda agreed to contact Edward to discuss progress made in connection with meeting the Head Teachers of Congleton High and Eaton Bank.

Linda provided information from Russell Thomas regarding the next ARC meeting at the Fire Station on Tuesday 6th November at 7 p.m. It was agreed that Nathan, Matt, Ellen and Gabz would attend.

5. **YOUTH COMMITTEE BANK ACCOUNT**

It was reported that the balance stands at £622.22 as at 9th October 2012.

6. **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON CHARITY STALL**

A discussion took place regarding arrangements for the Stall at the Christmas Lights Switch On. Linda will complete the booking form. Ideas included a Grid Map Game, Duck and Ladder Game.

It was agreed to use the same ideas for a stall at the Bonfire evening.

7. **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

Linda provided information on the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday on 11th November 2012. It was agreed that Maddy would lay the wreath on behalf of the Youth Committee. Members were all encouraged to attend and participate in the Parade and Service at St. Peter's Church which would be followed by refreshments in the Town Hall.

8. **YOUTH COMMITTEE MEMBERS ITEMS**

Membership

The Youth Committee are pleased that there are new members wishing to join the Committee and a welcome was given to Tom, Thomas and Matthew. Although no formal places are available at present there are a number of members who are currently in Year 13 and likely to leave for University shortly. It was agreed to offer informal membership prior to formal membership when places become available.

The Mayor gave information on the Mad Hatters Tea Party scheduled for Sunday 28th October and asked for volunteers to help.

Nathan reminded everyone about the Christmas Quiz on December 21st at St. Mary's Club. He requested help with the promotion of the Quiz

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

It was agreed to have an informal strategy meeting on 16th October from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Costa. Members were encouraged to attend if possible.

Matthew informed the meeting that he had made provisional bookings at the Library for Coffee Mornings on 20th July and 26th October 2013.

A discussion took place regarding political parties. Linda informed the meeting of information in the Constitution which states that the Youth Committee is non-party political. Members of the Committee may hold allegiance or membership of a political party but shall not express political views when acting in the capacity of Youth Councillor or representing the Town Council.

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Youth Committee Meeting – Wednesday 21st November at 7 p.m.

Maddy Summerfield (Chairman)

Brian Hogan

From: Linda Davenport <lindadavenport@chalc.org.uk>
Sent: 22 October 2012 09:53
To: 'Sally-Ann Holland'; Brian Hogan
Cc: 'Hazel Merrill'
Subject: Re-accreditation to Quality Town Council status

Hello Sally & Brian

I am pleased to be able to tell you – informally – that Congleton TC was re-accredited with Quality status at the Accreditation Panel meeting last Friday. CTC is now accredited for 4 years, ie. until October 2016. Brian – please let me know whether or not you would like your portfolio returned.

You will be formally advised by letter from the Panel Chairman, Mr Randal Hibbert, in a short while.

Should CTC like to have your Re-accreditation Certificate presented at a public event, eg. at a full council meeting, (photo opp.?), then the Panel Chairman welcomes an invitation to congratulate a council in person and can usually be available to attend.

Best regards, Linda

Linda Davenport
Development Officer
Cheshire Association of Local Councils (ChALC)
Blue Bache Barn
Burleydam
Whitchurch
SY13 4AW
Tel: 01948 871314

Note : This E-Mail is sent in confidence for the addressee only.
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Cheshire West & Chester Council

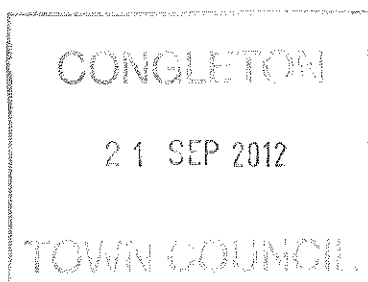
Spatial Planning

2nd Floor, The Forum Offices
Chester, CH1 2HS

Tel: 0300 123 8 123

Web: www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Mr P Cooper
Congleton Town Council
Town Hall
High Street
Congleton
CW12 1BN



our reference:

your reference:

please ask for:

date:

Spatial Planning
01244 973887

18 September 2012

spatialplanning@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Dear Sir / Madam

CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER LOCAL PLAN

Cheshire West and Chester Council is preparing a new Local Plan for the Borough. The Local Plan will set out how much, what type and where new development should take place over 20 years. It needs to tackle the need for new homes and jobs, the protection of our environment, support regeneration and bring about investment in new and improved infrastructure such as roads, schools and utilities.

The Local Plan Preferred Policy Directions consultation is the next stage in this process and we would like to hear your views on what it proposes. The consultation will run for just over 10 weeks from **Friday 31 August to Monday 12 November 2012**.

The consultation documents and questionnaires will be available at all council offices and libraries across the Borough throughout the consultation period.

You can find out more information, including details of the events that will be taking place, by visiting our website: www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Alternatively, or if you have any questions, please contact the Council's Spatial Planning team on 01244 973887 or email spatialplanning@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk.

We hope you will take part in the consultation. Your views are important to us.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy Owens'.

Jeremy Owens
Strategic Manager - Spatial Planning

(cont...)



Cheshire West
and Chester

Cheshire West & Chester Council

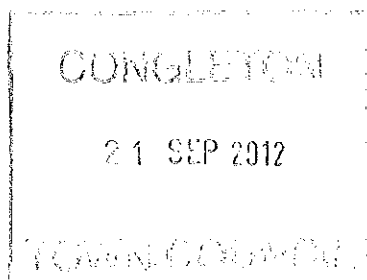
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We hope you will take part in the consultation. Your views are important to us.

Yours faithfully

Jeremy Owens
Strategic Manager - Spatial Planning

(cont...)



Cheshire West
and Chester

This notification was originally emailed to pc@congletontowncouncil.co.uk but the email was returned as undeliverable.

Please take a moment to check that we have the correct contact information for you, and make amendments as necessary. Any amendments can be sent by email to spatialplanning@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk or by post to Spatial Planning, Cheshire West and Chester Council, The Forum Offices, Chester, Cheshire, CH1 2HS. Please quote your ID number in this correspondence.

	Current Details	Amendments
ID number	243740	
Title	Mr	
First Name	P	
Surname	Cooper	
Position (if applicable)		
Organisation (if applicable)	Congleton Town Council	
Address Line 1	Town Hall	
Address Line 2	High Street	
Address Line 3		
Post Town	Congleton	
Postcode	CW12 1BN	
Email address	pc@congletontowncouncil.co.uk	
Agent's details if applicable		
ID number		
Title		
First Name		
Surname		
Position (if applicable)		
Organisation (if applicable)		
Address Line 1		
Address Line 2		
Address Line 3		
Post Town		
Postcode		
Email address		

North West

Revised proposals summary

Who we are and what we do

The Boundary Commission for England is an independent and impartial non-departmental public body, which is responsible for reviewing Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England.

2013 Review

We have the task of periodically reviewing the boundaries of all the Parliamentary constituencies in England. We are currently conducting a review on the basis of new rules laid down by Parliament. These rules involve a significant reduction in the number of constituencies in England (from 533 to 502), resulting in the number of constituencies in the North West reducing by seven, to 68. The rules also require that every constituency – apart from two specified exceptions – must have an electorate that is no smaller than 72,810 and no larger than 80,473.

Revised proposals

Following the publication of our initial proposals in September 2011, and two extensive consultation exercises, we have now published our revised proposals. Information about the proposed constituencies is now available on our website or in hard copy at a local place of deposit near you.

What are the revised proposals for the North West?

We have revised 45 of the 68 constituencies we proposed in September 2011. After careful consideration, we have decided not to make any revisions to the boundaries of the remaining 23 constituencies. In some instances, however, we have revised our proposed names for these constituencies.

Under our revised proposals, 14 constituencies in the North West would remain the same as they are under the existing arrangements.

As it was not always possible to allocate whole numbers of constituencies to individual counties, our initial proposals grouped some local authority areas into sub-regions. It was also necessary to propose some constituencies that cross county or unitary authority boundaries. In the North West, it was further necessary to propose two constituencies that crossed our sub-regions.

While we have retained the same sub-regions as the basis of our revised proposals, as shown in the table below, we have revised the location and composition of one of the cross-sub-region boundary constituencies.

Sub-region	Existing allocation	Allocation under our revised proposals
Cheshire and the Wirral	15	13
Merseyside (less the Wirral)	11	10
Greater Manchester*	27	26
Lancashire	16	14
Cumbria	6	5

* includes constituencies with areas in both Cheshire and Lancashire

Following careful consideration, we have produced a revised proposal for a cross-county boundary constituency between Greater Manchester and Lancashire. Our revised proposal links wards from the north of Bolton with those from Darwen and the surrounding area. We have not revised our cross-county boundary constituency between Greater Manchester and Cheshire – Hazel Grove and Poynton.

We have made substantial revisions to our initial proposals for Cumbria, Manchester, Merseyside, and eastern Lancashire in order to better reflect existing constituency arrangements and local government boundaries.

We have revised our initial proposals for Cheshire in order to avoid the inclusion of detached wards in the Mersey Banks constituency, and better reflect existing constituency arrangements elsewhere in the sub-region.

After careful consideration, we have not revised our initial proposals for the constituencies in and around Blackpool, Chester, Congleton, Crewe, Macclesfield, and Morecambe.

How to have your say

We are consulting on our revised proposals for an eight-week period, from 16 October 2012 to 10 December 2012. We encourage everyone to use this final opportunity to contribute to the design of the new constituencies – the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be before we make recommendations to the Government.

We ask everyone wishing to contribute to the design of the new constituencies to first look at the revised proposals report, and accompanying maps, before responding to us.

You can find more details of how to respond on our website, or you can write to us direct or email northwest@bcommengland.x.gsi.gov.uk. You can also find more details about the rest of the review on our website.

Boundary Commission for England
35 Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BQ

Tel: 020 7276 1102

Email: information@bcommengland.x.gsi.gov.uk

Website: www.consultation.boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk

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North West



Revised proposals

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3. Revised proposals for the North West	8
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Annex: Revised proposals for constituencies, including wards and electorates	84

Revised proposals summary

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As it was not always possible to allocate whole numbers of constituencies to individual counties, our initial proposals grouped some local authority areas into sub-regions. It was also necessary to propose some constituencies that cross county or unitary authority boundaries. In the North West, it was further necessary to propose two constituencies that crossed our sub-regions.

While we have retained the same sub-regions as the basis of our revised proposals, as shown in the table below, we have revised the location and composition of one of the cross-sub-region boundary constituencies.

Following careful consideration, we have produced a revised proposal for a cross-county

Sub-region	Existing allocation	Allocation under our revised proposals
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We are consulting on our revised proposals for an eight-week period, from 16 October 2012 to 10 December 2012. We encourage everyone to use this final opportunity to contribute to the design of the new constituencies – the more public views we hear, the more informed our decisions will be before we make recommendations to the Government.

We ask everyone wishing to contribute to the design of the new constituencies to first look at the revised proposals report, and accompanying maps, before responding to us.

You can find more details of how to respond on our website, or you can write to us direct or email northwest@bcommengland.x.gsi.gov.uk. You can also find more details about the rest of the review on our website.

1. What is the Boundary Commission for England?

1.1 The Boundary Commission for England is an independent and impartial non-departmental public body, which is required by Parliament to review Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England. We conduct a review of all the constituencies in England every five years. Our role is to make recommendations to Parliament for new constituency boundaries.

1.2 The Chair of the Commission is the Speaker of the House of Commons but by convention he or she does not participate in the formulation of the Commission's recommendations, nor in the conduct of the review. The Deputy Chair, Mr Justice Sales, and two further Commissioners take decisions on recommendations for new constituency boundaries. They are assisted in their task by 27 Assistant Commissioners, three allocated to each of the nine regions of England. Further information about the Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners can be found in the 'About us' section of our website.¹

1.3 Our website also contains all the information needed to view and comment on our revised proposals. You can also contact us with any general enquiries by emailing information@bcommengland.x.gsi.gov.uk, by calling 020 7276 1102, or by writing to:

The Secretary to the Commission
Boundary Commission for England
35 Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BQ

¹ At www.consultation.boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/about-us/.

2. Background to the review

2.1 In February 2011, the UK Parliament passed legislation² stating that all four Boundary Commissions covering the UK (there are separate Commissions for Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland) must conduct a review of Parliamentary constituency boundaries, and make recommendations to Government, by October 2013. The four Commissions work separately, and this report covers only the work of the Boundary Commission for England and, in particular, introduces our revised proposals for the North West.

2.2 Parliamentary constituency boundaries are important, as they define the area that a Member of Parliament will represent once elected to Parliament. The next General Election is expected to be in 2015. Therefore, any recommendations we make, if accepted, are likely to be used for the first time at the General Election in 2015.

2.3 The legislation we work to states that there will be 600 Parliamentary constituencies covering the UK – a reduction of 50 from the current number. For England, that means that the number of constituencies must reduce from 533 to 502. There are also new rules that the Commission has to adhere to when conducting the review – a full set of rules can be found in our *A guide to the 2013 Review*,³ published in the summer of 2011, but they are also summarised later in this chapter. Most significantly, the rules state that every constituency we recommend (with the exception of two covering the Isle of Wight) must contain between 72,810 and 80,473 electors.

2.4 This is a significant change to the old rules under which Parliamentary boundary reviews took place, where achieving as close

to the average number of electors in each constituency was an aim but not an overriding legal necessity. For example, in England, constituencies currently range in electorate size from 55,077 to 110,924. Achieving a more even distribution of electors in every constituency across England, together with the reduction in the total number of constituencies, means that a significant amount of change to the existing map of constituencies is inevitable.

2.5 *A guide to the 2013 Review* contains further detailed background, and explains all the policies and procedures that we are following in conducting the review, in greater depth than in this consultation document. We encourage anyone wishing to be involved in the review to read the *Guide* to enable greater understanding of the rules and constraints placed on the Commission, especially if they are intending to comment on our revised proposals.

The rules in the legislation

2.6 The rules contained in the legislation state that every constituency in England (except two covering the Isle of Wight) must have an electorate of between 72,810 and 80,473 – that is 5% either side of the electoral quota of 76,641. The legislation also states that when deciding on boundaries, the Commission may also take into account:

- a. special geographical considerations, including the size, shape, and accessibility of a constituency;
- b. local government boundaries as they existed on 6 May 2010;
- c. boundaries of existing constituencies; and

² The Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011, available at www.legislation.gov.uk.

³ Available at www.consultation.boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/publications and at all places of deposit.

- d. any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies.

2.7 It is essential to understand that none of the factors mentioned in the list above overrides the necessity to achieve an electorate in each constituency that is within the range allowed, as explained previously. In relation to local government boundaries in particular, it should be noted that we are obliged to take into account local government boundaries as they existed in May 2010. Our initial proposals for the region and the accompanying maps were based on the wards as they existed in May 2010, and our revised proposals contained within this report continue to be based on those boundaries. *A guide to the 2013 Review* outlines further our policy on how, and to what extent, we take into account local government boundaries.

2.8 In our initial proposals, we took into account the boundaries of existing constituencies so far as we could, and tried to retain existing constituencies where possible, so long as the other factors could also be satisfied. As mentioned earlier in this section, because of the scale of change required to fulfil the obligations imposed on us by the new rules, this proved difficult. Our initial proposals retained just over 9% of the existing constituencies in the North West – the remainder were new constituencies (although in a number of cases we were able to limit the changes to existing constituencies, making only minor changes as necessary to enable us to comply with the new rules).

2.9 Among the many arguments we heard in response to the consultations on our initial proposals was the need to have particular regard to this factor of the rules to which we work. While some respondents put a higher value on retaining existing constituency

boundaries over the other factors in the rules, it is the Commission's task to ensure that all the factors are balanced satisfactorily. As we set out in the course of this report, our revised proposals retain 14 of the existing 75 constituencies in the North West.

The use of the regions used for European elections

2.10 Our proposals are based on the nine regions used for European elections. This report relates to the North West region. There are eight other separate reports containing our revised proposals for the other regions. In early 2011, following a consultation exercise on the issues, we decided to use these regions as a basis for working out our initial proposals. You can find more details in *A guide to the 2013 Review* and on our website. We stated in our initial proposals report that, while this approach does not prevent anyone from making proposals to us that cross regional boundaries, we would need to have compelling reasons provided to us to persuade us to depart from the region-based approach.

2.11 In response to the consultations on our initial proposals, we did not receive sufficient evidence to suggest that we should depart from the regional approach to this review. Therefore, this report continues to use the regions as a basis for proposals for constituencies.

Timetable for the review

Stage one – initial proposals

2.12 We began this review in March 2011 by publishing breakdowns of the electorate for each ward, local government authority, and existing constituency, which were prepared using electorate data provided by local authorities and the Office for National Statistics. These are available on the regional

pages of our website. The Commission spent a number of months considering the factors outlined above and drawing up our initial proposals. We published our initial proposals for consultation for each of England's nine regions on 13 September 2011.

Stage two – consultation on initial proposals

2.13 We consulted on our initial proposals for 12 weeks, from 13 September 2011 to 5 December 2011. This consultation period also included holding 36 public hearings, at which people had the opportunity to make oral representations. We received over 22,000 unique written representations across the country as a whole, including 12,519 unique written representations relating to the North West. We also heard 229 oral representations at the five public hearings in the North West. We are grateful to all those who took the time and trouble to read and respond to our initial proposals.

Stage three – consultation on representations received

2.14 The legislation requires us to publish all the representations we received on our initial proposals, and to allow people to make representations on them for a four-week period. We published the representations on 6 March 2012 and invited comments on them until 3 April 2012. We received 700 unique written representations during that four-week period.

Stage four – publication of revised proposals

2.15 As we outline in chapter 3, having considered the evidence presented to us, we have decided that the evidence is such that it is appropriate to revise our initial proposals in some areas. Therefore, as we are required to do (under the legislation), on 16 October 2012, we published this report – *North West: Revised*

proposals – alongside eight others, one for each of the other regions in England. We are consulting on our revised proposals for the statutory eight-week period, which closes on 10 December 2012. Unlike the initial consultation period, there is no provision in the legislation for further public hearings, nor is there a repeat of the four-week period for commenting on the representations of others. Chapter 4 outlines how you can contribute during this consultation period.

Stage five – final recommendations

2.16 Once the consultation on revised proposals has closed on 10 December 2012, we will consider all the representations received at this stage, and throughout the review, before making final recommendations to the Government. The legislation states that we must do this by 1 October 2013. Further details about what the Government and Parliament must do to implement our recommendations are contained in *A guide to the 2013 Review*.

2.17 At the launch of each stage of consultation we have taken, and are continuing to take, all reasonable steps to publicise our proposals so that as many people as possible are aware of the consultation and can take the opportunity to contribute to our review of constituencies.

3. Revised proposals for the North West

3.1 In autumn 2011, we appointed three Assistant Commissioners for the North West – Mark Savill, Nicholas Elliott QC, and Neil Ward – to assist us with the analysis of the representations received during the first two consultation periods. We asked them to consider all the written and oral representations and make recommendations to us on whether our initial proposals should be revised, in light of the representations.

3.2 What follows in this chapter is their full report to us. After careful consideration of their report, and discussion with the Assistant Commissioners themselves, we accept and endorse their recommendations in full, and confirm that those recommendations form our revised proposals. We accept their reasoning and the conclusions they have drawn from the evidence received in the representations.

3.3 In particular, we accept the evidence they set out and their conclusion that the initial proposals for the Mersey Banks constituency were not satisfactory. We found the revisions they made to the initial proposals to accommodate the changes they recommended in relation to the Mersey Banks constituency to be persuasive. We note in that regard the consequential difficulties faced by the Assistant Commissioners in finding a solution to the issues regarding the City of Chester and surrounding villages and we agree with the way in which they have resolved those difficulties. We concur with their view that it is not necessary to split wards in Cheshire in order to come to an acceptable solution.

3.4 We are also persuaded by the reasoning underlying the Assistant Commissioners' recommendation to cross the Manchester/Lancashire boundary between Bolton North and Darwen, as an adjustment to the initial proposals, in terms of improvements both to the constituencies in Greater Manchester and to those in east Lancashire.

3.5 Whilst we acknowledge the difficulties faced by the Assistant Commissioners in making recommendations for revisions to our constituencies in east Lancashire, particularly relating to Pendle, Ribble Valley, Burnley, and Hyndburn, we are satisfied that their recommendations for revisions in these areas strike a better balance between the statutory factors than did the initial proposals.

proposals. We have taken this course where our recommendations coincide with the initial proposals or where the change that we envisage is of a limited nature, such as not to warrant any alteration.

AC471 Where we have departed from the name as designated in the initial proposals, our default position has been to use the existing name of the constituency where that is appropriate. Failing that, we have adopted the name that reflects those representations that were made to us, orally or in writing, concerning names. Where appropriate, as set out below, we have utilised a new name that reflects the principal town(s), particular geographical features, or area.

Cheshire and the Wirral

AC472 Under our recommendations we have maintained the initial proposals in respect of six of the 13 constituencies in this sub-region, plus a cross-county boundary constituency at Poynton.

AC473 We recommend the same names be adopted for four of them – Chester, Congleton, Crewe and Nantwich, and Macclesfield – and that the names of the remaining two – Wirral Deeside and Eddisbury – should be changed from the initial proposals although their configuration remains the same.

AC474 Congleton, and Crewe and Nantwich remain the same as the existing constituencies.

AC475 There were three constituencies that required only minimal change from the existing constituency in terms of ward movement, namely Wallasey, Birkenhead, and Tatton.

AC476 The following constituencies differ from the initial proposals: Mersey Banks and Weaver,

Widnes and Runcorn, Warrington South, and Warrington North. We have recommended a different name in the first instance only.

AC477 We recommend the same cross-county boundary constituency at Poynton as the initial proposals.

Greater Manchester

AC478 In relation to Greater Manchester, four of our constituencies are the same as the initial proposals: Cheadle, Hazel Grove and Poynton, Stalybridge and Hyde, and Wigan. We recommend that the names of the constituencies be adopted.

AC479 However, a total of 18 of our recommended constituencies (out of a total of 26 constituencies) have required no, or minimal, change to the existing constituency.

AC480 The existing constituencies which are retained are Heywood and Middleton, Leigh, Makerfield, Manchester Withington, Rochdale, Salford and Eccles, Wigan, Worsley and Eccles South, and Wythenshawe and Sale East. We recommend that the existing names be retained.

AC481 The constituencies that required only minimal change are Altrincham and Sale West, Bolton South East, Bolton West, Bury South, Bury North, Cheadle, Manchester Gorton, Stretford and Urmston, and Stalybridge and Hyde. Again, since there have been only minor alterations, with one exception³⁴ we recommend that the existing names of the constituencies be retained.

AC482 As indicated, we adopt the Commission's proposals for a cross-sub-regional Hazel Grove and Poynton

³⁴ We rename Manchester Gorton as Manchester Gorton and Reddish North.

Constituency	Ward	District/borough/city/county	Electorate
	Lostock	Chorley	3,428
	Pennine	Chorley	1,725
	Wheelton and Withnell	Chorley	3,248
20. Congleton CC			73,820
	Alsager	Cheshire East	9,497
	Congleton Rural	Cheshire East	10,439
	Congleton Town East	Cheshire East	10,693
	Congleton Town West	Cheshire East	11,162
	Middlewich	Cheshire East	10,424
	Sandbach	Cheshire East	9,961
	Sandbach East and Rode	Cheshire East	11,644
21. Crewe and Nantwich CC			78,845
	Crewe East	Cheshire East	11,744
	Crewe North	Cheshire East	10,724
	Crewe South	Cheshire East	10,954
	Crewe West	Cheshire East	9,432
	Doddington	Cheshire East	12,949
	Nantwich	Cheshire East	11,305
	Rope	Cheshire East	11,737
22. Crosby and Maghull CC			77,093
	Blundellsands	Sefton	8,910
	Church	Sefton	8,897
	Manor	Sefton	9,825
	Molyneux	Sefton	10,061
	Park	Sefton	9,702
	Ravenmeols	Sefton	9,412
	Sudell	Sefton	10,034
	Victoria	Sefton	10,252
23. Eddisbury CC			74,064
	Cholmondeley	Cheshire East	11,441
	Boughton Heath and Vicars Cross	Cheshire West and Chester	10,829
	Broxton	Cheshire West and Chester	9,640
	Eddisbury	Cheshire West and Chester	9,539
	Gowy	Cheshire West and Chester	11,418
	Winsford North and East	Cheshire West and Chester	10,813
	Winsford South and West	Cheshire West and Chester	10,384
24. Fylde CC			78,304
	Ansdell	Fylde	3,594
	Ashton	Fylde	3,735
	Central	Fylde	3,516
	Clifton	Fylde	3,400
	Elswick and Little Eccleston	Fylde	1,282
	Fairhaven	Fylde	3,584
	Freckleton East	Fylde	2,560
	Freckleton West	Fylde	2,330
	Heyhouses	Fylde	3,676
	Kilnhouse	Fylde	3,386
	Kirkham North	Fylde	3,231
	Kirkham South	Fylde	2,166
	Medlar-with-Wesham	Fylde	2,741
	Newton and Treales	Fylde	2,589
	Park	Fylde	4,284
	Ribby-with-Wrea	Fylde	1,188
	St Johns	Fylde	3,525
	St Leonards	Fylde	3,494
	Singleton and Greenhalgh	Fylde	1,164
	Staining and Weeton	Fylde	2,369
	Warton and Westby	Fylde	3,934
	Lea	Preston	4,756
	Breck	Wyre	2,743
	Hardhorn	Wyre	2,927
	High Cross	Wyre	2,931
	Tithebarn	Wyre	3,199

FIONA BRUCE MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Brian Hogan
Town Clerk
Congleton Town Council
Town Hall
Congleton CW12 1BN



9 October 2012

Our Ref: FB/SB

Dear Brian

I am writing to congratulate the Town Council on winning the Best Market Town in Cheshire award at the Community Pride Competition organised by Cheshire Community Action which I attended last week in Middlewich.

It was with great pride that I witnessed Councillor Doug Parker receiving the award.

Yours sincerely

Fiona Bruce MP
Member of Parliament for the Congleton Constituency
www.fionabruce.mp

Serving communities across Alsager, Congleton, Goostrey, Holmes Chapel, Middlewich and Sandbach