

## Virtual Congleton Green Working Group Meeting

### NOTES OF MEETING

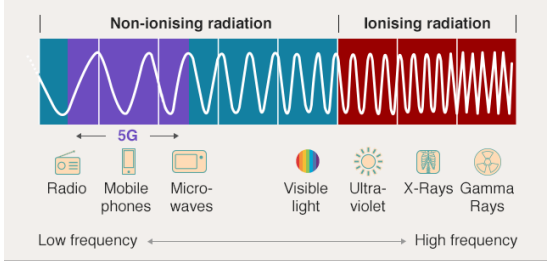
**Date:** Thursday 23 July 2020

**Location:** Via Zoom

**Time:** 3.30pm

**Present:** Councillor Margaret Gartside (Chair), Councillor Suzy Firkin, Councillor Kay Wesley, Councillor Jean Parry, Councillor Suzie Akers Smith, Barry Speed, Peter Aston, Barry Fox, Jackie MacArthur, David McGifford

Item	What was discussed / description	Actions	By who	By when
1	<b>Apologies</b>	Cllr Sally Holland, Cllr Mark Rogan, David McGifford		
2	Actions from meeting 23 April not on agenda	Discussion on CTC Procurement policy – circulate to team Mark Worthington held first meeting with Heroes Renewable re potential improvements to the Town Hall energy use – meeting again 29/7/20	JMacA MW and MG	July July
3	Priorities from the Carbon Footprint Spreadsheet, with responsibilities and actions, goals and timescales	Team thanked Barry Speed for all his work on creating a baseline Carbon Footprint spreadsheet for the Town Council – this will be the responsibility of the Town Council Management team to introduce measures to reduce usage and report back on progress. Top 10 areas identified <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Electricity usage in the Town Hall</li> <li>2. Gas usage in the Town Hall</li> <li>3. Cleaning chemical usage in the Town Hall</li> <li>4. Lease of Vehicles for Streetscape</li> <li>5. Fuel Usage by Streetscape</li> <li>6. Plant purchasing for Streetscape and In Bloom</li> <li>7. Councillor and staff travel for work purposes</li> <li>8. Town Hall Waste reduction</li> <li>9. Town Council plastic use reduction</li> <li>10. Town Council paper use reduction</li> </ol>	JMacA to take to Mgmt team to develop a plan	September
4	Plan for Congleton's Environmental Footprint	This would be a wider plan for Congleton in general – to include issues such as tree planting, active transport, plastic free Congleton, Waste reduction, Rewilding, Green learning. Suggestion that this would need a half day or full day session and a large consultation exercise. Idea would to public plan showing where the town is on its environmental journey,	Bring suggestions on how to develop to next	September

		and where it needs to get to, what the steps are along the way and have this publish this information.	meeting	
5	Progress on the Green E-learning project	Using Barry Fox's handbook to create an e-learning package to educate and inspire people in Congleton. TMC has started to sort the story board and structure of how it would work – will include video, pictures, text and quizzes. 7 modules. Joint project between Congleton Partnership and Congleton Town Council. To launch probably in November.	BF, KW, SF, MG and JMacA on project team	Progress report in Sept.
6.	Off-setting of Carbon Footprint	Agreed that it will not be possible to reduce use to zero. Need to explore options around off-setting. This may also be of interest to local businesses and companies.	SF, BF and BS	September committee
7	Local Research on 5G	<p>Issue raised at Community and Environment and request for Green Group to consider the science. Reports from sources such as Public Health England, the BBC and numerous other sites highlight that the waves used for 5G are not in the harmful end of the radio wave spectrum <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/5g-technologies-radio-waves-and-health/5g-technologies-radio-waves-and-health">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/5g-technologies-radio-waves-and-health/5g-technologies-radio-waves-and-health</a></p> <p><b>Where 5G fits in the electromagnetic spectrum</b></p>  <p>The diagram illustrates the electromagnetic spectrum from low frequency to high frequency. It is divided into non-ionising radiation (left) and ionising radiation (right). Non-ionising radiation includes Radio, Mobile phones, and Micro-waves. Ionising radiation includes Visible light, Ultra-violet, X-Rays, and Gamma Rays. 5G is indicated as being within the non-ionising radiation range, specifically between mobile phones and microwaves.</p> <p>Source: SCAMP/Imperial College London/EBU <span style="float: right;">BBC</span></p> <p>Points raised by the group on ethics of how much is being spent on 5G and the visual intrusion of bigger masts was outside of the scope.</p>	To respond to CE committee	
8	AOB	None		
9	Date of Next Meeting	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> September 5pm - ZOOM		