

## Virtual Congleton Green Working Group Meeting

### NOTES OF MEETING

**Date:** Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> 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	<b>Apologies</b>	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  JMacA	As appropriate  Feb 21
3	<b>Carbon Offsetting Options</b> - 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.  Develop up more of a plan against each item (identified in appendix A) with SMART targets for a future Community and Environment Committee	Speak to groups  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"> <li>• No Mow May</li> <li>• Walk to School Week – 18<sup>th</sup> May</li> <li>• Green Fayre for World Environment Day – 5<sup>th</sup> June</li> </ul>	JMacA  JMacA  PA  MG	Nov  Nov  Dec  Dec
9	Any Other Business	None		
10	Date of Next Meeting	Potentially 21 <sup>st</sup> 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	<b>Electricity usage in the Town Hall</b> – 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	<b>Gas Usage in the Town Hall</b> – 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	<b>Cleaning chemical</b> usage in the Town Hall	0%	1,000 kg	More on carbon footprint – looking to introduce bio-degradable chemicals	Town Hall Working Group
4	<b>Lease of Vehicles</b> – 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	<b>Fuel Emission from leased vehicles and equipment</b> (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	<b>Plant purchasing</b> (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	<b>Councillor and Staff Travel</b>	4%	9,342kg	Need to relook at – in 2020 most meetings online and more working from home will be reduced	Management Team
8	<b>Town Hall Waste</b> - not recorded on the baseline	N/A	N/A	Part of REDUCE/REUSE/RECYCLE	Town Hall Working group
9	<b>Town Hall Plastic Use</b>	N/A	N/A	Plastic Free Congleton campaign to reduce single use plastic. Plastic cups removed 2020	Management Team
10	<b>Reduce Paper Use</b>	N/A	N/A	Actions to reduce the amount of paper used in the Town Hall	Management Team