

## CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Conducted via Zoom – Meeting ID: 812 5594 3567

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the [Meeting Agenda of the Community & Environment Committee 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020](#)

#### **PRESENT:**

Committee members:

Cllr Kay Wesley (Chair)  
Cllr Martin Amies  
Cllr Paul Duffy  
Cllr Suzy Firkin  
Cllr Margaret Gartside  
Cllr Amanda Martin  
Cllr Denis Murphy (Deputy Mayor)  
Cllr Jean Parry

Non-Committee Members: Cllr David Brown, Cllr Robert Douglas, Cllr Robert Hemsley,  
Cllr Robert Moreton,

Also present: CTC Officers David McGifford and Jackie MacArthur  
2 Members of the Press, 1 Cheshire Police Officer, 2 members of the public.

#### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from committee members Councillors Sally Ann Holland (Ex-Officio) and Cllr Mark Rogan.

#### **2. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**CE/38/2021 Resolved to** approve the [minutes of the Community & Environment Committee held on 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

Councillors David Brown, Rob Moreton and Denis Murphy declared a non-pecuniary interest on any matters relating to Cheshire East Council.

### **4. Outstanding Actions**

To review any outstanding actions from previous meetings. See minute note 7.

### **5. Questions from Members of the Public**

There were no questions from the public at this meeting.

### **6. Cheshire Police**

Sergeant Paul Brunton from Cheshire Police provided updates to the Committee see Appendix A for details.

### **7. Updates Paper from 24<sup>th</sup> September C&E Committee**

**CE/39/2021 Resolved to** accept the report giving updates on Domestic Abuse Clinics, Proposed Closure of Rope Walk Car Park, Moody Hall, Christmas Lights and Sink Holes in West Heath.

### **8. Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group Notes**

**CE/40/2021 Resolved to** receive the notes of the Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020.

Chair gave a brief update confirming that it is unlikely the Public Space Protection Order in the town centre will be renewed in 2021. The Dog Fouling Public Space Protection would be renewed. 1,000 speeding offences witnessed by Speed Watch groups. 118 cases of Domestic Abuse.

### **9. Congleton in Bloom Working Group Notes**

No minutes to receive. The Chair encouraged people to support the 2021 In Bloom Calendar, on sale soon and focussing on Congleton Park which will celebrate 150 years in 2021. Confirmed that the Penny Farthing for Park Lane Roundabout is almost complete.

## **10. Congleton Green Working Group Notes**

**CE/41/2021 Resolved to** receive the [notes of the Congleton Green Working Group held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020](#).

Chair gave a brief update: Group is working on SMART targets for top 10 targets to reduce Carbon or environmental footprint of the Town Council, is in the process of updating Carbon figures for 2019/20, making progress on E-learning course and looking at future carbon offsetting options.

## **11. Health and Well Being Working Group Update**

**CE/42/2021 Resolved to** receive the [notes of the Health and Well Being group held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020](#). These were discussed at the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> September.

## **12. Integrated Transport Working Group**

**CE/43/2021 Resolved to** receive the [notes of the Integrated Transport Working Group held on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020](#).

Noted that there will be a Strategy Working Group to consider the consultation into the Delivery Plan for the Local Transport Plan. Consultation expected to start later in November 2020 and last through to January 2021.

## **13. White Ribbon Working Group**

Chair reminded the group that the National White Ribbon Awareness Day will take place on the 25<sup>th</sup> November. CTC will be hosting a White Ribbon Stall in the Town Centre on the 12<sup>th</sup> December.

## **14. COVID-19 Update on Community Activities and Projects**

**CE/44/2021 Resolved to** support in principle the Town Council's involvement in the development and delivery of five community projects connected with supporting the community during the COVID-19 Pandemic

- a) Re-establishing the Congleton Community COVID Information Line
- b) Working with the Big Heart Lunch Club to expand its offer within budget available
- c) Work with Community Groups across Congleton on a 'Congleton Cares' hamper for those isolated.
- d) Develop/ Support a Toy Appeal for Congleton
- e) Help our community to prepare for a digital Christmas.

Note in the report it incorrectly refers to the New Life Church Store House as a Food Store. This is incorrect.

**15. Support for Congleton School Pupils - Meals in School Holidays**

**CE/45/2021** Resolved in principle that Congleton Town Council would like to support Primary and Secondary Pupils in receipt of free school meals to receive meals/ funding for meals during the holidays or school closures in the event of the Government or Principal Authority not fulfilling this role.

There was a strong feeling that this role should be picked up at a higher level. Budgets for this ultimate safety net would need to be agreed at Council.

**16. Childcare Training**

**CE/46/2021 Resolved to** support the scheme to make it easier for local people in Congleton to train as a childminder. For the Chief Officer and Responsible Financial Officer to resolve the best way to help with the request.

**Cllr Kay Wesley  
(Chair)**

## **APPENDIX A Item 6 - Report from Congleton Police**

Summary of the report given by Sergeant Paul Brunton to the Community and Environment Committee 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### **COVID**

- East Division has similar number of breach of restrictions reports as March Lockdown - 8 per day.
- Congleton has no repeat breach locations and has the lowest demand overall – 1 a day
- Patrol plan has resumed including essential services locations as well as open spaces
- Force has dedicated COVID patrols tackling reports of breaches under operation PAW
- 8 Fixed penalty noticed across Macclesfield - 1 in Congleton.

### **PCC Promise in Lockdown**

- Surgeries – online include Police Constables (PCs) and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)
- 1 x TruCam per week checking speeding in an area.

### **Treacle**

- Force carried out additional patrols in response to Halloween and bonfire night – there were just two incidents related to this operation.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

- ASB October 69 incidents, compared to 49 in Oct 2019 – increase of 29% Year on Year
- No current hotspots but increase attributable predominately to YCA and geographically all over

### **Previous Local Priorities**

**Team** - Focus on Road Safety under Op Assembles

- 1000 speeding offences
- Three new Community Speed Watch Groups
- All Primary schools visited
- Eight proactive traffic operations
- Four PCs trained in Trucam

**Person** – Charges now received for 2 adults for Possession with Intent to Supply (Drugs). Details can be shared once formally charged.

**Place** – Town Centre Patrols saw no reports of alcohol related violence in the run up to lockdown

### **New Local Priorities**

All subject to investigations. The Police will share the details as soon as possible.

### **Domestic and Sexual Violence (as reported at ASB Working Group)**

- 16th July to 21st October there were 118 incidents of domestic violence (1.2/day) and 29 incidents of sexual violence (2 a week) reported to the Police.