



Congleton Town Council

Historic Market Town

Chief Officer: David McGifford CILCA

26th July 2019

Dear Councillor,

Community, Environment and Services Committee – Thursday 1st August 2019

You are requested to attend a meeting of the Community, Environment & Services Committee, to be held in the Town Hall, High Street, Congleton on **Thursday 1st August 2019 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.

****Please note – There will be an Emergency meeting of the Council prior to this meeting commencing at 6.15pm.**

Yours sincerely,

David McGifford
CHIEF OFFICER

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

(Members are reminded of the necessity to give apologies in Advance of the meeting and to give reasons for absence).

2. Minutes of Last Meeting (Enclosed)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 27th June 2019 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.

4. Outstanding Actions

Note that these actions are covered in Agenda Item 11 - Updates paper.



Congleton
beartown
where friends are made

5. Questions from Members of the Public

To receive any questions from Members of the Public including those received in writing 7 days prior to the meeting.

- Letter from Congleton Pride Group
- Question on the green space at the back of the Town Hall (Val Scaresbrook)
- Question on Bromley Woods (Val Scaresbrook)

6. Cheshire Police (Verbal Update)

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

7. Floral Arrangement Working Group (Enclosed)

To receive the minutes of the Floral Arrangement Working Group held on 25th June 2019.

8. Sheldon Avenue - Bins and Parking (Enclosed)

To discuss a report and presentation from Cllrs Suzie Akers Smith and Rob Moreton requesting support for resolving issues in this area.

9. Ruby's Fund – Update on the Sensory Centre and Appeal for Help (Enclosed)

To discuss a report and receive a presentation from Ruby's fund on the imminent sale of the premises.

10. Congleton Christmas Lights 2019 (Enclosed)

To receive a report on the plans for Congleton Christmas Lights and to agree a lead member to join the Christmas Team.

11. Updates Paper from June 27th 2019 (Enclosed)

To receive an updates paper highlighting issues raised at the previous Community, Environment & Services Committee meeting.

12. Health and Well-Being Working Group (Enclosed)

To receive the minutes from the Health and Well-Being Working Group from 20th June 2019.

13. Congleton Market Working Group (Verbal Update)

To receive an update from the Congleton Market Working Group.

14. Congleton in Bloom (Verbal Update)

To receive an update on the North West in Bloom judging day, which took place on 25th July 2019.

To: Members of the Community, Environment and Services Committee

Cllrs: **Kay Wesley (Chair), Dawn Allen (Vice Chair)**

Martin Amies, Paul Duffy, Suzy Firkin, Margaret Gartside, Amanda Martin, Denis Murphy, Jean Parry and Mark Rogan

Ccs: Appointed Members - Mr G Baxendale (Honorary Burgess)
Mr E Clarke (Honorary Burgess)

Other members of the Council for Information; Police, Honorary Burgess (1), Press (2), Congleton Library, Congleton Tourist Information Centre.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 27th JUNE 2019

Please note - These are draft minutes and will not be ratified until the next meeting of the Community, Environment and services Committee on 1st August 2019

PRESENT:

Committee members:

Dawn Allen (Vice Chair)
Martin Amies
Paul Duffy
Suzy Firkin
Margaret Gartside
Amanda Martin
Denis Murphy
Jean Parry
Mark Rogan
Kay Wesley (Chair)
Sally Ann Holland (Town Mayor)

Non-Committee members

Suzie Akers Smith, Russell Chadwick, Robert Douglas, James Smith

1. Apologies for absence.

Non-committee member Rob Moreton.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

CES/01/1920 Resolved to receive the minutes from the meeting held on the 14th March 2019 as a correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of Interest were received from Cllr Sally Ann Holland, Cllr Denis Murphy and Cllr Suzie Akers Smith - all Cheshire East Council.

4. Outstanding Actions

- White Ribbon Campaign - noted that information had been received from Richard Walton enabling actions on this project to progress
- Speed Watch campaign - noted working with PCSOs to promote the volunteer SpeedWatch teams and that the funding request for a SID from the Police Crime Commissioner had been rejected.

5. Questions from Members of the Public

Richard Whitelock raised two questions:

- a) There appears to be a distinction between traffic offences that can be dealt with by the Police and those by Cheshire East Council Officers. Apart from the fact that this is very confusing for members of the public who see the offences being ignored by the 'wrong type' of officer; is there a way that the two forces could combine their efforts to find a solution.
- b) Is there a possibility of a scheme (similar to SpeedWatch) for the recruitment of volunteers to monitor e.g. School Clearways?. I have offered to volunteer if such a scheme was possible but have not had a response from parking at Cheshire East Council.

Both of these requests will be passed to the Police and Cheshire East Council for a response.

6. Cheshire Police

An update report was given by PC Helen Weeks - see summary Appendix A

7. Anti Social Behaviour Working Group

CES/02/1920 Resolved to receive the minutes from the Anti-Social Behaviour held on the 6th February 2019 and 3rd April 2019.

8. Floral Arrangement Working Group

CES/03/1920 Resolved to receive the minutes of the Floral Arrangement Working Group held on 21st March, 11th April and 13th May 2019. Note the name of the group was questioned which will be raised by the appropriate members at the next working group.

9. Congleton Market Working Group

CES/04/1920 Resolved to receive an update from the Market Working Group. Noted that the group was still waiting for some key information from Cheshire East Council and had planned a meeting with Congleton's Market Traders on Tuesday 2nd July.

10. Health and Well-Being Working Group

CES/05/1920 Resolved to receive a verbal update at the meeting. Agreed in principle to the working group exploring issues around Mental Health provision in Congleton and to report back to a future meeting of Community Environment and Services Committee.

11. Congleton Green

Received a paper by Peter Aston, Chair of Congleton Sustainability Group (CSG) on Congleton Green which led to a lengthy discussion.

CES/06/1920 Resolved that a small working group made up of CSG and Town Councillors would put together some proposals and priority suggestions for Congleton. Town Councillors wishing to be on the group: Jean Parry, Mark Rogan, Martin Amies, Suzy Firkin, Sally Ann Holland (but with restricted time in 2019/20 due to Mayoral duties). Noted that Cllr Suzie Akers Smith and Cllr Margaret Gartside are already on the Congleton Sustainability Group.

12. Living Streets

Received a paper from Cllr Suzie Akers Smith, Cllr Margaret Gartside and Patti Pinto to consider becoming a member of Living Streets and outlining positive steps that could be taken towards becoming a walking town.

CES/07/1920 resolved that:

- a) Congleton should sign up to Living Streets
- b) Further discussions, including professional advice, needed on actions that the town can implement as part of Living Streets and towards an integrated and sustainable transport policy.

13. Congleton Makers Market

CES/08/1920 Resolved to note the report into the monthly Makers Market held in Congleton on the last Saturday of the month.

14. Reducing the Road Traffic Speed Limit on Reades Lane

CES/09/1920 Resolved to support a residents' campaign to have the 30mph speed limit on Reades Lane extended as far as the Coach and Horses Public House. Officers to inform the two residents of Town Council's support and to write a strongly worded letter in support of the request to Cheshire East Council Highways asking them to take the request forward. PCSO Jess Shore to request a temporary Speed Indication Device (SID) for the road.

15. Lack of Dropped Kerb by the Citizens Advice Bureau

CES/10/ 1920 Resolved to write to Cheshire East Highways supporting the request for a dropped kerb outside the Citizens Advice Bureau in Lawton Street Congleton and to carry out a review dropped kerbs in Congleton with Cheshire East Highway Inspectors to report to a future meeting.

16. Remembering Marie Johnson

It was noted that a meeting would be held with three nieces of Marie Johnson on Wednesday 3rd July and a report given on the actions proposed.

17. Mountview

At the time of the meeting there had not been any official communication from Cheshire East on the future of Mountview or the proposed relocation venue for the services currently provided at Mountview. If appropriate this will come to a future meeting.

**Kay Wesley
(Chair)**

APPENDIX A

Report from the Police given by PC Helen Weeks

DRUGS: No warrants executed in May/June

There are both overt and covert operations ongoing with updates in the future.

One notable incident on 19/6/19, during a Beat team led operation, 2 males arrested Procession With Intent To Supply (PWITS) in Buglawton linked to county lines. Investigation still ongoing.

BURGLARIES/VEHICLE CRIME: There was a small increase in burglaries and vehicle crime in April/May but the arrest of a well-known local nominal has seen a reduction in these offences recently so no major issues to report

ASB: No notable incidents to report. Issues with the Crewe urban street gang appear to have abated. Several Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs) have been granted to a number of the gang with others currently being sought.

TRAFFIC: No notable events/incidents to report

No other incidents/issues to report at this time

FLORAL ARRANGEMENT WORKING GROUP

25th June 2019 Main Hall, 3.00pm

Minutes

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.

- 1. Minutes of the Last Meeting:** To approve the notes of the meeting held on the 18th June as a correct record.
 - Approved.
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** Members are requested to declare both "pecuniary" and "non-pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become known.
 - AMartin, non-pecuniary interest in New Life Church.
- 3. Final Route- 9th July IYN:**
 - New judge- Alan Hulme- need to contact to ask about refreshment breaks, when and where. MH to get contact details and speak to Alan. OSM for lunch makes the most sense as already there. Option to have a break before judging at Church House, need to confirm with Sandra.
 - Astbury Mere Care Home, 100th birthday celebration for the judges at the end. Jenny will put together an invite for this, to be clipped to the agenda.
 - NLC Jubilee Club have come out of IYN judging due to lack of key members. Suggested for Albie to come to the lunch/ have a board and talk to the judges on the 25th. Also talk about NLC in the portfolio and presentation.
 - Suggested Anna Morrison to go with the judges at AMCH.
 - ACTION MH- to ask IYN's if they need any help and their definite timings.
- 4. Final Route- 25th July- Town Entry:**
 - Play area at NLC could have heras fencing up and closed due to the rusted railings being exposed and a hazard. ACTION GW- needs to speak to Matt Smith regarding the fencing at NLC.
 - Partnership minibus damaged, can't guarantee it will be available on the day- could be fixed, but unsure- GW to check if the smaller minibus is available.
 - Community Orchard- rangers doing a lot more work and keen to be there on the day.
 - Astbury Mere- need to book teas and coffees and bacon sandwiches early that morning for the presentation.
 - Need to meet with Matt Axford again before judging day- DB, PP, GW- week before judging on 25th.
 - Ennerdale Drive- see if John SC could letter drop round this area- update 2018 letter and print. Also add in regarding weeds and getting this sorted in this area.
 - NLC to be removed and volunteers asked to come to lunch.
 - Elizabeth Garden- need to sort the railings- RB to email Matt to say we will be painting as a quick fix. MH to order rust paint- black.
 - Decided to walk across and visit St. Mary's Parish Centre
 - Try to have Streetscape staff working on the Fire Station RB
 - Cenotaph- no start date as yet, but planned to be late July. Suggested to have a permanent picture of the plans for the cenotaph.
 - AMorrison to organise Ian Doughty to be ready for 12.00 noon at the Town Hall and invited for lunch.

- Need to arrange a cone by Prince of Wales for parking for the Bath House.
- Could some town centre planters be moved to Antrobus Street CP on the day?
- Park- Look at the plaque, then to B2B Gardens, then move to the Wheelbarrow Exhibition at the Bandstand.
- Carter House artwork to be on the outside of the bungalow to show this off, at the park.
- MH to organise lunch in Town Hall with TCB & cake in the park after North West in Bloom judging and before the park judging.

5. Action Plan:

- Pathway/ grassed area at Margaret's Place- RB suggested to have bark down on this area to create a path.
- RB to speak to Ansa about road sweeping the day before judging- was suggested for Graham Construction to do this, but need to check insurances.
- Astbury Mere & Matt Axford are booked- need to get in contact with new trustee Alison to see if she can be there.
- Interpretation boards for Antrobus Street- new photos and Cenotaph.
- Gold Medal board to be put up at Fairground CP & order gold rosettes to be added.
- Town Centre sign at bottom of Rood Hill- needs to be cleaned.
- Posters to go into shop windows- MH
- Sponsorship board- MH
- IB article in BN June edition
- Need to liaise with Ansa to make sure okay to store wheelbarrows in the polytunnels for the week. DB suggested to have a story about this in the Chronicle on the 15th July- ask for front cover.
- Graham Construction- see if they can clean these.
- Penny Farthing structure on Park Lane RB- too late to do this now.

6. Portfolio & Presentation:

- DB to meet with JMac re: presentation run through.
- JMac able to make an animoto video- use floral dance for the music.

7. AOB:

- 21st CIB Birthday Cake- RB confirmed to make the cake.
- Tiered planter by Crema and should be at Peacocks end- is there chance to move this?
- AMorrison to get some plants to plant up the tubs at the front of the museum.
- Plant up session at Bradwell Court on Weds 3rd, 1-3pm- get press here/ have pictures. With friends and family, part of Bromley Farm in Bloom.
- Press possibly at AMCH for the 100th birthday.
- Any high-res pictures needed from FB- let PP know and will send over.
- Plaque in the park has started- 24.06.19
- Clayton Bypass- railings have been fixed here- same for MBW? Ask Richard Cooper.

Date of Next Meeting: TBC

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community, Environment and Services		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	1st August 2019 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Cllrs Robert Moreton and Suzie Akers Smith		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	8 Sheldon Avenue – request for help with bins and parking		
CURRENT STATUS	<p>Sheldon Avenue Residents would like Congleton Town Council to support a proposal to Cheshire Police and Cheshire East Council Environmental Services to find a solution to bins belonging to Biddulph Road and Cross Lane residents and the local business being left permanently on the corner of the pavement of Sheldon Avenue. This will then rid the area of fly tipping, pavement obstruction, anti-social behaviour and a health hazard due to the considerable rubbish and mess left on Sheldon Avenue.</p> <p>This problem has not been dealt with effectively in 7 years and it has come to the point where a solution needs to be found, rather than just saying there isn't a solution.</p>		
BACKGROUND INFORMATION	<p>Over a number of years the rubbish and recycling bins that belong to residents, shops and business on Biddulph Road and Cross Lane have been permanently stored on the pavements in Sheldon Avenue. These bins do not belong to Sheldon Avenue residents. This problem has escalated to the extent that the bins are causing an obstruction on the pavement along with vehicles parking on the pavement, people fly tip there because there is so much rubbish people just leave other rubbish there piling it up on the pavement. This problem also falls under anti-social behaviour and is a health hazard to the residents, also causing obstructions to those who are reliant on mobility aids.</p> <p>There has been no enforcement to move the bins off the pavement by Cheshire East Council Environmental Services and there has been no enforcement by the police to issue tickets to the vehicle owners causing an obstruction. This problem is blighting the lives of all the residents of Sheldon Avenue and we need to help find a satisfactory resolution to the problems outlined in the report title.</p> <p>A recent example 'My wife went out with her niece and her young son in a pram and they could not walk on the pavements with the pram because the bins and cars on the pavements blocked their pathway. Similar they could not get back through the alleyway from Cross Lane to Sheldon Ave a route they considered safer because the alleyway was blocked on the Sheldon Avenue side by a red commercial bin and a parked car. They had to walk around the bin and cars into the road. My wife has already had one near miss doing this with a reversing HGV in Sheldon Avenue.</p>		

	<p>A neighbour's daughter was almost hit by a car walking in the road.'</p> <p>The lack of enforcement by the police to the vehicles means that everybody blocks the pavement, and the householders and businesses leave their residential bins and large commercial bins littering the pavement, when they should put them away. The biggest fear is that someone is going to get seriously injured or killed if nothing is done.</p>
SUGGESTED WAY FORWARD	<p>We would like to suggest:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A site visit by Cheshire Police and Environmental Services and the Town Council Community, Environmental and Services Committee Chair and Vice Chair along with the residents of Sheldon Avenue and Cheshire East Ward Councillors. 2. Having inspected the site it is highly unacceptable that the bins left out do not belong to residents on Sheldon Avenue and are left in full view, day in day out for 365 days of the year. Smelling somewhat, particularly in the summer and causing a trip hazard because vehicles also park on the pavement obstructing the pavement. it is entirely plausible that a space for the bins is found at the back of the premises relating to the flats/shops on Biddulph Road. If all the residents of Sheldon Avenue left their bins on the pavement all week this action would be unacceptable to the council and the police. We need to find an alternative solution. 3. The owner of the flats owns a piece of land that is part of the flats, it is a possibility the bins could be stored out of site on this land and correspondence should be entered into with this person to find out if they are willing to cooperate to help find a solution to the left out bins. 4. Another possible solution is to have one larger bin that has the capacity to hold 6 bins worth of rubbish. We looked in the bins and all the rubbish is encased in black bin liners which shows that the residents of the flats carry the rubbish down the stairs, whether they place it in a small bin or a joint larger bin would be a lot less detritus on the pavement. A screen of some description could be erected in front of the bins to make the view more amenable for everyone. This could also prevent pavement parking which is causing significant obstruction to the pavement for pedestrians and people using mobility aids. 5. There are two garages that are used for storage (not vehicles), with two large bins in front of them that belong to the Premier food shop on Cross Lane. There is space at the rear of the shop that the bins could be placed. The shop leaves rubbish there anyway only to then put it into the bins on Sheldon Avenue. This possible solution would not prevent the two vehicles that currently park in the rear yard from still being able to do so. This way the bins would be out of site and closer to the shop to place their rubbish in. <p>If this was done and the Cheshire East Council enforcement team monitored this change in behaviour to ensure it is carried out on a week by week basis, the shops and flats would get used to it and the residents of Sheldon Avenue can live in much more pleasant surroundings.</p>

	<p>Also the bin owners are causing anti-social behaviour by leaving bins out all week. Which according to the description of ASB, which is conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person and conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises.</p> <p>The residents of Sheldon Avenue have been complaining about this problem for over 7 years, neither the Borough Council or Cheshire Police have taken constructive action to prevent the bins being left out causing a mess and a disturbance, or have any vehicle drivers been fined for obstructing the pavement. We need to look at alternative options to find a solution, rather than just say there is nothing that can be done, which is what has happened previously. Something can be done, we just need to be a bit more creative.</p> <p>Not only are these bins an obstruction on the pavement for wheelchair and mobility scooter users and parents with pushchairs, they are also a fire and trip hazard and contravene health and safety rules. The large number of plastic wheelie bins in the case of those stored permanently against the side wall of the chip shop building where there are residential flats above the premises represents a significant fire load. Should these bins become ignited by whatever means, malicious or otherwise the subsequent fire is likely to spread to the building. If this was to occur at night whilst people are sleeping in those flats this could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Doing nothing is not an option as was the conclusion of the previous enquiry Pictures and details attached.</p>
PROPOSAL	<p>For officers of Congleton Town Council to support Cheshire East Ward members in arranging a site visit as a matter of urgency with the Chair and Vice Chair of CES, Police and Environmental Health and Ward Councillors. To work with the various parties involved to resolve this long-standing issue.</p>

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community, Environment and Services		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	1st August 2019 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Town Marketing and Events Manager and Deputy Chief Officer		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	9 Ruby's Fund – Update on the Sensory Centre and appeal for Help		
CURRENT STATUS	<p>The landlord has given notice to Ruby's Fund that they are going to sell the premises that the fund is currently occupying. Ruby's Fund has first option to purchase the premises for £295,000. Ruby's Fund needs to confirm the intention to purchase the premises by the end of September 2019 and the funds need to be available by Spring 2020. The property will be sold in Spring 2020.</p> <p>A member of Ruby's Fund will give a short presentation to the Town Council to update the Town Council on the work and issues facing the centre and to seek support helping to secure this valuable community asset for Congleton, Cheshire East and the wider area.</p>		
BACKGROUND INFORMATION	<p>The purpose of Ruby's Fund is to run an inclusive sensory centre and social café for children and young people with additional needs and disabilities, and their families, carers and friends to provide a safe stimulating environment giving individuals and groups the chance to explore and develop in an inclusive setting which is also ideal for therapy, relaxation, education and most importantly friendship and fun.</p> <p>OUR AIMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To meet the needs of local children and adults with additional needs by working alongside National & Local Government policies and targets• To provide a much needed safe environment where those with additional needs can play and develop in a space designed around their needs.• To enable the client to be physically active, make positive choices and socialise with others, thus promoting physical and emotional health.• To provide clients with an environment where they will be able to make positive relationships with their peers, and learn not to bully or discriminate.• To furnish clients with the key skills needed to work effectively with each other and care for the environment that they are in.• To provide an environment where children and adults with additional needs will be encouraged to work as part of a team as well as individually.• To encourage leadership and problem-solving skills in order to maximise all our clients chances of future employment.		

	<p>Ruby's Fund was started in 2008 when Ruby's mum, Alison identified a gap in support and services for children with additional needs and their families as a result of her own experiences with her daughter Ruby. After five years of fundraising, Ruby's fund found a home at Meridian House in Congleton. In 2014, through hard work and with the support of donations and grants they were able to renovate the building, open the doors and provide our community with much needed facilities, support and services.</p>
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	<p>The centre has been award Cheshire East Council Connected Community Centre status by Cheshire East as it has around 25,000 visitors per year.</p>
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	<p>The Centre runs a variety of sessions, support services and activities for children and parent carers. We are now entering our third year as a commissioned service by Cheshire East to deliver Short Breaks to children aged 0-8 years with additional needs.</p>
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	<p>See PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY RUBY'S FUND as appendix A :</p>
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Meridian House, Roe Street, Congleton CW12 1PG
Email: info@rubysfund.co.uk Tel: 01260 277666

PRESS RELEASE INVITE TO LAUNCH PRESS AND MEDIA

The purpose of Ruby's Fund is to run an inclusive sensory centre and social café for children and young people with additional needs and disabilities, and their families, carers and friends to provide a safe stimulating environment giving individuals and groups the chance to explore and develop in an inclusive setting which is also ideal for therapy, relaxation, education and most importantly friendship and fun.

<https://www.rubysfund.co.uk/>

We will have to close our doors next year if we cannot raise Circa £295,000 to buy our building.

Our landlord needs a commitment to buy now.

We will launch a film about the centre and an appeal to raise funds

We will have seen over 125,000 people through our centre since opening in 2014.

Where will they go? What will they do? What will be the impact?

To hear the full story, watch the film, meet the staff and centre users join us on Thursday 1st August at 10am at Ruby's Fund Sensory Centre.

Hear and see our incredible journey, we don't want it to end.

Press packs will be available



CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community Environment and Services		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	1 st August 2019 7.00pm	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Jackie MacArthur – Town Marketing and Events Manager and Deputy Chief Officer		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	10 Congleton Christmas Lights 2019		
Background	<p>This paper has been written to give members an insight into the plans for the Christmas Lights Switch on 2019 and to request that at least one Councillor joins the Christmas team.</p> <p>Congleton has enjoyed Christmas Light Switch on for more than 20 years. Until 2008 this event was organised solely through Congleton Community Projects. As the Town Council expanded and more lights were required it became a joint venture between Congleton Community Projects and the Town Council. The Town Council takes responsibility for the health and safety of the event and is the event's main sponsor.</p> <p>Jo Money from Congleton Community Projects and Martha Hayes from the Town Council will attend the meeting and take any questions.</p> <p>SCOPE OF THE PROJECT</p> <p>1. Decorating the Town: The Town Council owns the lights to decorate the town. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Four across street road catenary lights, with droppers• 24 lamp-post lights with two different designs and dropper lights• Festoon lighting for the pedestrian area and Little Street• Lights for the front of the Town Hall• Christmas Tree Lights and the tree lights. <p>The colour scheme is silver and gold. The lights are all LED (they have been replaced over the years). We are on the second year of PME Electrical taking responsibility for storing, maintaining, installing and removing the lights. The Town Council has a budget of £15,000 for the Christmas Lights in 2019/20. Last year £7524 was spent on all costs connected with the lights, which included buying many replacement bulbs and anchor point testing. The remainder is in an Ear Marked Reserve for purchasing new lights in the future.</p> <p>2. In addition to the lights, local shops are encouraged to purchase a small Christmas Tree(s) which are installed above the shop. This is managed in a similar way to the hanging baskets. The shops cover the cost of the tree, provide the lights and the electricity and they pay extra if we install and remove. There are usually around 100 small trees above shops.</p>		

3. **Main Tree** – until last year this was purchased from Cheshire East Ansa. Last year PME Maintenance Ltd provided the tree.
4. **Switch-on Event:** - Until 2016 this was held on a Friday evening from 4.30pm – 7.30pm. In 2017 the Christmas group moved the event to an all-day Saturday event following feedback from the public that Friday evening was difficult for families and many people missed the switch on due to work. The event worked well on a Saturday in 2017 and 2018, however there were some concerns about over-crowding, particularly in the hour leading up to and immediately after the switch-on.

In 2019 the plan is :

- a) for the switch-on to take place on Saturday 23rd November – giving 4 shopping weekends with the decorative lights on.
- b) for the lights to be turned on at 5.30pm.
- c) to move the stage from the space between B&M and Barclays out into the centre of the road area and have a round stage with sound going up and down the street.
- d) to have local organisations and Santa's grotto in the Town Hall.
- e) to have more children's fair rides and hot foods on the High Street.
- f) to have more local groups in the pedestrian area. This year the event will not be held in conjunction with the Makers Market, due to space and movement issues. The Makers Market will run on a separate day.
- g) to have a range of street and stage entertainment.
- h) to have the traditional lantern parade – Congleton Community Projects organise lantern making workshops throughout November. The parade is extremely successful and people who remember making lanterns when they were children are now bringing their children!
- i) for the event is jointly marketed through Congleton Town Council and Congleton Community Projects.

The Congleton Lights Switch on usually attracts several thousand people. The event is funded partly through the Town Council which sets aside budget for the event and partly through sponsorship and funds from putting up trees. Last year the total spend for the Lights Switch on event was £7943. The Town Council has a budget of £4,000 which is put towards the event and the remainder was raised through sponsorship, stall fees and donations.

5. **Other Christmas related entertainment** - this includes booking entertainment for Saturdays leading up to Christmas and working with traders to promote Congleton's Christmas offer to a wider audience.

	<p>The current Christmas Team is made up of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alan Parton – Congleton Rotary • Bob Edwards –Congleton events volunteer • Chris Booth – Congleton events volunteer • Douglas Parker – Helps MC and lead Community Singing • Jackie MacArthur – Congleton Town Council • Jo Money – Congleton Community Projects • Linda Ward – Congleton Marshals • Martha Hayes - Congleton Town Council • Sue Trow – Congleton Town Council <p>As the Town Council is the major sponsor, the team would ideally like one or two Councillors to be part of the Christmas Team, to help with the finer details of Christmas 2019 and to be fully involved in the planning of Christmas 2020. There will be a request nearer the time for as many volunteers as possible on the day with a list of times and duties.</p>
Decision Requested	To note this report and to nominate a Councillor to be part of the Congleton Christmas Team for 2019.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community Environment and Services		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	1 st August 2019 7.00pm	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Jackie MacArthur – Town Marketing and Events Manager and Deputy Chief Officer		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	11 Updates Paper from Community, Environment and Services Committee - 27 June 2019		
Background	Many of the items raised at the CES Committee on the 27 th June 2019 are being progressed. The purpose of this paper is to update Councillors on those actions, rather than listing them under outstanding actions or writing a full paper on them.		
WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN	Three Councillors, Cllr Mark Rogan, Cllr Paul Duffy and Cllr Kay Wesley along with Chief Officer David McGifford will work with the local White Ribbon co-ordinator, Richard Walton, to develop an action plan to enable the Town Council to gain accreditation. The aim is to develop a proposed plan by the September meeting of this committee.		
SPEED WATCH	It was agreed there would be an article in the next Bear Necessities – this is due out early October 2019.		
CONGLETON GREEN	CES/06/1920 – Five Town Councillors were nominated to work with members of the Congleton Partnership Sustainability Group to develop a Congleton Green plan in line with the Cheshire East Climate Change Emergency call for a reduction in carbon footprint. The first meeting of Congleton Green sub-group meeting on the 17 th July at the Old Saw Mill. The next meeting is planned for Wednesday 31 st July. The group is aiming to bring some recommendations to the CES committee in September meeting.		
LIVING STREETS	CES/07/1920 - Work has commenced considering the Transport for New Homes, Integrated Transport Solutions and Living Streets Campaign. It is expected that a Strategy Group meeting for all councillors will be held in August/ early September to consider this vast topic and to work towards a responding to Cheshire East Council's Transport Strategy update in September.		
Reades Lane Road Speeds	CES/09/1920 - A letter has been sent to Cheshire East Highways and discussions held with the officers in the Highways department. The advice given was the request should also be made by Ward Councillors through Members Enquiries at Cheshire East Council and to get it onto the agenda for the Cheshire East Area Highways meeting.		

Dropped Kerb	<p>CES/10/ 1920 - A letter has been sent to Cheshire East Highways re the dropped kerbs and as with CES/09/1920 the advice was for Cheshire East Ward Councillors to also raise through members enquiries and to get this onto the Area Highways meetings. Since the CES meeting there was a walk around with a local lady with her guide dog and a Community Engagement Officer from Vision Support. This raised some additional issues which needs to be built into the wider review.</p> <p>A note of the meeting has been sent to Councillors and a wider review of all dropped kerbs is needed.</p>
Marie Johnson	<p>A meeting was held with three of Marie Johnson's Nieces. It was agreed a winter flowering Cherry Tree would be planted in the park and a brass plaque on a plinth added. The family would like this to happen when the Mercian regiment are in town – either at the proposed dedication of the cenotaph on the 3rd November or following the Remembrance Parade on the 10th November. Communications around this will be ongoing between officers and the family.</p>
Decision Requested	To note these updates

Health and Well-Being Working Group
Thursday 20th June 2019
Minutes of Meeting

Present:

- Cllr Dawn Allen (Chair)
- Cllr Margaret Gartside
- Cllr Mark Rogan
- Cllr Suzy Firkin
- Cllr Kay Wesley
- Jackie MacArthur

Apologies - Cllr Suzie Akers Smith, Cllr David Brown

Introduction: As this is the first time that the group has met, the meeting began with group members introducing themselves and why they had an interest in the sitting on the working group.

Remit of the Group: It was acknowledged that the group was a Working Group of the Community Environment and Services Committee and as such any recommendations from the group needed to be delivered to CES.

The group considered the Health and Well-Being Priorities in the Town Council Business Plan 2019-20 and agreed the Working Group would be best to concentrate on 6.1 and 6.4. 6.2 is being progressed by the Sports Trust. 6.3 Through the Cycling Champion and Planning

- **6.1 To lobby for adequate Primary Health Care facilities that relate to the growth of the town**
- 6.2 Support the development of high quality indoor and outdoor recreational facilities
- 6.3 Support improvements to both the existing and planned infrastructure for sustainable modes of transport
- **6.4 Develop and promote initiatives or events related to improving physical and mental health**

The group also considered the Cheshire East Joint Health and Well-Being Strategy and agreed to spend more time understanding this document and how Congleton relates to it.

Jackie mentioned the 'Tartan Rug' document which shows the areas in which Congleton East and West are performing well and the area where the town is below the national average as this could also help influence the work of the group – action Jackie to send the document

Actions the group would like to consider

It was acknowledged that the remit of the group was potentially vast. Around the table there was a consensus that adult mental health is an area that needs to be addressed for Congleton. There was also a strong belief that health services need to be delivered as close to home as possible as people living with mental health issues do not need the additional stress of getting to another town for

appointments. There was also a belief that there may be capacity to build up services at the War Memorial Hospital.

1. Chair of the Group – Dawn Allen to seek approval of CES committee for the group to explore the current mental health provision and needs in Congleton, and suggestions which the Town Council can take to improve the situation. (June 27th 2019)
2. Members of the Group on the cross-party War Memorial Hospital Group (Cllr Kay Wesley and Cllr Mark Rogan) to raise the issue at the meeting on the 3rd July 2019 to ascertain provision and potential at the War Memorial Hospital
3. Jackie to contact Cheshire East Communities for facts and figures on mental health in the two Congleton Wards
4. Group to look at the Wirral Model of Mental health provision
5. Members on Patient Panels to speak to Practice Managers to gain a greater understanding of issues their practice has regards Mental Health provision. Look to invite to a future meeting

The group also asked for an item to be added to the CES agenda regards updating on Mountview. Cllr Suzy Firkin to lead on this item.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: SUGGEST THURSDAY 25th JULY 3PM