



Congleton Town Council

Historic Market Town

Chief Officer: David McGifford CILCA

6th November 2020

Dear Councillor,

Community & Environment Committee – Thursday 12th November 2020

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Community & Environment Committee, on **Thursday 12th November 2020 at 7.00pm.**

This will be a virtual meeting which needs to be accessed via Zoom.

[Use this link to open the Zoom meeting for the Community & Environment Committee 12th November 2020.](#)

Meeting ID: 812 5594 3567

Passcode: 020811

- **The Public and Press are welcome to attend the meeting, please note** - There will be 15 minutes at each meeting to receive any questions from Members of the Public, either verbally or at the meeting, including those which have been received in writing 7 days prior to 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 in accordance with Section 100 (B) (2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Yours sincerely,

David McGifford
CHIEF OFFICER

Congleton
beartown
where friends are made

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

Tel: 01260 270350

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

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 Previous Meetings (Enclosed)

To approve and sign the [minutes of the Community and Environment Committee held on 24th September 2020](#) 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

See item 7 for updates from the Community and Environment Committee held on 24th September 2020.

5. Questions from Members of the Public

There will be 15 minutes at each meeting to receive any questions from Members of the Public, either verbally at the meeting including those which have been received in writing 7 days prior to the meeting.

6. Cheshire Police (Verbal Update)

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

7. Updates Paper from 24th September Community and Environment Committee (Enclosed)

To receive an updates paper from 24th September 2020 highlighting issues.

8. Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group Notes (Enclosed)

To receive the [notes of the Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group held on 22nd October 2020](#) and a short report from the Working Group Chair.

9. Congleton in Bloom Working Group Notes (Verbal Update)

To receive a verbal update from the Working Group Chair on the Christmas Calendar.

10. Congleton Green Working Group Notes (Enclosed)

To receive the [notes of the Congleton Green Working Group held on 5th November 2020](#) and a short report from the Working Group Chair.

11. Health and Wellbeing Working Group Update (Enclosed)

To receive the [notes of the Health and Wellbeing group held on the 24th September 2020](#) and a short report from the Working Group Chair.

12. Integrated Transport Working Group (Enclosed)

To receive the [notes of the Integrated Transport Working Group held on the 25th September 2020](#) and a short report from the Working Group Chair.

13. White Ribbon Working Group Update (Verbal)

To receive a short verbal update from the Working Group Chair.

14. COVID-19 Update on Community Activities and Projects (Enclosed)

To receive a report on behalf of the COVID Community Leads group on activities and proposals for community involvement over the next few months.

15. Support for Congleton School Pupils - Meals in School Holidays (Enclosed)

To receive a report from the Communities and Marketing Manager and Deputy Chief Officer, on proposals to provide support for Congleton school pupils during the school holidays until Easter 2021.

16. Childcare Training (Enclosed)

To receive a report from Ruth Burgess (Streetscape Development Manager) and Cllr Kay Wesley on an opportunity to create more childcare training provision for Congleton residents.

To: Members of the Community & Environment 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

Ex Officio: Cllr Sally Ann Holland (Town Mayor)

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 (3),
Congleton Library, Congleton Visitor Information Centre.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 24th September 2020

Please note – These are draft minutes and will not be ratified until the next committee meeting on 5th November 2020

Conducted via Zoom – Meeting ID 891 0354 2554

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the Meeting Agenda of the Community & Environment Committee 24th September 2020

PRESENT:

Committee members:

Kay Wesley (Chair)
Dawn Allen
Martin Amies
Paul Duffy
Margaret Gartside
Suzy Firkin
Amanda Martin
Denis Murphy (Deputy Mayor)
Jean Parry
Sally Ann Holland (ex officio)

Non-Committee Members:

David Brown
Russell Chadwick
Robert Hemsley
Robert Moreton

Also present: CTC Officers David McGifford and Jackie MacArthur
2 Members of the Press, 1 officer from the Police, 1 officer CWA and 3 public.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from non-committee members Councillor Suzie Akers Smith

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 30th July 2020 a correct record.

CE/27/2021 Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 30th July 2020 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.

Councillors David Brown, Sally Ann Holland, Rob Moreton and Denis Murphy declared an interest as Cheshire East Councillors.

4. Outstanding Actions

Picked up in item 7

5. Questions from Members of the Public

There were no questions raised at this meeting

6. Cheshire Police

Inspector Kelly Johnson from Cheshire Police provided updates to the Committee see Appendix A for details.

7. Updates Paper from 30th July 2020 C&E Committee

To receive an updates paper highlighting issues raised at the previous Community & Environment Committee meeting on 30th July 2020.

CE/28/2021 Resolved to note the report on updates on Domestic Abuse Clinics, Increased walking and cycling, A34 Junction, Rope Walk car park and the Community Garden.

8. White Ribbon Working Group Update

To receive the notes of the White Ribbon Working Group meeting held on the 5th August and to receive an update on the accreditation for the Town Council.

CE/29/2021 Resolved to note the meeting report and offered congratulations to the team on their hard work securing White Ribbon Accreditation for Congleton Town Council. The team will be at the Makers Market this Saturday (26th September) encouraging more people and organisations to support the campaign.

9. Congleton in Bloom Working Group Notes

To receive the notes of the Congleton in Bloom Working Group held on 24th August and 14th September 2020.

CE/30/2021 Resolved to receive the notes of the working group. Chair reported on the good work carried out by the team to clear the car park of weeds, expressed disappointment that due to COVID-19 the autumn Town Tidy was cancelled and urged all households to clear the weeds in front of their homes.

10. Congleton Green Working Group Notes

To receive the notes of the Congleton Green Working Group held on 10th September 2020.

CE/31/2021 Resolved to receive the report. The Chair highlighted the work passed to other working groups on reducing carbon footprint for aspects of Town Council business, role of creating SMART targets, work on the e-learning platform, and investigations into options for carbon off-setting and working with Congleton Sustainable group on town-wide plans to reduce our environmental footprint.

11. Health and Well Being Working Group Update

The committee received a verbal update from the working group held on the 24th September 2020. The minutes will come to the meeting on the 5th November. The group reported continued work into the mental health provision for Congleton. Pleased to note that Mountview is not on CEC's asset disposal list.

12. Integrated Transport Working Group

Note this group will meet on Friday 25th September 2020.

13. Events for 2020

To approve the recommendations for the Remembrance Sunday and Congleton Christmas Lights Switch-on.

CE/32/2021 Resolved that officers should continue to organise alternatives to the normal Remembrance Sunday and Christmas related activities in a COVID-19 secure way.

14. Congleton Christmas Lights Decorations

To discuss and approve recommendations for extra decorations for Congleton Town Centre 2020.

CE/33/2021 Resolved to support the proposals to enhance the Christmas lights for 2020 and for a paper to go to Council on the 30/10/20 to seek approval to spend the £10k in the Ear Marked reserve for Christmas lights to achieve this.

15. Sink Holes in West Heath

To discuss and note actions to be taken to investigate the extent of the issue of sunken drains in Congleton.

CE/34/2021 Resolved to prepare a letter for the Mayor to sign to send to United Utilities and Cheshire East Council to understand the underlying cause of the sink hole problems and the action being taken to rectify this issue

16. Feedback from the Health and Wellbeing Survey 2020

To note the responses to the Health and Wellbeing Survey 2020.

CE/35/2021 Resolved to note the report. Suggestion made that the survey or elements of the survey should be repeated to note changes.

17. COVID-19 Update

To discuss any actions needed as a result of recent announcements or changes for the Congleton Community. Town Council to continue working with the community through the community leads group.

18. Resolution to exclude the Public and Press

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 agenda item 19 on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of private and confidential information.

CE/36/2021 Resolved to exclude the press and public in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

19. Tour of Britain Opportunity 2021

To discuss a request from the organisers of the Tour of Britain.

CE/37/2021 Resolved to explore the options further.

**Cllr Kay Wesley
(Chair)**

APPENDIX A Item 6 - Report from Congleton Police

Summary of the report given by Inspector Kelly Johnson to the Community and Environment Committee 24th September 2020

Congleton Beat Priorities

Team Priority: Road Safety #OpAssembles

Extended for a further 6 weeks with the focus on Schools, and Drink Drive Campaign

- 1 Trucam per beat per week
- 2 Police Traffic Enforcement Operation per month per beat
- 1 ACTIVE Community speed watch group per beat
- Support for school pick up and drop off (every school over the period)
- ANPR targeting of known Drink/Drug Drivers

The First 6 weeks results:

- 731 Speeding Offences Processed
- 60 Road Safety Social Media Posts
- 2 New Community Speedwatch Grps
- 3 CSW Patrols & 27 warning letters
- 5 Pro-Active Enforcement Operations
- 4 PCs Trained in TruCam
- 16 163 (document) stop checks
- 1 Arrest (Drink Drive)
- 1 Summons (No Insurance)
- 1 Traffic Offence Report (Mobile Phone)

Person Priority : Drug Dealing #OpLittle

Extended for a further 6 weeks with new person focus

The First 6 weeks results:

- 2 Arrests (of organised crime group members) and remand in custody – awaiting trial (Congleton West)
- 1 Arrest Possession with Intent to Supply (Congleton West)
- 2 Evictions of Drug Users (Town Centre & West)

Place Priority: Town Centre #OpQuell

- Increased foot patrols for the night-time economy 22:00-02:00
- Force resources in the Town (#Big blue van)
- 8 Arrests
- 2 Dispersal Orders
- Pubwatch agreement to accept Police Generated Nominations
- 6 Police generated 12-month Pubwatch Bans & 1 lifetime ban (4 new nominations pending)
- Licensing and Covid compliance visits
- Street a week conducted Sat 19th Town centre

ASB Hotspots

- Gawsorth – FlyTipping, joint operation planned with trading standards
- Bromley Woods and entrance/exits – Drug Dealing, work ongoing

DV Incidents (Over CEC Cycle)

- 54 DV Incidents - 4% decrease year on year (YOY)
- 10 Sexual offences – 4% Increase YOY (not limited to DV related)

Other

- 1 additional PCSO joining the Team from 05/10 – Pool officer
- Panna Football was provided to Bromley Community Centre
- Officers scaled for Remembrance Day and Op Treacle period despite cancellations

Area	PCSOs	PC
Congleton Beat Team		
Congleton East	David Bell 22921, Ashleigh Jones 23421, & Karen Linton 23440	Helen Weeks 4776
Congleton West	Ben Hooper 23259 & Amy Heath 23390	Helen Hood 3842 (WFH)
		Iain Bell 5337

Beat Sergeant – Paul Brunton
Inspector – Kelly Johnston

COMMITTEE:	Community and Environment Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	12 th November 2020	LOCATION	Zoom
REPORT FROM	Jackie MacArthur –Communities and Marketing Manager and Deputy Chief Officer		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	7 Updates Paper from 24th September Community and Environment Committee		
Background	<p>This paper is provided to give Members an update on actions from reports discussed at a previous Community and Environment Committee and are still on-going matters which are not included on the agenda. These items do not need a full paper and are on-going rather than discharged.</p> <p>The paper is for noting and will not be discussed unless a member has a question.</p>		
Updates	<p>CE/14/2021 Domestic Abuse Clinics for Congleton</p> <p>Cheshire Without Abuse (myCWA) are very pleased with the way the Domestic Abuse Clinics are developing in Congleton in partnership with Cheshire Police. To date they have hosted four clinics (9th September, 14th October, 21st October and 28th October). They have adopted a proactive approach and reached out to 15 clients directly, and many more indirectly via general advertising about the work in Congleton. Meetings have been held face-to-face and by phone. The number of clinics were able to increase thanks to additional funding via Cheshire Community Foundation.</p> <p>Moving forward myCWA intends to continue being proactive in their approach reaching out to clients, local organisations and businesses in the area. Where necessary they have been able to refer clients into agencies to make sure that they get the correct support to move forward. One case has been referred to MARAC (the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) which means that real harm has been prevented. Many thanks to all involved.</p> <p>CE/24/2021 Proposed Closure of Rope Walk Car Park</p> <p>We have received another email from Cheshire East Council on the 16th October 2020 confirming that they were aware of the Town Council's position regarding Rope Walk Car Park and that our views would be taken into consideration when they make a final decision on the future of the car park. Further questions have been asked about when and how the decision will be made and a request to attend the meeting if it is via a committee.</p>		

	<p>CE/03/2021 Moody Hall, Moody Street</p> <p>This is to confirm that all the planning conditions and conservation issues for the development of this building have now been met. The Heritage Officer was only waiting to see the actual building materials to be used. The developer has appointed a contractor and is working through a few outstanding issues but are keen to start work.</p> <p>CE/33/2021 Congleton Christmas Lights Decorations</p> <p>Following the recommendation from the Community and Environment Committee, a paper went to Council to secure the funding. The lights have been purchased and plans made for their installation, however due to the National lock down the small Christmas trees will not be able to go up on the shops until they reopen in December and the electricity can be accessed. The Christmas team is discussing the best time to switch on the lights.</p> <p>CE/34/2021 Sink Holes in West Heath</p> <p>A letter was sent to United Utilities and Cheshire East Council as agreed at committee. A chase up was sent on the 5th November and I hope to share a response at the meeting.</p>
Proposal	To note this report.

Minutes Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group

Zoom Call - Thursday 22nd October 2020

Present: Cllr Kay Wesley (Chair), Cllr Denis Murphy, Cllr Rob Moreton, Cllr Amanda Martin, Glen Williams, PC Helen Weeks & Karen Linton-Cheshire Police, Ruth Burgess & Martha Hayes (CTC), Laura Woodrow-Hirst- Cheshire East

Apologies: Jackie MacArthur (CTC), Sgt Paul Brunton, Cllr Sally Ann Holland

	Issue	Action	By Whom	When
1	To receive notes 16 th July 2020		C&E	
2	Action Log Last set of minutes went to latest C&E, since then CTC have gained White Ribbon accreditation.	Reviewed Action Log Outstanding Actions West Street CCTV to be carried forward Bamboogie Youth Event- POSTPONED Non-alcoholic beer Speeding at Blossom Gate Drive off Back Lane	JMac & DMurphy RMoreton DMurphy & PubWatch GW reported closed off	
3	Public Space Protection Order Renewal	Dog PSPO - Will continue for another 3 years from 1 st Nov, to continue as usual. Covers the entire borough. 0300 123 5021- Community Enforcement team or report via the website, search for 'dog fouling'. Signage being reviewed. Town Centre - PSPO expires 31 st March 2021- to be reviewed	Laura- CE Laura- CE	
4	Cheshire Police Update	Police aware of local issues and continuing to carry out operations.		
5	Drug & Alcohol Abuse; Hotspot Areas	Reported no real issues with the 10pm curfew currently in place.		
6	Anti-Social Behaviour; Hotspot Areas	Vandalism at the Park Woods- Police to patrol this area more. Speeding and road safety- 1000 speeding offences, from the three new community Speedwatch groups have been set up and eight proactive traffic enforcement operations have taken place. Group agreed for speeding/ Speedwatch to be added to the agenda Concern of a Congleton Business not adhering to COVID rules and restrictions	Police R Burgess Police	

	Issue	Action	By Whom	When
7	Domestic Violence and Sexual Offences	Report given by the Police, from 16 th July to 21 st October there were 118 incidents of domestic violence (1.2/day) and 29 incidents of sexual violence (2 a week) reported to the Police. Domestic Abuse Clinics in Congleton are now weekly, following the additional funding secured by myCWA with our help.		
8	Rough Sleeping in Congleton	Any complaints for this issue should be passed to the Police	Police	
9	CCTV Renewal	To be carried forward to the next meeting	R Burgess/ JMacArthur	
10	AOB	Police reported a conviction Karen Linton- new PCSO for Congleton East Ward Congleton BEAT nominated for an award		
11	Date of Next Meeting	TBC- January 2021	ALL	

Virtual Congleton Green Working Group Meeting

NOTES OF MEETING

Date: Thursday 5th November 2020

Location: Via Zoom

Time: 3.30pm – 5pm

Present: Councillor Margaret Gartside (Chair), Councillor Suzy Firkin, Councillor Kay Wesley, Councillor Jean Parry, Peter Aston, Jackie MacArthur.

Item	What was discussed / description	Actions	By whom	By when
1	Apologies	Cllr Sally Holland, David McGifford, Cllr Mark Rogan, Barry Speed		
2	Actions from meeting 10 September a) Minutes of Integrated Transport Working Group b) Bike Doctor	Minutes circulated. Will keep Green Group informed as we learn more about the consultation on the CEC Transport Plan consultation. Also, to ensure group linked to the Cushman and Wakefield Consultation Arrange to come into the town in the New Year when more appropriate	JMaca	As appropriate Feb 21
3	Carbon Offsetting Options - paper from Cllr Suzy Firkin and Barry Speed looking at the options and potential costs for offsetting CTC's Carbon footprint – based on current Carbon use of 220 tonnes. Estimate possible reduction to 130 tonnes pa. Current off-set cost £25 per tonne expected to double in 5 years. Also looked at local off-setting options.	Thanked Barry and Suzy for their work in making a technical and difficult subject very understandable. Need to work more with the various budget holders in the Town Hall to understand the cost implication of carbon footprint and steps to reduction. Further research into the off-setting options Cheshire Wildlife and Peat Bogs Woodland Trust – Great Northern Forest CEC – Neighbourhood Options - invite Ralph Kemp to have a discussion with SF, BS, MG	JMaca MG PA JMaca to arrange	Nov Jan Jan Nov/Dec
4	Carbon Footprint Baseline Report for 2019/20 - work being carried out to the same methodology as the 2018/19 report.	Barry was unable to make the meeting. Reported that has started this work and is waiting for some figures – work ongoing. Add to the agenda for the next meeting	BS JMaca	Jan
5	Top Ten Targets to reduce Carbon or	SMART targets against these areas are being developed with the groups	JMaca to	Nov

	Environmental Footprint in the Town Hall Based on the 2018/19 baseline report the top items were identified.	responsible for delivering and raise awareness of the costs that the CTC will need to start accounting for to offset the carbon if to reach the Carbon Neutral Pledge. Not an easy task and some big budget discussions ongoing around options for change.	Groups	Jan
6	Update on E-learning Course	Working with a script writer to make the content more engaging Chase up the company to fix another progress meeting	JMacA	Nov
7	Update on Podcast Development	Trial podcast is in the editing suite. Cllr Kay Wesley to support Peter in the branding at start and end of podcast. Agreed good idea to brand in a similar style to the E-learning course to show part of the Congleton Green drive.	PA PA/KW	Nov Nov/ Dec
8	Wider Community Involvement in Green Initiatives Group considered a paper with the key areas for action, the groups already delivering green initiatives in Congleton, key target audiences going forward, key national dates to link in with.	Add Dane Housing and other housing providers to the target groups – and initiate conversations to find out their plans and targets Add Care Homes and initiate conversations on their plans Explore what materials are already available for SME which may be able to be adapted for Congleton Businesses – ten top tips for local companies to reduce their Carbon/Environmental Footprint as part of the 'Build Back Better' movement. Residents – Sponsor a Tree in memory of a loved one – find out if this is this an option through the Tree initiatives Develop up ideas for potential campaigns next year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Mow May Walk to School Week – 18th May Green Fayre for World Environment Day – 5th June 	JMacA PA MG	Nov Dec Dec
9	Any Other Business	None		
10	Date of Next Meeting	Potentially 21 st January at 5pm? (before CE)		

APPENDIX 1:

Congleton Town Council: Top Ten Target areas to reduce the Carbon Footprint and Environmental Footprint of the Town Council.

Note: This table uses figures produced by Barry Speed from the Green Group from the Baseline assessment of Carbon use from the year 2018-19

No.	What	% of carbon footprint	Estimated kg of carbon equivalent	Types of activities to look at	Whose leading on it
1	Electricity usage in the Town Hall – meter for the main building = 19%, commercial partners = 1%	20%	47,115	Swapped to Green energy supplier. How to bring down use – LED lights, insulation, switching off.	Town Hall Working Group
2	Gas Usage in the Town Hall – mainly heating the building, small amount in the kitchen.	27%	31,226 kg	Swap to a different type of energy – e.g. heat pump. Better insulation	Town Hall Working Group
3	Cleaning chemical usage in the Town Hall	0%	1,000 kg	More on carbon footprint – looking to introduce bio-degradable chemicals	Town Hall Working Group
4	Lease of Vehicles – Streetscape vans	7%	17,00kg	Potential at the end of contract to reduce the number of vans (although with COVID this would have hampered ability to work)	Streetscape Working Group
5	Fuel Emission from leased vehicles and equipment (note 1% from the equipment)	11%	24,850 kg	Potential when change vehicles to look at electric. Potential to reduce mileage through reconsidering working patterns.	STREETSCAPE working Group
6	Plant purchasing (Streetscape and In Bloom) – note large potential for errors)	13%	29,400kg	More perennial and wildflower areas. More locally grown	IN BLOOM and Streetscape
7	Councillor and Staff Travel	4%	9,342kg	Need to relook at – in 2020 most meetings online and more working from home will be reduced	Management Team
8	Town Hall Waste - not recorded on the baseline	N/A	N/A	Part of REDUCE/REUSE/RECYCLE	Town Hall Working group
9	Town Hall Plastic Use	N/A	N/A	Plastic Free Congleton campaign to reduce single use plastic. Plastic cups removed 2020	Management Team
10	Reduce Paper Use	N/A	N/A	Actions to reduce the amount of paper used in the Town Hall	Management Team

Minutes Health and Wellbeing Working Group

Zoom Meeting 24th September 2020 - 3pm

Present: Cllr Dawn Allen, Cllr Kay Wesley, Cllr Margaret Gartside, Cllr Suzy Firkin, Cllr David Brown, Jackie MacArthur

Guests – Stephanie Espinoza – Healthbox and Helen Davies – Ruby's Fund

Item	Issue	Action	By whom	When
1.	Review Actions from Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Hulme contact • Crisis Centre Chester • Note of understanding WG membership 	Now being sent minutes of the group. Link to wider Mental Health strategies. Nothing that can be done at present. JMacA to find out if still operational during COVID-19 Still to be carried out.		
2.	Introduction from Stephanie Espinoza from Health Box Mental Health Link Worker providing support for people with mental health across CEC area that have been referred by CWP or the Mental Health Crisis line. Holistic person-centred approach to make sure that person is engaging and not falling through the net. Sign-posting and hand holding. Just started the role and learning what is available in CEC. Keen to support a Crisis café type approach for the area.	Share information with Stephanie re local groups Change Crisis line number on web site from 0300 to 0800 number	JMacA JMacA	Sept Sept
3.	Update from Helen Davies, Ruby's Fund on Thriving Families Helen gave a presentation on the Thriving families project.- early intervention to avoid crisis, support for families pre-diagnosis, dad's group, siblings group, peer support group – also out using Sensory Bus. 241 people listed since July, 100 well being calls since July. 67 sessions to children and families	Send presentation to the group Awareness of activities – and to keep a link to Congleton groups offering Mental Health support	JMacA	Sept

4.	<p>Mountview and Overton House Updates</p> <p>Cllr Suzy Firkin reported that CEC is looking to repurpose Mountview rather than placing on asset dispose list. Next stage looking at structure of the building to decide options. Long term scheme.</p> <p>Cllr Suzy Firkin also reported that Day Care at West Heath has needed to reduce numbers due to COVID-19. Had reached capacity pre-COVID. Will need to be revisited to ensure day care services promised can happen.</p>	<p>Cllr Suzy Firkin to maintain a watching brief and report back on any news. No action at present</p> <p>Cllr Suzy Firkin to also pick up as part of Senior Forum remit post COVID-19</p>	<p>Cllr SF</p> <p>Cllr SF</p>	
5	<p>Feedback on Health and Wellbeing Questionnaire</p> <p>Discussed responses. Thought some of the responses would form useful data for funding requests or proving need. Survey to be repeated either just before Christmas or in the Spring to monitor changes in attitude. Possibly lose some of the questions. Look at ways to engage more with U44 age group.</p>	<p>Speak to Schools to see if noticeable difference in requests for pastoral care</p> <p>Repeat Survey – ahead of Christmas and in the Spring</p>	<p>JMacA</p> <p>JMacA</p>	
6	<p>Outreach sources of Mental Health Support in Congleton</p> <p>Report back by Jackie Mac who has spoken to the <u>Talking Therapies Group</u>, part of the Big Life Group that are commissioned by CCG to provide IAPT services for the Congleton area. Run daily clinics out of the Alternative Health Centre in West Street. Can self-refer or referral through doctors surgeries. Does not offer drop in sessions.</p>	<p>Create a diagram showing various mental health offers in Congleton.</p> <p>Gain a clearer picture from CCG on level 2 mental health support</p>	JMacA	Next meeting
7	<p>AOB</p> <p>CE Committee</p>	<p>Agreed minutes to go to the 5th November meeting and Cllr SF to report back on Mountview at CE on the 24th September</p>	Cllr SF	24/09
	Date of Next meeting	19 th November 3.30pm – 5pm by zoom	JMacA	

Congleton Integrated Transport Working Group Meeting

NOTES OF MEETING

Date: Friday 25th September 2020

Location: Grand Hall, Town Hall

Time: 1.30pm – 3.30pm

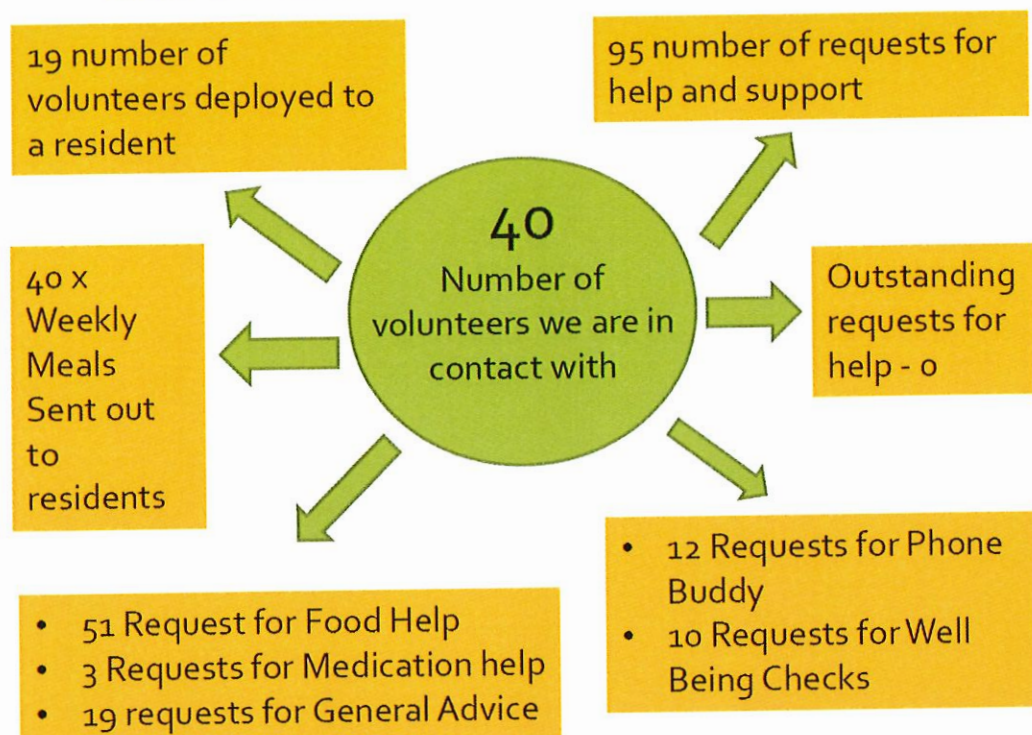
Present: Councillor Suzie Akers Smith (Chair) Cllr Duncan Amies, Cllr Martin Amies, Cllr David Brown, Councillor Margaret Gartside, Councillor Suzy Firkin, Cllr Sally Ann Holland (remote link) Councillor Kay Wesley, Ant Bolding (Active Travel), Vic Brown (Parish Councils), David McGifford, Jackie MacArthur.

Item	What was discussed / description	Actions	By who	By when
1	Apologies	None		
2	Cllr SAS apologised for being late and welcomed everyone to the meeting and set the scene re Government and local desire to create viable active travel modes of transport to improve air quality, improve fitness, improve mental health			
3	Brian Sellers of Commonplace spoke via a remote Teams link about the <u>CEC consultation</u> on the Bridge Street proposals (care and share) and about the difficulty of promoting change. How the schemes introduced on a trial basis can be adopted, changed or removed. By being bold CEC should be successful in attracting additional government funding.	Look on <u>Common Place</u> website for good examples to share with the group Invite Brian Sellers to future Community and Environment Committee re consultation in Congleton	JMacA	Late October
4.	Congleton Issues a) Disconnect of footpaths, bridleways and cycleways b) Addition Routes – would like to see a completed River Dane Walkway run from the Link Road through town and to Havannah.	Work with the parishes to create a list of aspirations and missing links in order to create a usable network of connected cycling, walking and bridle paths between housing areas, schools, town and other key locations. To circulate by email. SAS/AB creating a list of priority needs to circulate to group	SAS/ AB/ MA/ DA SAS/AB	November 20 November 20

	<p>c) Signage – direct routes and safe routes</p> <p>d) Hard facts on current journey modes and destinations by segments. Understand current picture, set goals and create a road map for change.</p> <p>e) Lack of public transport options – what’s realistic in short, medium and long term.</p> <p>f) Understanding the process – Highways, footpaths all CEC responsibility. Funding comes into CEC for Highways. Need to understand mechanism to getting schemes before CEC.</p> <p>Need to check that the aspirations to resolve disconnect in current routes and to create the River Dane Green corridor is included in the Neighbourhood Plan</p>	<p>What is the best mechanism to get this moving – speak to Richard Hibbert</p> <p>Issue that needs addressing JMacA to speak to Richard Hibbert to find out what stats CEH has. Also to look into BBC Shared Data Unit figures. JMacA to request info from CEC</p> <p>Check existing plans CEC SF/SAH looking at trains KW looking at buses</p> <p>DMcG/ JMacA to speak to Jo Wise re Town Vitality Plans and the role of Mott McDonald and transport flows in the scheme</p> <p>Consider the 2019-2024 <u>Local Transport Plan</u> policies and how to apply to Congleton.</p> <p>DMcG to make sure covered in NP policies</p>	<p>DMcG / JMacA</p> <p>JMacA/DMcG</p> <p>JMacA/DMcG</p> <p>JMacA/DMcG</p> <p>Note consultation due Nove</p>	<p>October 20</p> <p>Part of LTP local delivery plans</p> <p>October 20</p>
5	Date of Next Meeting	To be agreed		

COMMITTEE:	Community and Environment Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	12 th November 2020	LOCATION	Zoom
REPORT FROM	Jackie MacArthur –Communities and Marketing Manager and Deputy Chief Officer		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	14 COVID-19 Update on Community Activities and Projects		
Background	<p>This paper is to inform Councillors of some of the actions taking place within Congleton to support our Community during the on-going COVID-19 pandemic and to agree the Town Council's role in future COVID-19 related projects.</p>		
Details	<p>During the COVID-19 pandemic Congleton Town Council, its officers and councillors have been working with numerous groups and organisations to help support the Congleton Community during the crisis. During the summer many of the activities, such as the COVID-19 Community support line were not needed.</p> <p>The Congleton Community Leads Group – made up of a wide range of organisations including Congleton Town Council, Cheshire East Council, Congleton Partnership, Ruby's Fund, Old Saw Mill, Bromley Farm Community Centre, St John's Centre, Plus Dane Housing, U3A, Visyon, New Life Church, Age UK and Chappell Centre have continued to meet on a monthly basis.</p> <p>On-going projects that in collaboration with this group we would like to see for Congleton include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Re-establish the Congleton COVID-19 Community phone line. Initially from 9-5 Monday to Friday with the possibility of extending into the evenings and weekends. Via the phone line we will be able to help people with arranging friendship buddy calls, help to collect essential items, offer basic advice on the guidance, signpost and refer to professional or voluntary services. This is particularly helpful for people who are unable to go online when so much of the current information and advice is online. <p>The diagram over the page shows the types and numbers of calls received on the phone line during the first lock down.</p>		

Our Fantastic Volunteer Numbers:



2. Big Heart Lunch Club

This was initially formed from the United Reform and St John's Church luncheon clubs which have been unable to meet since February and which are subsidised by the Town Council. With the support of Vanilla All Seasons, free meals were initially delivered by the Town Council to all members of the luncheon club on a Friday. This morphed into subsidised meals produced out of the Old Saw Mill and delivered by the Town Council. Thanks to some additional funding from Cheshire East Council and the Enclosure Trust, the Big Heart Lunch club has been able to expand its offer and can now offer subsidised or where appropriate a free prepared nutritious meal ready to heat up at home. This service has budget to expand its offer during the rest of this year.

3. Christmas Hampers

2020 has been a difficult year for many people. As a group the Congleton Community Leads felt it would be a good idea to work together to give a morale boost, spread some Christmas cheer to let people know that their community cares about them. The idea is to apply for funding to provide Christmas Hampers with some Christmas treats to members of the Congleton Community who are elderly and living alone, who would normally be part of the luncheon club or BIG HEART LUNCH club or who are nominated by a neighbour or referred by one of the Congleton Community Leads' Partners. The details of this project are being worked on and it is anticipated that the Town Council will take a lead role. This is separate to the Christmas Hampers that the Congleton Food Store will provide for people on its referral scheme.

	<p>4. Christmas Toy Appeal</p> <p>Congleton Town Council has been asked to consider developing a project to help parents who are struggling between heating and eating to make sure that their children can have a gift at Christmas this year and whether some of the COVID-19 fund could potentially be put aside to help with such a project.</p> <p>5. Getting prepared for a Digital Christmas</p> <p>The Congleton Community Leads group with the Town Council has also suggested a project to help people prepare for a digital Christmas. Helping people to understand how to use the technology that they have to connect with families, friends or community groups, or potentially to loan or arrange for connection time with someone close to them.</p>
Environmental Considerations	Environmental considerations will be built into individual projects with the objective of encouraging of reducing carbon footprint where possible.
Equality Considerations	All of the projects are concerned with helping those most in need in our community during this difficult time.
Financial Considerations	Funding for each of the individual projects is either already sourced, will be applied for from grants or will go to Council for approval from the Town Council COVID-19 Ear Marked Reserves.
Proposal	To gain the approval of Congleton Town Council in principle for each of the five projects area mentioned above and for officers and councillors to develop the projects in partnership with others.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE:	Community and Environment Committee																		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	12 th November 2020	LOCATION	Zoom																
REPORT FROM	Jackie MacArthur –Communities and Marketing Manager and Deputy Chief Officer																		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	15 Support for Congleton School Pupils - Meals in School Holidays																		
Background	<p>During the October school holidays there was a great deal of concern about parents of children who usually receive free school meals being unable to afford to feed children in the holidays or when the school must shut. The issue was resolved locally with Cheshire East Council providing supermarket vouchers for those eligible.</p> <p>It is unclear what the plans will be for the Christmas, February and Easter Holidays. Ideally the issue will be resolved at a national or local authority level. This paper sets out the costs and options to enable the Town Council to develop a position in principle on whether or not it would wish to step in if other support for holidays meals was not forthcoming for primary and/or secondary schools within the Congleton Town Council area.</p>																		
Details	<p>There are 8 primary schools and 2 secondary schools in the Congleton Town Council area. Some pupils may also attend schools in the parishes surrounding Congleton. For this paper I have not looked at Astbury, Bosley, Scholar Green, Mow Cop and Marton who relate to Congleton as their main town and have previously always supported town-wide initiatives.</p> <p>The numbers of pupils registered for free school meals for primary schools and pupil premium, as published on their websites, for secondary schools. This figure may fluctuate as circumstances change.</p> <table> <tr> <td>Quinta</td><td>25</td><td>Havannah</td><td>49</td></tr> <tr> <td>Buglawton</td><td>57</td><td>Marfields</td><td>51</td></tr> <tr> <td>Blackfirs</td><td>12</td><td>Mossley</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr> <td>Daven</td><td>92</td><td>St Mary's</td><td>32</td></tr> </table> <p>Eaton Bank - 156 Congleton High School - 179</p> <p>In the March 2020 lock down the Government provided schools with £15 per eligible pupil per week to ensure that those who benefitted from free school meals could still afford healthy, nutritious food when not at school.</p>			Quinta	25	Havannah	49	Buglawton	57	Marfields	51	Blackfirs	12	Mossley	20	Daven	92	St Mary's	32
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	<p>The Government's scheme was delivered through the schools. The schools could either use the funds to continue to provide the meals for collection or delivery, or to provide parents with an electronic or actual shopping voucher to spend with supermarkets when the schools were closed.</p> <p>It has been suggested that the Town Council, in the absence of National Government, Cheshire East Council or a direct grant to the school, should consider picking up this cost to ensure that those who would usually have free school meals have funds for lunches during the holidays.</p> <p>If the Town Council were to pick up the cost of providing this service at the £3 per head for primary schools the cost would be in the region of £5,070 per week. (338 pupils)</p> <p>If the Town Council were to provide vouchers for the secondary school pupils this is expected to cost around £5,025 per week.</p> <p>For both secondary and primary pupils the weekly bill is likely to be £10,095 per week or £20,190 for the two weeks.</p> <p>The Town Council has set aside funding to assist the Community during the COVID-19 pandemic. If Councillors would like to potentially use these funds to provide a safety net to cover the school lunches in the absence of any other agency doing so, then this would need exploring further and more detailed work carried out with the schools to make sure that it could happen using their mechanisms, and approval for the spend from Council if other grant money is not available.</p> <p>Today the committee is being asked to discuss what position it thinks the Town Council could and should take on extending funding for free school meals in the holidays for eligible pupils in the absence of another body managing the process.</p>
	We would work with the schools and their mechanisms for delivering this project in the best way.
Equality Considerations	This project is around establishing a principle to help those most in need in our community during this difficult time.
Financial Considerations	If this issue is not dealt with by National Government or Cheshire East Council, funding would be sort from trusts or in worse case would look to the Town Council's Ear Marked Reserves for COVID support.
Proposal	<p>That Congleton Town Council lobbies for support for families of pupils receiving free school meals to receive support during the school holidays.</p> <p>If other avenues are exhausted, for the Town Council will provide funding for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Primary pupils entitled to free school meals in Congleton Town area b) Secondary pupils entitled to free school meals in Congleton Town area c) Primary and Secondary pupils entitled to free school meals in Congleton Town area <p>at an estimated cost of £3 per pupil per day to a maximum funding of £21,000.</p>

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE:	Community and Environment Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	12 th November 2020	LOCATION	Zoom
REPORT FROM	Ruth Burgess Streetscape Development Manager and Cllr Kay Wesley		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	16 Childcare Training		
Background	<p>The Childcare Workshop in March 2020 identified training of childcare workers as a challenge, since courses are often run in Macclesfield or Crewe and potential trainees with their own children or no transport struggle to get there.</p> <p>This means that some people are prevented from pursuing a career in childcare which has a knock-on effect on childcare provision and the ability of local parents to go to work.</p> <p>There is also known to be a resourcing challenge in social care, which has been highlighted by the COVID crisis.</p> <p>It was decided to evaluate if online learning might be an option to make training for a career in childcare or social care more accessible.</p> <p>Cllr Kay Wesley has worked with Karen Bruce, Adult Learning Manager at Macclesfield College, who has put together blended (online and face-to-face) learning programmes for both childcare and social care, up to NVQ Level 2 (see attached Appendix).</p> <p>These courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be free to anyone on benefits or a low income. • Include modules on employability skills, young/elderly care, safeguarding, health & safety, digital skills, with optional modules on mental health, food safety, first aid (paediatric/elderly) and stress awareness. • Can support people on benefits to get back into work and at the same time provide much-needed resource to the Childcare and Social Care sectors. • Will potentially create more provision in these sectors which will then benefit parents getting back to work, and the wellbeing of the elderly. • Are mostly remote (webinar) or online with just 2 days of the 4 weeks requiring face-to-face tuition (home computer equipment for training can be provided for people on a low income who do not have it). <p>We have also worked with Usman Ashiq of Plus Dane Housing and Susie Mead of Friendly Faces Day Nursery, both of whom believe they know of a number of local people who would benefit from these practical get-to-work training courses.</p> <p>Karen Bruce would like to pilot of one of these blended courses in Congleton with a view to rollout across the whole Borough if successful.</p>		

	The only remaining piece of the puzzle is to find a venue where the face-to-face elements of the training can be delivered in a safe and socially-distanced way, as some of the venues used for training in the past are too small for a class seated at a safe distance from each other. This is where the Town Council can help.
Environmental Considerations	Online learning reduces carbon footprint.
Equality considerations	Blended programme is designed to benefit those at a disadvantage due to being on a low income, having caring responsibilities or without their own transport.
Financial Considerations	Opportunity cost of Town Hall venue
Proposal	<p>To provide the Grand Hall or the Bridestones Suite to run up to three face-to-face components of the pilot training courses – six days in total over the next 12 months. Exact dates can be flexible based on the cohort and room availability.</p> <p>Delivery of the programme will enhance equality of opportunity and is consistent with Congleton Town Council's Business Plan Strategic Objectives No. 3 – Reducing inequalities, and No. 6 – Sustainability.</p>

Appendix: Childcare Blended Learning Programme

Skills for the Future – Childcare (4-week programme)

- Digital Skills qualification
- Employability Skills
- CACHE L2 Certificate in Introducing caring for children and young people
- CACHE L2 Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding and Prevent
- Optional: L2 Award in Food Safety in Catering
L1 Award in Mental Health Awareness
L1 Award in Stress Awareness (2 days)
Emergency First Aid
Manual Handling
Health and Safety

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:30am – 12:30pm F2F (All sectors) Induction IAG Induction	9:30am – 12:30pm F2F (All sectors) *Employability Skills (C&G Employability)	9:30am – 12:30pm Blended CACHE L2 Certificate in Introducing caring for children and young people (online)	9:30am – 12:30pm Blended CACHE L2 Certificate in Introducing caring for children and young people (online)	Online CACHE L2 Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding and Prevent
1pm – 4pm F2F/remote (All sectors) Digital Skills	1 – 4pm Blended 60003364 CACHE L2 Certificate in Introducing caring for children and young people (online)	1 – 4pm Blended CACHE L2 Certificate in Introducing caring for children and young people (online)	1 – 4pm Blended CACHE L2 Certificate in Introducing caring for children and young people (online)	Optional qualifications F2F L2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (<u>1</u> day) L1 Award in Mental Health Awareness (2 days) L1 Award in Stress Awareness (2 days) Emergency First Aid (<u>1</u> day) Manual Handling (<u>1/2</u> day) Health and Safety (<u>1/2</u> day)

*Employability Skills including

Personal Profile and target setting
Researching roles in chosen area
CV preparation
Job applications
Interview preparation and techniques

Personal Presentation
Confidence and skills for the workplace
Working patterns and legislation
Guest speakers from industry