



# Congleton Town Council

Historic Market Town

Chief Officer: David McGifford CILCA

5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

This meeting will follow the Personnel Committee meeting which commences at 6.00pm

Dear Councillor,

**Town Council Meeting – 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Council on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021** commencing at **7.00pm**. This will be a virtual meeting which needs to be accessed via Zoom.

[This is a link to the Town Council meeting on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February](#)

Meeting ID: 870 2262 7335  
Passcode: 160468

- **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,

D McGifford  
Chief Officer

## AGENDA

### 1. Apologies for absence

Members are respectfully reminded of the necessity to submit any apologies for absence in advance and to give a reason for non-attendance.

### 2. Minutes of Previous Meetings. (Enclosed)

To approve and sign the minutes of the Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

### 3. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

Members are requested to declare both “non-pecuniary” and “pecuniary” interests as early in the meeting as they become aware of it.

### 4. 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.

### 5. Urgent Items

Members may raise urgent items related to this committee but no discussion or decisions may be taken at the meeting.

### 6. Town Mayor’s Announcements (Verbal)

To receive any announcements by the Town Mayor and to receive a list of the Mayor’s engagements.

### 7. Outstanding Actions

To review any outstanding actions from previous meetings and to provide an update on any work in progress.

### 8. Youth Committee

To receive questions from Members of the Youth Committee present at the meeting.

### 9. Community and Environment Committee (Enclosed)

To receive the minutes of the Community and Environment Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

**10. Planning Committee** (Enclosed)

To receive the minutes of the Planning Committees held on 19<sup>th</sup> November and 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

**11. Finance and Policy Committee** (Enclosed)

To receive the minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee held 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

**12. Cheshire East Councillors' Reports**

To suspend Standing Orders to allow Councillors from the principal authority to report on matters relating or impacting on Congleton.

**13. Vaccination progress** (verbal)

To receive a verbal update from the Chief Officer on the progress of the vaccination programme at the Town Hall

**14. Tour of Britain 2021** (Enclosed)

To respond to a proposal from The 2021 Tour of Britain Cycle Race Organisers, SweetSpot, to host a "Stage Start" in Congleton – indicative date Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

**15. Resolution to Exclude the Public and Press from Items 16 and 17**

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 due to commercial sensitivities on Items 16 and 17

**16. Visitor Information Centre** (Enclosed)

To receive a proposal for the Visitor Information Centre Service to be devolved to Congleton Town Council from Cheshire East Council

**17. Commercial Partner Contract** (Enclosed)

To receive an update with regards to the Commercial Partner Contract

**To: All Members of the Council**

CC: Press 3, Burgesses 3, Congleton TIC, Congleton Library, MP



Congleton Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Conducted via Zoom – Meeting ID: 868 3252 3926

\*\*Please note – These are draft, minutes and will not be ratified until the next meeting of the Council.

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the Meeting Agenda of the Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**PRESENT:**

Sally Ann Holland (Mayor)  
Suzanne Akers Smith (Items 12-14)  
David Brown  
Duncan Amies  
Martin Amies  
Russell Chadwick  
Robert Douglas  
Paul Duffy  
Suzy Firkin  
Margaret Gartside  
George Hayes  
Robert Hemsley  
Amanda Martin  
Rob Moreton (Items 1- 14)  
Denis Murphy (Deputy Mayor)  
Jean Parry  
Kay Wesley

Also present: 3 Congleton Town Council Officers, 2 Members of the Press

**1. Apologies for absence**

Members are respectfully reminded of the necessity to submit any apologies for absence in advance and to give a reason for non-attendance.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Rogan, J Smith

**2. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**CTC/33/2021 RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes of the Council meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020,

**3. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest**

Members are requested to declare both "non-pecuniary" and "pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become aware of it.

Councillors Sally Ann Holland (Mayor), David Brown, Rob Moreton, Denis Murphy and George Hayes declared a non-pecuniary interest in any matters relating to Cheshire East Council.

**4. Questions from Members of the Public**

There were no questions from members of the public.

**5. Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items raised.

**6. Town Mayor's Announcements**

The Town Mayor drew attention to the various engagements that she had fulfilled since the last Council meeting.

**7. Outstanding Actions**

There were no outstanding actions.

**8. Youth Committee**

There were no questions received from Members of the Youth Committee present at the meeting.

**9. Community & Environment Committee**

**CTC/34/2021 RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the Community & Environment Committee meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

**10. Planning Committee**

**CTC/35/2021 RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> September and 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020.

**11. Finance & Policy Committee**

**CTC/36/2021 RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

**12. Town Hall, Assets and Services Committee**

**CTC/37/2021 RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the Town Hall Assets and Services Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> August and 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

**13. Congleton recycling Centre**

To comment on Cheshire East Council's proposals on not providing a Household Recycling Site in or near Congleton.

**CTC/38/2021 RESOLVED** to approve the report and the proposals stated within it

**14. Councillors' Reports**

To suspend Standing Orders to allow Councillors from the principal authority to report on matters relating or impacting on Congleton.

**15. Budget and Precept for 2021/22**

**CTC/39/2021 RESOLVED** to approve the Budget and Precept for 2021-22 as recommended by the Finance and Policy committee on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

**FAP/31/2021 RESOLVED** to receive and approve the 2021/22 budget and precept of **£954,146** for recommendation to Council.

**16 External Auditor Report and Certificate**

**CTC/40/2021 RESOLVED** to receive the External Auditor Report and Certificate for 2019/20 and to note any comments.

**17 Support for Congleton School Pupils - Meals in School Holidays** (Enclosed)

To agree on the Council's support for the provision of school meals in school holidays.

**CTC/41/2021 RESOLVED** to provide support for the provision of school meals in school holidays based on the proposal within the report.

**18 Resolution to exclude members of the press and public from items 20, 21, 22 and 23 due to Commercial Sensitivities**

**CTC/42/2021 RESOLVED** to exclude members of the press and public from Items 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 due to Commercial Sensitivities.

**19 Town Centre Regeneration**

To receive a report about key sites in the Town Centre

**CTC/43/2021 RESOLVED** to approve the proposed actions as stated within the report.

**20 Visitor Information Centre**

To receive a proposal from the Chief Officer relating to the Visitor Information Centre.

**CTC/44/2021 RESOLVED** to approve the proposal within the report.

**21 Future Use of the Town Hall**

To receive an update from the Chief Officer relating to the future use of the Town Hall and to agree any actions associated with this item.

**CTC/45/2021 RESOLVED** to receive the update from the Chief Officer.

**22 Tour of Britain Cycle Race 2021**

To receive a verbal update relating to the possibility of hosting the start of a stage of the Tour of Britain Cycle Race in September 2021.

**CTC/46/2021 RESOLVED** to receive the verbal update from the Chief Officer.

**23 Block Bookings at the Town Hall – Grand Hall and Bridestones Suite**

To approve the proposal for the Chief Officer to be given delegated authority to negotiate the block booking rates stated within the report.

**CTC/47/2021 RESOLVED** to approve the proposal

1. for the Chief Officer to be given delegated authority to negotiate the block booking rates stated within the report.
2. Provide proposed amendments to the Town Hall Booking Policy to encompass guidelines for future block bookings.

**Cllr Sally Ann Holland  
(Town Mayor)**



Item 9

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:

Clr Kay Wesley (Chair)  
Clr Martin Amies  
Clr Paul Duffy  
Clr Suzy Firkin  
Clr Margaret Gartside  
Clr Amanda Martin  
Clr Denis Murphy (Deputy Mayor)  
Clr 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.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 19<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2020 – Via Zoom

**PRESENT**

Councillor A Martin – Vice Chair – In the Chair  
D Amles  
R Douglas  
S Firkin  
J Parry  
J Smith  
K Wesley  
D Murphy (Ex officio)

Councillors Brown and Moreton, who are not members of this Committee, attended and did not vote on any items. Andrew Thomson, Planning Consultant and several members of the public also attended the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors Duffy, Hemsley and Rogan.

2. **MINUTES**

PLN/13/2021 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record with the addition of "to include comments on the White Paper to be phrased as responses to consultation questions."

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were reminded to declare both "non pecuniary" and "pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

Councillors Brown and Moreton declared "non pecuniary" interests as they are members of Cheshire East Council but are not a member of this Committee.

Councillor Murphy declared a "non pecuniary" interest as he is a member of Cheshire East Council and an ex-officio member of this Committee.

4. **OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

The Chief Officer reported that he is still awaiting a response from Cheshire East Council regarding an update on the bridge into the park from Astbury Place. Cheshire East Councillor Robert Moreton agreed to follow this up.

5. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None received

6. SITE ALLOCATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT POLICIES (SADPD)

PLN/14/2021 RESOLVED: To receive the report and recommendations therein, from Andrew Thomson, Planning Consultant.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

PLN/15/2021 RESOLVED: That the following comments be made to Cheshire East Borough Council:

| Planning Reference | Location  | Declaration of Interest | Comments   |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------|--|
| 1<br>20/3688C      | HELIOSA NURSING HOME, 54, BOUNDARY LANE, CONGLETON, CW12 3JA    | NP – J Smith            | A member of the public spoke in objection to the application.<br><b>REJECT – DUE TO</b><br>Layout and density of buildings<br>Noise and disturbance from use<br>Highway and safety issues<br>Traffic generation<br>Adequacy of parking<br>Nature conservation<br>Out of keeping with surrounding area<br>Intrusion into green belt<br>Loss of important trees<br>Less pleasant garden area for residents |
| 2<br>20/4593C      | Lion And Swan Hotel, WEST STREET, CONGLETON, CHESHIRE, CW12 1JR |                         | <b>No Objection subject to –</b><br>The recommendations of the heritage report being implemented<br>NOTE – Councillors would like noted that they are generally in support of this application and consider it to be a good refurbishment to an important building in the town   |
| 3<br>20/4753C      | Lion And Swan Hotel, WEST STREET, CONGLETON, CHESHIRE, CW12 1JR |                         | <b>No Objection subject to –</b><br>The recommendations of the heritage report being implemented including the retention of bat habitats<br>Replacement of six trees<br>Eco system being protected   |
| 4<br>20/4754C      | Lion and Swan Hotel, WEST STREET, CONGLETON, CHESHIRE, CW12 1JR |                         | <b>No Objection subject to –</b><br>The recommendations of the heritage report being implemented including the retention of bat habitats<br>Replacement of six trees<br>Eco system being protected   |

|                  |  |  |   |
|------------------|--|--|---|
| 5<br>20/4582C    | Land West Of,<br>GOLDFINCH<br>CLOSE,<br>CONGLETON                                      |  | <b>REJECT – DUE TO</b><br>Planning Officer to check that no landscaping<br>(trees) are being deleted from Plots 100/102/118,<br>1 & 6 and the plot 91-95 car park                                       |
| 6 *<br>20/4575C  | 9, SOLLY<br>CRESCENT,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CHESHIRE, CW12<br>4LG                           |  | No Objection  |
| 7<br>20/4546C    | Land Off,<br>MANCHESTER<br>ROAD,<br>CONGLETON  |  | <b>No Objection subject to –</b><br>No trees being removed or replacement trees being<br>planted<br>Omission of trees on new plans<br>NOTE – Lack of information on C E Website – no<br>covering letter |
| 8<br>20/4584C    | Land At, BACK<br>LANE,<br>CONGLETON  |  | <b>No Objection subject to –</b><br>Replacement trees being planted<br>Replace the dying Ash tree   |
| 9 *<br>20/4639C  | 6, CORNWALL<br>CLOSE,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CHESHIRE, CW12<br>3JZ                           |  | No Objection  |
| 10<br>20/3902T   | 6, CEDAR COURT,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CW12 3JP  |  | No Objection  |
| 11 *<br>20/4460C | BURNS GARAGES<br>LTD, CANAL<br>STREET,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CW12 3AA                       |  | No Objection  |
| 12 *<br>20/4830C | ELIZABETH MILL,<br>WORRALL STREET,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CHESHIRE, CW12<br>1DT              |  | No Objection  |
| 13<br>20/4826C   | 27, TUDOR WAY,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CW12 4AS   |  | <b>No Objection subject to –</b><br>Landscaping and arboricultural reports being submitted<br>prior to work commencing  |
| 14<br>20/4823C   | FORMER SITE OF<br>VALE MILL,<br>PRIESTY FIELDS,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CHESHIRE, CW12<br>4AD |  | No Objection – Supportive of proposal   |



|                  |   |  |  |
|------------------|---|--|--|
| 15<br>20/4806T   | Street Record,<br>PARK STREET,<br>CONGLETON   |  | No Objection subject to –<br>Replacement tree being planted  |
| 16 *<br>20/4781D | Land Off<br>Manchester Road<br>Phase 2,<br>MANCHESTER<br>ROAD,<br>CONGLETON               |  | No Objection   |
| 17 *<br>20/4735C | 51, PADGBURY<br>LANE,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CHESHIRE, CW12<br>4LP                              |  | No Objection   |
| 18 *<br>20/4740C | 22, SEVERN<br>CLOSE,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CW12 3RD  |  | No Objection   |
| 19<br>20/4784C   | 40, CROSS LANE,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CW12 3JX   |  | A member of the public spoke in objection to the application.<br><b>REJECT – DUE TO</b><br>Layout and density of buildings<br>Highway and safety issues due to access and egress<br>Adequacy of parking<br>Loss of the eco system due to overdevelopment<br>Overshadowing/ overlooking<br>Overdevelopment<br>No noise mitigation in plans for the railway<br>Non opening windows<br>Not in keeping with area |
| 20 *<br>20/4860C | Land at, SILK<br>STREET,<br>CONGLETON   |  | No Objection   |
| 21 *<br>20/4920C | 70, HOLMES<br>CHAPEL ROAD,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CW12 4NG                                      |  | No Objection   |
| 22 *<br>20/4908D | Land To The East<br>Of Black Firs Lane<br>And To The South<br>Of, BACK LANE,<br>SOMERFORD |  | No Objection   |

|                  |   |  |   |
|------------------|---|--|---|
| 23<br>20/4960T   | 14, CUMBERLAND ROAD,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CHESHIRE, CW12 4PH                |  | No Objection  |
| 24 *<br>20/5030C | 1, RYEDALE WAY,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CW12 3SX                               |  | No Objection  |
| 25 *<br>20/5084C | 14, DERWENT DRIVE,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CHESHIRE, CW12 3RN                  |  | No Objection  |
| 26 *<br>20/5096C | 40, BIRCH ROAD,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CW12 4NR                               |  | No Objection  |
| 27 *<br>20/4843C | 45, ROOD HILL,<br>CONGLETON,<br>CW12 1NA                                |  | <b>REJECT – DUE TO</b><br>Layout and density<br>Highway and safety issues<br>Vehicular access<br>Overbuilding |
| 28<br>20/5055C   | Land West of<br>Padgbury Lane,<br>Padgbury Lane,<br>Congleton, CW12 4LR |  | No Objection  |

8. **PLANNING APPEALS**

None to Report

9. **LICENSING APPLICATIONS**

None to Report

10. **SECTION 106 UPDATES**

None to Report

11. **PLANNING ENFORCEMENT ISSUES**

The Chief Officer reported that he has not had any formal update on the Astbury Place Bridge from Cheshire East Council. He had been told informally that the issue was still being dealt with by Solicitors.

12. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Andrew Thomson, Planning Consultant gave a verbal update on progress of the neighbourhood plan advising that he was awaiting feedback from CEC on housing policies. Upon receipt the neighbourhood plan should be ready for approval by the steering group and progress through to Regulation 14 Consultation.

Councillor A Martin (Vice Chair)

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2020 – Via Zoom

**PRESENT**

Councillor P Duffy – Chair  
D Amles  
R Douglas  
S Firkin  
R Hemsley  
A Martin  
J Parry  
J Smith  
K Wesley

Councillor Chadwick – attended – not member of this Committee

Councillors Akers Smith, Brown and Moreton, who are not members of this Committee, attended and did not vote on any items. Councillors Holland and Murphy, ex-officio, attended and did not vote on any items.

Several members of the public also attended the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillor Rogan.

2. **MINUTES**

PLN/16/2021 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record with the addition of an amendment to note that Councillor Murphy is an ex-officio member of the Committee.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were reminded to declare both “non pecuniary” and “pecuniary” interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

Councillor Holland declared a “pecuniary” interest in application 20/3240C as a member of Cheshire East Council and a relative of the applicant.

Councillors Akers Smith, Brown and Moreton declared "non pecuniary" interests as they are members of Cheshire East Council but are not a member of this Committee.

Councillor Murphy declared a "non pecuniary" interest as he is a member of Cheshire East Council and an ex-officio member of this Committee.

4. **OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

None to report.

5. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

None received

6. **URGENT ITEMS**

None received.

7. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

PLN/17/2021 RESOLVED: That the following comments be made to Cheshire East Borough Council:

| Application Number | Location  | Declaration of Interest | Comments   |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------|--|
| 20/5154C           | THE SPINNEY, MIDDLE LANE, CONGLETON, CHESHIRE, CW12 3PU |                         | No Objection   |
| 20/4152C           | 7, SWAN BANK, CONGLETON, CW12 1AN                       |                         | No Objection   |
| 20/5167C           | 24, BRIDGEWATER CLOSE, CONGLETON, CW12 3T               |                         | No Objection   |
| 20/5160D           | LAND AT FORGE MILL, FORGE LANE, CONGLETON               |                         | No Objection   |
| 20/5109T           | 53, BATH VALE, CONGLETON, CW12 2HF                      |                         | Decision already made by Cheshire East - Request that trees be replaced by 2 beeches |
| 20/5165D           | Lower Moss Farm, PRIORY CLOSE, CONGLETON, CW12 3JL      |                         | No Objection   |
| 20/4964C           | Threeways, PEDLEY LANE, CONGLETON, CW12 3QD             |                         | No Objection - subject to a condition that replacement trees are planted             |
| 20/5169C           | 4C, BOOTH STREET, CONGLETON, CW12 4DG                   |                         | No Objection   |

|          |   |                               |  |
|----------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| 20/5336C | 7, MOSS ROAD, CONGLETON,<br>CW12 3BN                              |                               | No Objection   |
| 20/5348C | 17, Rutland Close, Congleton,<br>CW12 1LT                         |                               | No Objection   |
| 20/5317C | 159, ENNERDALE DRIVE,<br>CONGLETON, CW12 4FL                      |                               | No Objection   |
| 20/5304C | 12, SWEET BRIAR COURT,<br>ASTBURY, CW12 4GY                       |                               | No Objection   |
| 20/5287T | 3, HILLESDEN RISE,<br>CONGLETON, CW12 3DR                         |                               | <b>REJECT DUE TO –</b><br>Trees appear to be healthy, pruning would be adequate if required  |
| 20/5250C | 57, DALE CRESCENT,<br>CONGLETON, CHESHIRE, CW12<br>3EP            |                               | No Objection   |
| 20/3240C | HEATHER BANK FARM,<br>CONGLETON EDGE ROAD,<br>CONGLETON, CW12 3NA | Pecuniary<br>– S A<br>Holland | <b>REJECT DUE TO –</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Highway and safety issues</li> <li>- Traffic generation</li> <li>- Vehicular access</li> <li>- Noise and disturbance from use</li> <li>- Hazardous materials and ground contamination</li> <li>- Access</li> <li>- Unacceptable environmental impact</li> <li>- Unsuitable ground conditions</li> <li>- Surrounded by houses, not suitable location due to 7 day operation</li> </ul> <p>Chief Officer to follow up a query on an existing car park</p> |
| 20/5140C | Land off, Union Street,<br>Congleton, CW12 1JB                    |                               | No Objection - Subject to adequate bin storage/amenity space<br>NOTE – Concerns regarding Cladding complies with fire regulations  |
| 20/5407C | 16, JOHNSON CLOSE,<br>CONGLETON, CONGLETON,<br>CHESHIRE, CW12 3TQ |                               | No Objection   |
| 20/5350T | 25, ISIS CLOSE, CONGLETON,<br>CHESHIRE, CW12 3RT                  |                               | No Objection   |
| 20/5449C | 2, DAVEN ROAD, CONGLETON,<br>CW12 3RA                             |                               | No Objection   |

|          |  |  |   |
|----------|--|--|---|
| 20/5557C | DINGLENOOK, PEOVER LANE,<br>CONGLETON, CW12 3QH                    |  | No Objection  |
| 20/5467C | 23, Cross Lane, Congleton,<br>CW12 3JU                             |  | No Objection  |
| 20/5026C | 26, HIGH STREET, CONGLETON,<br>CW12 1BD                            |  | No Objection – subject to adhering to HMO<br>guidelines C3/C4   |
| 20/5027C | 26, HIGH STREET, CONGLETON,<br>CW12 1BD                            |  | No Objection – subject to adhering to HMO<br>guidelines C3/C4   |
| 20/5254C | 112, BROADHURST LANE,<br>CONGLETON, CHESHIRE, CW12<br>1LA          |  | No Objection – subject to the previous<br>conditions relating to application 17/5885C<br>apply        |
| 20/5636T | 14 Fenton Close, Congleton,<br>CW12 3TH                            |  | <b>REJECT DUE TO</b> – felling of trees not required<br>due to trees being healthy                    |
| 20/5307C | Weathercock Lane Farm,<br>WEATHERCOCK LANE,<br>CONGLETON, CW12 3PS |  | No Objection – subject to heritage is<br>considered and existing materials are used<br>where possible |

8. **PLANNING APPEALS**

None to Report

9. **LICENSING APPLICATIONS**

Barleyhops, 29 High Street, Congleton, CW12 1BG – Application noted

10. **SECTION 106 UPDATES**

None to Report

11. **PLANNING ENFORCEMENT ISSUES**

It was reported that there had been a meeting with David Malcolm, Head of Planning at Cheshire East to discuss the Astbury Place Bridge. The meeting was attended by Cheshire East Councillors Akers Smith, Brown, Holland and Murphy. It was proposed and agreed that a letter could be sent to Morris Homes from the Cheshire East Councillors to support the work being done by Cheshire East Officers to ensure that the bridge is delivered.

12. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The Chief Officer gave a verbal update on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan advising that it was intended to format the plan for Regulation 14 consultation and approval for the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Councillor P Duffy (Chair)

ITEM 11

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance and Policy Committee Meeting  
held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Conducted via Zoom – Meeting ID 845 2612 6663

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the Meeting Agenda of the Finance and Policy Committee held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020

PRESENT Committee members:

Duncan Amies  
David Brown  
Russell Chadwick  
Robert Douglas (Chair)  
Paul Duffy  
George Hayes  
Jean Parry  
James Smith

Ex-Officio Members Sally Ann Holland (Town Mayor)  
Denis Murphy (Deputy Town Mayor)

Non-committee members Cllr Suzie Firkin, Cllr Margaret Gartside, Cllr Kay Wesley

Also present: CTC Officers David McGifford (Chief Officer) and Jackie Potts (RFO)  
2 members of the press, 1 member of the public.

**1. Apologies**

Members of each committee are respectfully reminded of the necessity to submit any apologies for absence in advance and to give a reason for non-attendance.

Apologies were received from Councillor Mark Rogan.

**2. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**FAP/20/2021 RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of Finance and Policy Committee held on 10th September 2020.



### **3. Declarations of Interest**

Members are requested to declare both "pecuniary" and "non-pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

Cllrs David Brown, George Hayes, Sally Ann Holland and Denis Murphy declared a non-pecuniary interest on any matters relating to Cheshire East Council.

Cllr Paul Duffy declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7 (ii) Grant application from Daneside Theatre Trust.

Cllrs George Hayes and Sally Ann Holland and declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 15 20/21 Staff pay award.

### **4. Outstanding Actions**

There were no outstanding actions.

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

None received.

### **6. Grant Approvals and Commitments 2020/21**

**FAP/21/2021 RESOLVED** that the statement to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020 be received.

### **7. New Applications for Financial Assistance**

**FAP/22/2021 RESOLVED** to award the following grants:

- Grant ref GR11/2021 – Congleton Park Bowling Club - £250
- Grant ref GR12/2021 – Daneside Community Theatre Trust - £1,500

### **8. New Grant Activities Monitoring Forms**

**FAP/23/2021 RESOLVED** to receive the Grant Activities Monitoring form from St Peter's Church.

### **9. Letters of Thanks**

**FAP/24/2021 RESOLVED** to receive letters of thanks from Rotary Congleton and St Peter's Church for previous grants awarded.

### **10. Management Accounts**

**FAP/25/2021 RESOLVED** to receive the Management Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020.

**11. Bank Reconciliation**

**FAP/26/2021 RESOLVED** to receive the bank reconciliation as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020.

**12. Savings Account Balances**

**FAP/27/2021 RESOLVED** to receive the Savings Account balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020. It was noted that on maturity £150,000 had been reinvested on 06/11/20 with Cambridge and Counties bank for one year at an interest rate of 1.15%.

**13. List of Payments**

**FAP/28/2021 RESOLVED** to receive and approve the Payments lists between 1<sup>st</sup> August and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020.

**14. First Interim Internal Audit Report 2020/21**

**FAP/29/2021 RESOLVED** to receive and note the first interim Internal Audit report for 2020/21. It was noted that the internal auditor recommended that the internal audit was conducted remotely due to Covid 19 restrictions, a councillor should verify the petty cash balance and this should be minuted at the next Finance and Policy meeting. Cllr Denis Murphy has volunteered to do this. It was also noted that the council's standing orders need to be reviewed in 2021.

**15. 2020/21 Pay Award**

**FAP/30/2021 RESOLVED** to receive and approve the 2020-21 National Salary Award as agreed by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services.

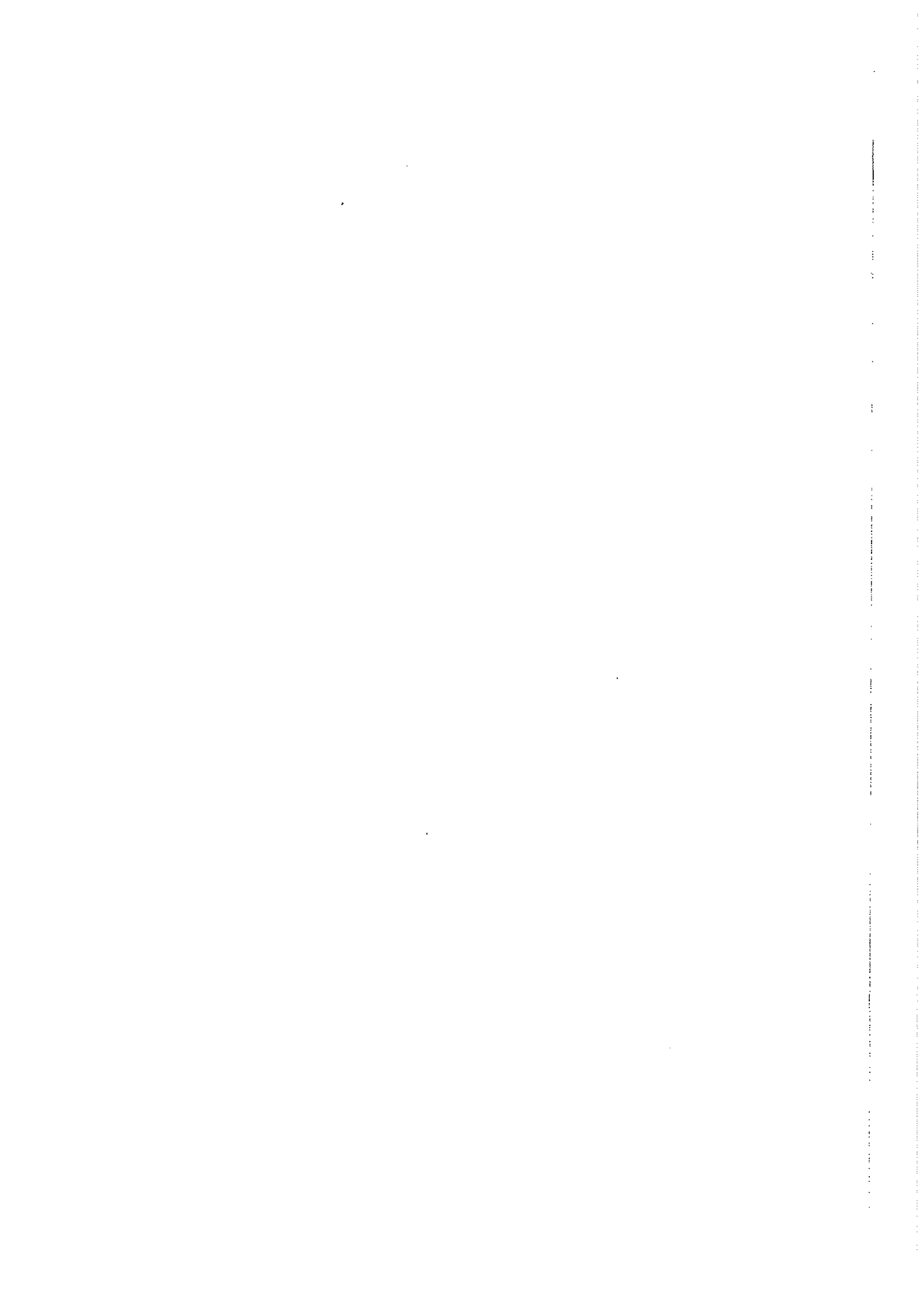
**16. Budget and Precept 2021/22**

**FAP/31/2021 RESOLVED** to receive and approve the 2021/22 budget and precept of £954,146 for recommendation to Council.

**17. Town Council Office Server Upgrade**

**FAP/32/2021 RESOLVED** to approve a potential overspend of £5,000 on the Capital budget for Office Equipment to purchase 2 new laptops for staff and to upgrade the office server.

**Cllr Robert Douglas  
Chair**



**CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES**

|                                 |   |                 |      |
|---------------------------------|---|-----------------|------|
| <b>COMMITTEE:</b>               | Council   |                 |      |
| <b>MEETING DATE AND TIME</b>    | 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2021   | <b>LOCATION</b> | Zoom |
| <b>REPORT FROM</b>              | Chief Officer   |                 |      |
| <b>AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE</b> | 14 Tour of Britain 2021   |                 |      |
| <b>Background</b>               | <p>The Tour of Britain Cycle Race is a major national event which attracts thousands of people and live tv coverage as it progresses across the country. The race is broken down into stages where they have a start town and a route to the finishing town and is contested by some of the worlds' top cyclists.</p> <p>In 2016 the event was hosted by Cheshire East Council and Congleton successfully put its case forward to be the start town, the finish was at Tatton Park. To host a stage of the race the organisers, SweetSpot, seek funding support to enable it, for the stage in Cheshire East the figure was circa £250,000. Cheshire East Council committed to funding the event and sought to gain sponsorship from towns and businesses to reduce their direct funding.</p> <p>Start towns attract a large quantity of residents and visitors and there is a significant dwell time from their arrival to the start of the race (approx. 4 hours). As the competitors arrive residents and followers of the race are able to get close to the elite cyclists as they check their bikes and go through the warm-up routines.</p> <p>The race organisers set up everything that is required to enable the start inclusive of railings, barriers, promotional material and a mobile hospitality area, shortly after the race has started the organisers quickly dismantle everything they have brought and move on to the next site.</p> <p>Capitol Walk was brought back to life for a few days as an Avenue of Ale which was viewed as a great success, whilst the Town Hall was utilised for corporate hospitality with breakfast being served as part of the package. Entertainment was also put on in the town centre and the starting area was used by primary school children to experience their own race in front of all the residents and visitors.</p> <p>The initial commitment for Congleton Town Council was circa £20,000 to become the start town, some of which (circa £8,000) was recovered by the council through local business support and additional corporate hospitality activity.</p> <p>It was estimated that there were 16,000 people in the town on a glorious sunny day, many businesses within the town reported that there were significant increase in their takings and the general consensus was that it was a fabulous day for the town. The Tour of Britain reported back to the Council that the Congleton experience was one of the best start towns they had experienced.</p> |                 |      |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Approach from the Tour of Britain September 2021</b></p> | <p>The Tour of Britain made an initial approach to Cheshire East Council to see if they would be willing to host a stage of the race across the borough, something they felt unable to do given the current circumstances. SweetSpot made contact with myself as Chief Officer, to see if the Council would be interested in hosting the start of a stage in September 2021, the stage would ultimately finish in Warrington. The financial contribution required for hosting the start was initially stated as £75,000, a figure which I felt was beyond the reach of the Town Council. Further discussions have taken place and a meeting was arranged for SweetSpot with potential significant private sponsor to contribute towards the start. This proved to be unsuccessful, understandably, due to being in the midst of the pandemic. SweetSpot have now requested that I approach Council to seek a funding contribution of £30,000 to host the start of the stage in Congleton, they have stated that they would look to find additional funding from major sponsors. <b>Attached are details of the sponsorship options and media exposure as provided by SweetSpot</b></p> |
| <p><b>Considerations</b></p>                                   | <p>Subject to COVID restrictions being totally lifted enabling, all residents and visitors free movement around the Town and the route of the stage-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The impact on Covid has had a significant impact on all town centres across the country, we are no different – there would be a significant benefit for Town Centre business as before.</li> <li>2. The timing of the lifting of the restrictions is unknown which may impact on our ability to secure some level of sponsorship (if any) from businesses, local Trusts and individuals.</li> <li>3. Public perception of a £30,000 investment into a town centre event when many have been financially and mentally impacted through the pandemic.</li> <li>4. Adverse weather conditions would impact on an outdoor event and therefore which is more of a concern the greater the investment.</li> <li>5. SweetSpot are having these conversations with all towns that have either expressed an interest in hosting a start or a finish and understandably gaining commitment is an issue, potentially the race may not actually take place.</li> </ol>                          |
| <p><b>Decision</b></p>   | <p>The Council have been asked to consider the proposal from SweetSpot to commit £30,000 to host the stage start of the Tour of Britain Cycle Race in September 2021. Should Council be minded to support this proposal it may wish to consider certain conditions as part of any agreement.</p>   |