



# Congleton Town Council

Historic market town

Town Clerk: **BRIAN HOGAN**



29<sup>th</sup> August, 2012

Dear Councillor,

Special Town Council Meeting – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2012

You are summoned to attend a Special meeting of the Council, to be held in the Town Hall, Congleton on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2012 commencing at 6.30pm.**

**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 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2012. (enclosed)
3. Declarations of Interest  
Members are requested to declare both "personal" and "personal and prejudicial" interests as early in the meeting as they become aware of it.
4. Outstanding Actions  
None.

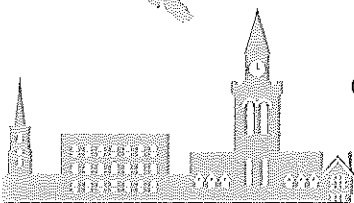


Congleton  
**beartown**  
where friends are made

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5. Northern Link Road

To consider and approve the route for the Northern Link Road (report to follow)

6. Public Realm Strategy

To confirm the priorities for the projects contained within the Public Realm Strategy (enclosed)

7. 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,  
23<sup>rd</sup> August 2012 in the Town Hall, Congleton.

**PRESENT:** Councillors

L D Barker  
P Bates  
G Baxendale  
R I Brightwell  
G R Edwards  
G P Hayes  
Mrs A M Martin  
D Murphy  
Mrs J D Parry  
N T Price  
E Wardlaw  
G Williams

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 D.S Allen, D.T Brown, J.S Crowther, S.A Holland, M. J Hutton, D.A Parker and R.K Williams

2. **MINUTES**

**CTC/23/1213 RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2012 be approved and signed by the Mayor.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

Councillor G Baxendale declared a personal interest in any matters related to Cheshire East Borough Council.

4. **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Deputy Town Mayor drew attention to the various engagements that the Mayor and he had attended.

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 Baxendale provided the following report:

1. Abacus Care providing domiciliary care in Cheshire East has ceased trading, but, users will continue to receive care from other sources.
2. The Congleton Northern Relief Road is to be called the "Northern Link Road", which will link Congleton and Macclesfield to the M6 providing a more effective East West route.
3. The Highways Department is undertaking the repair of pot holes in a more systematic and effective manner. Cheshire East Borough Council is also seeking to secure government funding to carry out further highway repair work.

8. **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**CTC/24/1213 RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> June and 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2012 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

9. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**CTC/25/1213 RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2012 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

10. **TOWN HALL COMMITTEE**

**CTC/26/1213 RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2012 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

11. **ACCOUNTS**

**CTC/27/1213 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.

12. **URGENT ITEMS**

There were no urgent matters raised.

13. **YOUTH COMMITTEE/JUNIOR COUNCIL**

**CTC/28/1213 RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the meetings held on the 18<sup>th</sup> June and 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2012 be received.

14. **CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Code of Conduct provided by Cheshire East Borough Council was presented to the Council for consideration along with a guide from DCLG, (Department for Communities and Local Government) on Openness and Transparency and a Declaration of Interests Form.

**CTC/29/1213 RESOLVED That:-**

1. The Code of Conduct be approved and adopted.
2. Councillors to return a completed Declaration of Interests Form to the Town Clerk.

15. **LOCAL SUPPORT FOR COUNCIL TAX**

The Council noted that the government is withdrawing a subsidy from principal councils for the support of non-rate payers. That is those residents who, for whatever reason, have been exempted from paying or who enjoy a reduced council tax.

A paper from Cheshire East Borough Council outlining its position on this subject was also considered.

**CTC/30/1213 RESOLVED That:-**

1. To inform Cheshire East, in the strongest possible terms, that Town and Parish Councils should not be expected to bear any costs of this change on their local precepts.
2. To lobby NALC (National association of Local Councils) and CHALC (Cheshire Association of Local Councils) to persuade the House of Lords to amend the legislation and remove any reference to Town and Parish Councils.

16. **CHESHIRE EAST LOCAL PLAN**

Correspondence from Cheshire East which explained the approach being taken to planning and development was considered.

**CTC/31/1213 RESOLVED that:** - The correspondence be received and noted.

17. **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

A letter from the Lord Lieutenant's office requesting that a Deputy Lord Lieutenant read a lesson or lay a wreath at the remembrance Service in Congleton was considered.

**CTC/32/1213 RESOLVED that:** - the Lord Lieutenant be invited to the Remembrance Service in November 2012.

18. **ANNUAL MEETING OF ChALC (Cheshire Association of Local Councils)**

A notice of motion for the Annual Meeting of Chalc was discussed.

**CTC/33/1213 RESOLVED that:** - Chalc and member councils be requested to reject any proposal put forward by Cheshire East to pass on any of the cost of local support for Council Tax.

19. **TOWN STRATEGY**

An amended Town Strategy was considered by the Council.

**CTC/34/1213 RESOLVED that:** - the amended Town strategy be approved.

20. **HONORARY BURGESS**

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor G. Hayes and the Town Clerk presented Mr. E. Clarke with a plaque confirming Mr Clarke as a Burgess of the Town of Congleton.

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

There was no resolution to exclude the public and press.

Mr. G Hayes

DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR

Special Town Council Meeting

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2012

Congleton Northern Link Road

The Congleton Town Strategy has as one of its objectives the promotion and delivery of a link road to bypass the Town and relieve the congestion and poor air quality being suffered on the existing bypass on a daily basis.

IMPROVING TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE FOR CONGLETON

This note sets out the process necessary to develop, promote and deliver new transport infrastructure for Congleton to support the town's existing economic base and future plans for growth emerging in the Cheshire East Council Local Plan. This will include consideration of a new Congleton Link Road based on the Corridor of Interest shown on the attached plan.

Feasibility work is required to rigorously examine the transport options to improve travel, connectivity and growth in Congleton and more widely across the Borough. Proposals will be robustly assessed and a preferred transport solution identified. This will cover the Congleton Link Road. This solution could be subject to scrutiny and so the Council needs to be sure it satisfies the test of reasonableness and that it has the necessary evidence to respond to any future objections.

The objectives for the study are:

- To support the economic, physical and social regeneration of Congleton;
- To relieve existing town centre traffic congestion and reduce traffic related pollution;
- To open up new development sites;
- To create and secure jobs;
- To improve access to Radnor Park Industrial Estate and Congleton Business Park;
- To improve strategic transport linkages across the Borough;
- To reduce community severance along existing town centre corridors.

These objectives will be used to determine a preferred solution. A range of schemes to achieve these goals will be tested from low cost local measures through to construction of a Link Road.

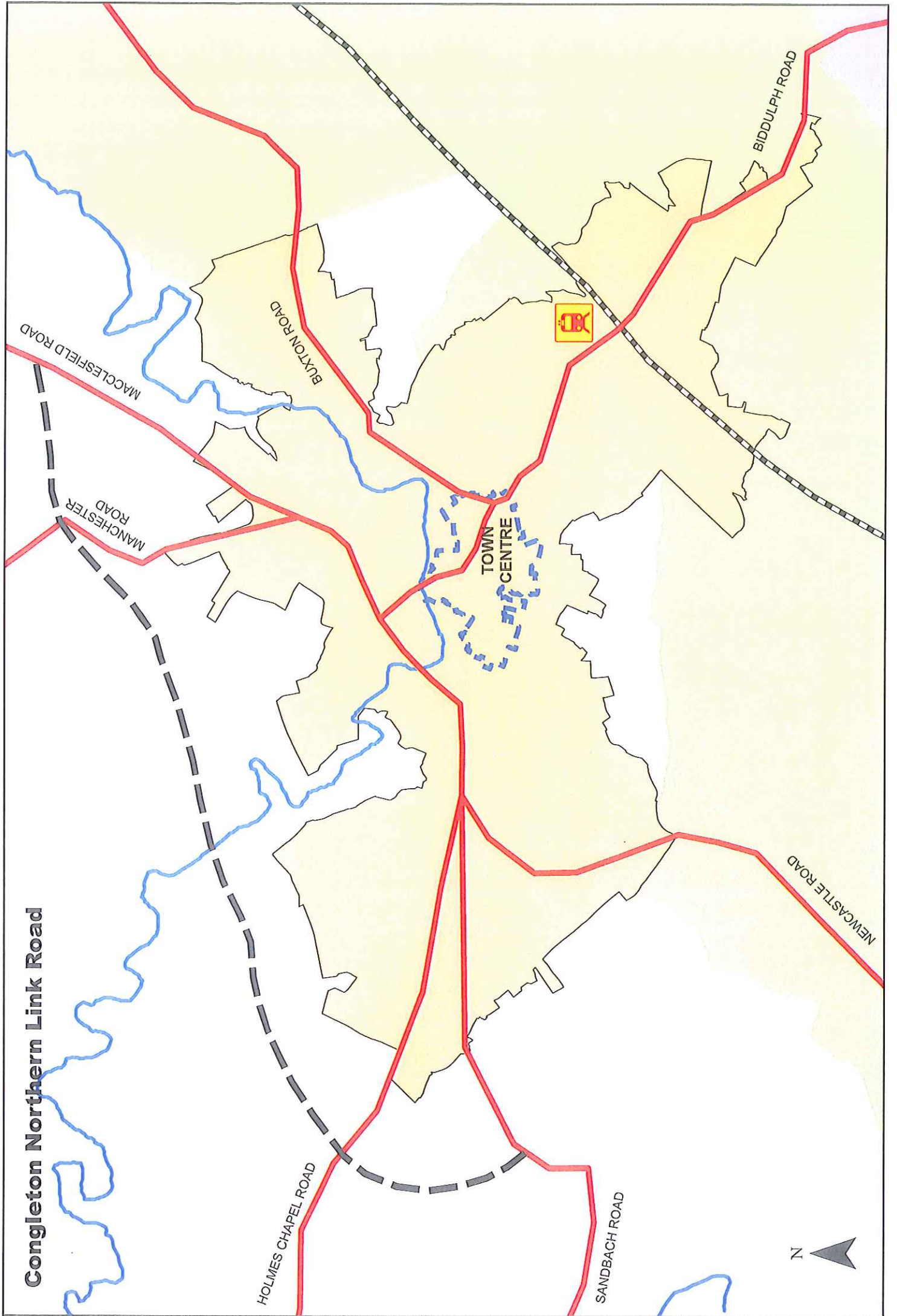
The scale and location of the growth being considered in the Local Plan would support the detailed investigation of a Congleton Link Road as a potential preferred transport solution. The Council will need to be able to demonstrate that any such road scheme is:

- Essential to achieve the level of development proposed;
- Works satisfactorily for the highway network of the town and the Borough;
- Is deliverable within the timescale of the Local Plan;
- Funding is achievable;
- Environmental impacts are outweighed by the economic/social benefits.

Recommendation

To approve the indicative route for the Congleton Northern Link Road





**Congleton Northern Link Road**

MACCLESFIELD ROAD

MANCHESTER ROAD

BUXTON ROAD

TOWN CENTRE

BIDDULPH ROAD

NEWCASTLE ROAD

HOLMES CHAPEL ROAD

SANDBACH ROAD



Report to a Special Meeting of the Town Council

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2012

Public Realm Strategy

The public Realm Strategy was delivered and approved by the Town Council some months ago and has now moved to the more difficult delivery phase which is reliant upon the sourcing of substantial funds.

The Town Clerk has been working with Cheshire East Borough Council in trying to identify funding to implement at least one of the 12 projects identified in the Public Realm Strategy.

At a meeting held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August with the Leader of Cheshire East Council Michael Jones, Rachael Bailey Cabinet Member and Rachael Bolton S106 Officer and Mike Smith, £k310 of S106 money has been identified which Michael Jones has designated towards the Public Realm Strategy.

The Leader would like a project to commence quickly and wants to publicise Cheshire East's support for what we are trying to achieve in Congleton, therefore the priorities identified in the Strategy need to be confirmed, which are:-

The costs below are grouped according to their level of priority

	<b>Immediate Priorities</b>	<b>Total Cost £4.1m</b>
Project 1	Festival Square	£420,000
Project 2	Pedestrian Zone	£650,000
Project 3	Mountbatten Way	£2,600,000
Project 4	Rood Hill	£430,000
	<b>Secondary Priorities</b>	<b>Total Cost £3.3m</b>
Project 5	High Street	£1,250,000
Project 6	Lawton Street	£585,000
Project 7	Mill Street/Swan Bank	£870,000
Project 8	Route to the Park	£510,000
	<b>Tertiary Priorities</b>	<b>Total cost £1.1m</b>
Project 9	West Street	£595,000
Project 10	Bus Station Zone	£345,000
Project 11	Leisure Centre	£75,000
Project 12	Gateways	£?

Immediate priorities are the projects which should be undertaken in the short term as a means of facilitating and promoting further developments – setting the standard for the

remainder of the town's public realm. Such projects will have the most effect on the physical appearance of the town to visitors and shoppers

The most visible and affordable of such projects is the Festival Square which would have an immediate impact upon drivers and shoppers

Recommended

1. That Festival Square be confirmed as the project number 1
2. The Town Council consider providing £k50 contribution to the project from the Capital Contingency Fund

Brian Hogan

30.08.12