

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community Environment and Services		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	15 th March 2018 7.00pm	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Jackie MacArthur - Town Centre and Marketing Manager		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	12 CCTV Update		
Background	<p>Congleton currently has seven CCTV cameras which are monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from the Cheshire East Council Control room at Macclesfield Town Hall</p> <p>207 – Swan Bank/ Mill Street/ Duke Street/ Bridge Street – located near Peacocks 208 – Pedestrian Area , Market Street, High Street, located outside B&M 209 – Market Street , Mountbatten Way to Bears Roundabout – located near Martone Cars 210 – Lawton Street – full length 211 – Congleton Park – shows the rugby pitches/ play area/ Pavilion 212 – Congleton Park – shows the polytunnels/ Pavilion/ entrances to the Park 213 – Bromley Farm – in the play area by the Community Centre</p> <p>The Town Council pays £9,250 per year to Cheshire East Council to monitor these cameras 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p> <p>Cllr Sally Ann Holland, Cllr Suzie Akers Smith and Jackie MacArthur visited the control room in Macclesfield as part of a fact finding mission. The quality of the images, the ability to zoom in and pick out details was very impressive. There is nothing wrong with the quality and clarity of the images.</p> <p>The task was therefore to look at whether Congleton needed to improve its CCTV coverage and if so what was the best way to proceed.</p>		
Considerations	<p>Following conversations with the Police, CCTV control room and through discussions at the Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group the areas where there have been a requests for CCTV are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Tesco Barn Road Roundabout - due to the amount of crime reported from Barn Road and in order to 'lock' down the town as this would also cover the A34 route through Congleton.2. Congleton Market/ Princess Street Area – the suggestion was to discuss this with Scarborough as part of the planning applications. Since the introduction of the Public Space Protection Order the Police have noted a drop in the amount of problems in this area.3. The Community Garden – there has been a concern that the camera in Lawton Street does not capture any activities in the Community Garden and that this area could benefit from a camera4. Mill Green – residents have requested CCTV along this route due to damage to cars		

	<p>Before any cameras can be installed it is necessary to carry out a Privacy impact assessment. Just because a camera is possible, affordable or has public support does not mean that it is the right solution. It has to be proportionate. If the four areas above were to be considered then a full impact would be carried out by Cheshire East Council on each area to check that the criteria is met.</p> <p>COSTS</p> <p>During the visit to the Control room using CCTV cameras with WIFI connection was discussed as the best way forward. This would offer flexibility of location due to cameras not being hard-wired, although they would still need to be connected to an electricity supply and consequently greatly reduced set-up costs. These new WIFI cameras were due to be piloted by Cheshire East in a couple of areas. Unfortunately a change by the operating companies has led to questions over whether this is a suitable way forward due to potentially limited working hours per day. Cheshire East Council is currently not recommending this form of camera.</p> <p>Congleton Town Council has been advised that the worse-case cost scenario would be a set-up fee of £6,825 per camera. This is based on a very recent quote given to another Cheshire East town. This price includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a full ptz (pan- tilt and zoom) camera, 2MP, 25x Optical zoom and full night vision on-board. • BT Fibre Optic, 7 meter column with security base cab, anti-climb mount and 1sq meter of concrete under the street itself. • Fully digital line dedicated back to the control room 24/7 maintained by BT <p>On top of this there would be an annual maintenance and operating fee of £1,850 per camera per year.</p> <p>Note a hard-wired camera is not easily moveable as the majority of the costs are in the set up and wiring of the camera.</p>
<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>Recommend that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Congleton Town Council continues to work with the CCTV team at Cheshire East and organises a site visit to get firm costs for a camera on Barn Road. 2. Discussions are held with Scarborough to look longer term at camera within the Mills development. 3. Mill Green and the Community Garden are put on hold until more mobile technology becomes available.