



Congleton Town Council

Historic market town

Chief Officer: David McGifford

27th May 2021

Dear Councillor,

Community & Environment Committee – Thursday 3rd June 2021

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Community & Environment Committee, on **Thursday 3rd June 2021 at 7.00pm.**

This will be a face-to-face meeting in the Town Hall.

- The Public and Press are welcome to attend the meeting, please note that due to COVID-19 restrictions the numbers in the room will be limited to 25 with priority given to voting members and presenters. If you wish to attend this meeting as an observer, please can you email info@congleton-tc.gov.uk or tel 01260 270350 ext 1 as places will be limited. When COVID-19 restrictions are lifted normal meeting protocol can resume.
- 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

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 11th March 2021 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

These are dealt with in item 9

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.

1. Question from Val Scaresbrook re Pedestrian bollard near B&M.
2. Question from Val Scaresbrook re Sunken area near the Betting Shop, Mill Street.
3. Question from Neave Stanway re speed limits on Canal Road and Canal Street.
4. Question from public about the speed limit on Giantswood Lane.

6. Urgent Items

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

7. Cheshire Police (Verbal Update)

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

8. River Dane Crossing – Havannah Lane to Jackson Road (Enclosed)

To receive a report from Cheshire East Council Walking and Cycling Champion Councillor Suzie Akers Smith and a short presentation from local artist Becca Smith re artwork and improving the River Dane Bridge between Jackson Road and Havannah Lane.

9. Updates Paper from previous Community and Environment Committee (Enclosed)

To receive an updates paper from the 11th March 2021 highlighting any issues.

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

To receive the notes of the Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group held on 11th May 2021.

11. Congleton In Bloom Working Group Notes (Enclosed)

To receive the notes of the meeting from 8th March, 30th March and 20th April.

12. Integrated Transport Working Group Meetings (Enclosed)

To receive the notes of the meeting 21st April and notes of follow up meeting 20th May.

13. White Ribbon Working Group Update (Enclosed)

To receive the notes of the White Ribbon Working Group held on 25th March 2021

14. Congleton Green Group (Verbal Update)

To receive a verbal update from the Chair of Congleton Green Working Group

15. 750 Celebrations Working Group (Enclosed)

- a) To receive the notes of the working group held on 1st April and 20th May.
- b) To receive a report and approve in principle proposals for CTC led events as part of the Congleton 2022 celebrations.

16. Christmas 2021 (Enclosed)

To approve the change of day for the 2021 proposed Christmas switch on event.

To: Members of the Community & Environment Committee

Cllrs: Kay Wesley (Chair), Sally Ann Holland (Vice Chair)
Dawn Allen, Paul Duffy, Suzy Firkin, Robert Hemsley, Amanda Martin, Rob Moreton,
Jean Parry and Mark Rogan

Ex Officio: Cllr Denis Murphy (Town Mayor), Cllr Margaret Gartside (Deputy 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 Information Centre.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 11th March 2021

Please note – These are draft minutes and will not be ratified until the next committee meeting TBC

Conducted via Zoom –Meeting ID: 854 3356 3243

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the [Meeting Agenda of the Community & Environment Committee 11th March 2021](#)

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
Cllr Sally Ann Holland (Mayor, Ex Officio)

Non-Committee Members: Cllr David Brown, Cllr Robert Hemsley, Cllr Russell Chadwick, Cllr Robert Moreton, Cllr Suzie Akers Smith, Cllr James Smith

Also present: CTC Officers David McGifford, Jackie MacArthur
2 Members of the Press, 1 Cheshire Police Officer, 3 members of the public
Jo Money Community Projects (presenting item 7)

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Ruth Burgess, Streetscape Manager (item 14)

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

CE/56/2021 Resolved to approve the [minutes of the Community & Environment Committee held on 12th November 2020](#) as a correct record and agreed with a proposal from the Chair that point 1 of **CE/51/2021** should be subject to a debate at Council. Point 1 stated *Agreement in principle that a statue of Elizabeth (without plinth) should be placed in the centre of Bridge Street at Victoria Street junction, subject to Planning Permission and ground assessment. This will be added to the agenda for the Council meeting on 22nd April 2021.*

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 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 9.

5. Questions from Members of the Public

There were three questions:

- a) Olga Whitmore – requesting information about some Bromley Farm in Bloom projects
- b) Olga Whitmore – asking for information on Congleton Town Council's work on Green Infrastructure plans
- c) Andrew Copestick – asking for clarification on the request for potential S106 and CiL funds for the Elizabeth Statue.

The questions and responses can be seen in Appendix 1

6. Urgency Items

There were no Urgent Items mentioned.

7. Cheshire Police

Sergeant Paul Brunton from Cheshire Police provided updates to the Committee - see Appendix 2

8. 750 Year Charter Anniversary Plans

Councillors thanked Jo Money from Congleton Community Projects for the presentation and
CE/57/2021 Resolved: Congleton Town Council supports the programme of events being developed for 2022 and that a working group is formed to work on the details of the Town Council's involvement.

Working Group Members Cllr Suzie Akers Smith, Cllr David Brown, Cllr Margaret Gartside, Cllr Kay Wesley, Cllr Robert Moreton, Cllr Suzy Firkin, Cllr Sally Ann Holland and officers.

9. Updates Paper from 24th September C&E Committee

CE/58/2021 Resolved to accept the report giving updates on Volunteer Co-ordination Point and consultation responses on the Local Transport Development Plan, Cheshire East Car Parking Consultation, Police Crime Commissioners Consultation.

10. Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group Notes

CE/59/2021 Resolved to receive the [notes of the Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group](#) held on 4th March 2021. (CHANGE HYPER LINK WHEN ON WORKING GROUPS)

11. Congleton in Bloom Working Group Notes

Received an update from the Chair of Congleton in Bloom minutes of the meeting of the 10th March will come to the next meeting. Noted that there will be regional finals this summer.

12. Congleton Green Working Group Notes

CE/59/2021 Resolved to receive the notes of the meeting of the [Green Working Group](#) from the 21st January. The chair gave a brief update.

13. White Ribbon Working Group

CE/60/2021 Resolved to accept the notes of the [White Ribbon Working Group](#) from the 10th March 2021. The Chair gave a brief update.

14. Update on Streetscape Waste

CE/61/2021 Resolved to note the report into the changes that Streetscape has made with disposing of waste to make sure that zero goes to landfill. The Committee wanted its thanks to the Streetscape team to be noted.

15. Proposed response to Cheshire East Council Air Quality Consultation.

CE/62/2021 Resolved to approve the response prepared by the Green Working Group to be submitted to Cheshire East Council on the 12/3/21 as the Committee's response to the Cheshire East Council's Air Quality Action Plan.

16. Introduction of Civic Pride Awards for Congleton

CE/63/2021 Resolved to introduce a Civic Award scheme starting with a COVID-19 Community Involvement awards. Delegated responsibility for the 2021 scheme to the Chief Officer, Deputy Chief Officer, Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chair of Community and Environment Committee with a report of a large scheme for 2022 to come back to committee.

17. COVID-19 Community Update

A verbal update was given by the on the current priorities and projects relating to COVID-19. Vaccinations continue in the Town Hall, subject to vaccine supply, led by the GP Practices. The COVID community leaders still meet every 2 weeks to discuss ongoing projects to support residents with wellbeing, food supply and general support.

**Cllr Kay Wesley
(Chair)**

APPENDIX ONE: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

Question One – Olga Whitmore, resident

According to the last Congleton In Bloom, meeting three more boats with plants were planned to be installed at Bromley Farm. I live at Bromley Farm and I know there are already numerous planters which are not attended by In Bloom volunteers of Bromley Farm, can CTC Committee confirm it will look at the area and decide before putting new planters at Bromley Farm and spend more money?
Can the Committee confirm there are In Bloom volunteers at Bromley Farm?

RESPONSE by the Committee Chair.

The minutes from the last In Bloom meeting held on 7th December state - *3 x new boats with colourful sustainable planting scheme to be added in Bromley Farm, Congleton Park and a roundabout.* There is going to be one boat sited the Bromley Area, which will be part of the Bromley In Bloom plans, however planted and maintained by Congleton In Bloom members and staff.

We can confirm there is a Bromley farm in Bloom team as well as the following the Teams:
Buglawton In Bloom, Bath House and Physic Garden, Jubilee Club, Astbury Mere, Old Saw Mill
Congleton Park, Heath View in Bloom and Hilary Ave Allotments These 8 groups, also known, as Its Your Neighbourhood groups, work closely with Congleton In Bloom on their local campaigns and each group has many members – the majority of which are volunteers with some paid staff.

All volunteers in any of the above groups were asked to stop any non-essential volunteer work due to the Covid pandemic. This decision was led by the RHS and at Government briefings led by Boris Johnson. Due to volunteering stopping a lot of work has been put on hold and works are planned to start up again in June when the government guidance allows.

Question Two: Olga Whitmore – resident

CEC has published a Green Infrastructure plan for every town in CE, are there plans to start implementing this plan? What can community groups and individuals do to help CTC to implement this plan?

RESPONSE by the Committee Chair

A committee item with a detailed response on work already taking place to implement the Green Infrastructure Plan for Congleton, what else is proposed and what opportunities there will be for local groups and individuals to help will be tabled for the next Community and Environment Committee.

Question Three: Andrew Copestick resident:

I understand that the Elizabeth Group received a £2000 donation from Graham Group who are doing the link road. Under the proposals of the report it asks for the council to a). identify Unspent monies relating to Congleton to be redirected to the statue project and /or b). require new building projects in Congleton to make a CIL/S10G contribution to the statue.

My question is are other charities, organisations getting as much of a push for monies when they investigate with CEC these possibilities of builders' community contributions.

RESPONSE by Committee Chair

The Elizabeth Group was grateful to Graham's construction for donating £2000 to the Elizabeth project. This donation had nothing to do with CILS or Section 106 funding and was the result of a successful direct request by the group to the business

In the January meeting it was asked if CTC officers could ask CEC if there was any CILs or Section 106 funding available that could support the Elizabeth project. It was always anticipated that this would be a long shot. Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) are legal agreements that Cheshire East Council enters with developers. The agreement is usually allocated to specific projects such as affordable housing, highway, parks, green spaces and infrastructure such as schools and health.

APPENDIX TWO – POLICE REPORT

All figures are for the last 6 weeks in line with the Police priority period.

Drugs and Alcohol

No hotspots in our repeat demand, however work extended under Op Piloted to tackle dealing on Biddulph Valley Way. Some initial success with three arrests and intelligence generated.

Total Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents: 28. Reduction of 36 incidents on last period and a reduction of 19 year on year.

Current ASB Repeat locations

- West Heath Shopping centre (2) – 4 youths, joint response with school, parents & ASB team
- Tetton Court (4) – Arrestable Injunction complete and served
- St James Avenue Gawsworth (5) – Male arrested and under investigation

Total Domestic Violence Incidents: 50 (the same as the last period and up 16 year on year.

Total Sexual Offences: 5, 4 down on last period and 2 down year on year.

Congleton Priorities

- TEAM: Rural Crime – education and enforcement
- PERSON: Warrant development on West
- PLACE: Op Piloted – East

Total COVID Related Incidents: 54

No COVID Repeat Locations

Force

Op Paw – Dedicated COVID Patrols & Patrol Plan

Op Delivering – Patrol Plan for vulnerable sites

Push on Driving whilst on a mobile phone – Macclesfield highest

AOB

Cloudside Shooting Range – Sits with Staffordshire Policing.

Funding Activities via community and PCC

East: Dementia friendly Packs

West: Educational Road Safety Tools (Marfields, St Marys, Quinta)

Gawsworth & Chelford: Community Orchard (Orchard Trust)

Odd Rode: Road Safety Conferences. Kit for school drop off/collection and educational packs

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community & Environment		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	3rd June 2021	LOCATION	Bridestones Suite, Town Hall
REPORT FROM	J MacArthur Communities and Marketing Manager and Deputy Chief Officer Cllr Suzie Akers Smith – CEC Cycling and Walking Champion Becca Smith – resident		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	8. River Dane Bridge – Havannah Lane to Jackson Road and Park APPENDIX WITH PROPOSAL ATTACHED		
Background	Cllr Suzie Akers Smith, Town Council and Cheshire East Walking and Cycling Champion has been working with a local resident on plans to improve the pedestrian route from Havannah Street to Congleton Park and Eaton Bank Industrial Park. The paper attached gives details of the proposals. This committee has been asked to consider the detailed request.		
Updates	<p>It has not been possible to carry out too much research into the ideas and suggestions put forward in the attached paper in advance of the committee papers being sent out. It may be possible to give more information at the meeting and questions have been raised with the CEC Highways Team who are responsible for the crossing.</p> <p>CTC records show that CEC replated the bridge in 2011 to make the bridge safe for pedestrian use. CEC investigated replacing the bridge, but due to the service pipes that are contained within or next to the bridge this was not financially viable. At the time the plan was for CEC to seek funding with Connect2 and Sustrans to enhance the bridge.</p> <p>Congleton Partnership led the project to create a River Dane walkway from Dane Street (near the Fire Station) through the Park and through to Eaton Bank Industrial Estate. Phase 2 was the section from the Park to the Industrial Estate which previously was a dirt track. At time of installation (2010) the barriers were included on the advice of the Police who were concerned about motorbike and quad bikes. Similarly the safety barrier between Havannah Street and the crossing was placed to deter motorbikes using the cut through and to prevent cars parking on the pavement/ people crossing walking out onto the road. Implications for safety as well as access need to be considered before a decision is taken to remove barriers.</p> <p>The Streetscape Manager has confirmed that the bridge is on the Streetscape's rota and that the team currently carry out weekly litter picking, weed the area 4 x a year, removal of dog fouling inappropriate graffiti in the area as directed.</p>		
Financial	Yet to be established for the various aspects of the project.		
Environmental	This is supportive of with CTC's Climate Change Emergency and the objective of reducing CO2 emissions from transport, since walking and cycling are low-carbon activities.		
Equality	This will support those who do not own a car, as well as the elderly, disabled and young people who do not drive, by making pedestrian, cycle and wheelchair travel easier and more attractive.		

Decision Requested	<p>For Congleton Town Council to agree how it would like to proceed with the proposal in the attached paper</p> <p>Options:</p> <p>A: Ask the ITWG to carry out more detailed work on the feasibility of the project with the artist and local community</p> <p>B: Support the suggestions and seek funding from Council</p> <p>C: Take forward some of the proposals that are within CTC's control/ pass rest to CEC</p> <p>D: Reject the proposals</p>
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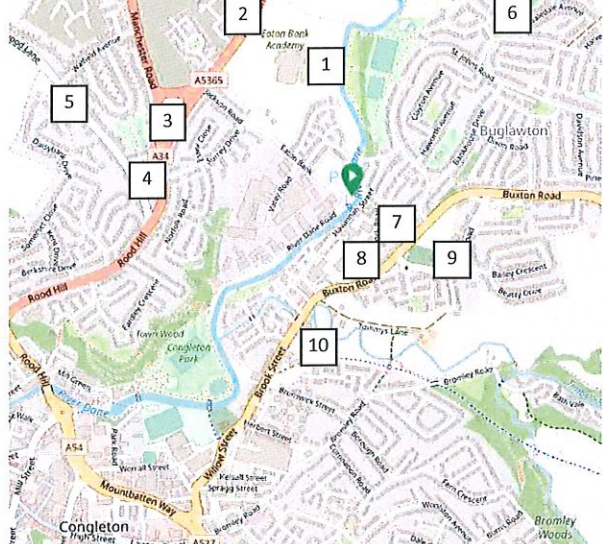


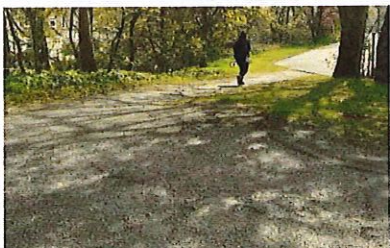

8a Proposal Paper

RIVER DANE BRIDGE, CONGLETON WALKING SAFARI REPORT CLLR SUZIE AKERS SMITH, CYCLING AND WALKING CHAMPION

ITEM	RIVER DANE BRIDGE PROJECT - CONGLETON		
DATE AND TIME	REPORT: 13TH MAY 2021 Cycle Safari: 23rd APR 2020	LOCATION AFFECTED: River Dane Bridge connecting, Havannah Street to Eaton Bank	IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY FOR ALL USERS IN A CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC ENVIRONMENT FOR COMMUNITY ENJOYMENT
OVERVIEW	<p>THE ACTIVE TRAVEL JOURNEY TO CONGLETON PARK AND BETWEEN LOWER HEATH & BUGLAWTON TO ENCOURAGE MORE WALKING AND CYCLING</p> <p>- creating improved accessibility for all and a cultural space for the community to enjoy</p> <p>In my role as cycling and walking champion for Cheshire East Council I have offered any group, town, village or individual a visit to cycle and walk around the local area to view their existing infrastructure for cycling and walking and understand the problems faced with the lack of accessibility and road safety for pedestrians, cyclists and other non-motorised users especially vulnerable people such as those using mobility aids, parents with pushchairs and young children. This proposals in this report, if implemented, support residents to encourage the walking or cycling in that area by making it easier, safer and more enjoyable.</p>		
WARD COUNCILLORS	Cllr Suzie Akers Smith - Congleton West Ward		
BACKGROUND AND CONCERNS	<p>I met with Becca Smith who was born and raised in Congleton where her family home is still in Havannah Street. Becca is a young mum who does not own a car and walks everywhere with her young baby or uses sustainable modes of transport. To her and her family's knowledge this bridge has never been maintained or improved at all in over 35 years. The bridge is dilapidated, damaged, ugly, full of weeds and dirt and discourages people from using the pedestrian route through to Congleton Park leaving many people to drive what is a journey of less than half a mile in some cases, a ten minute walk or a few minutes on a bicycle.</p> <div data-bbox="357 1207 750 1581" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Becca approached me to have a look at the pedestrian and safe cycle access from Havannah Lane to Eaton Bank and the route to Congleton Park along River Dane Street. This route supports up to 1000 pedestrian journeys every day and is the only safe route into Congleton Park and the town centre for parents with pushchairs and children walking or cycling to Eaton Bank Academy, from that area of town, avoiding a circuitous route on the Buxton Rd or St Johns Road.</p> <p>Another issue is the barriers in place on Havannah Lane to cross the bridge prevent those who have limited mobility and who are reliant on a mobility aid to use the bridge. This means these vulnerable road users are forced to use the very busy A54, Buxton Road. This road has a constant stream of heavy lorries heading towards Congleton, being the main A54 from the peak district; a most undesirable walking route if ever there was one.</p> <p>There are also physical barriers that prevent those using mobility aids to access Congleton Park. Congleton Town Council are looking to provide a wheelchair accessible roundabout in the park and making this route accessible would enable a wheelchair user to arrive at the park under their own steam, rather than being driven. The access would also comply with The Equality Act. The park access being less than 1 mile in a car from Buglawton and Lower Heath and less than 200m on foot from the Dane Bridge into Congleton Park is a perfect route to the green open space and onto the town centre, offering an alternative to a vehicle.</p>		

RIVER DANE BRIDGE, CONGLETON WALKING SAFARI REPORT

CLLR SUZIE AKERS SMITH, CYCLING AND WALKING CHAMPION

	<p>Becca has travelled across this bridge for 7 years whilst she attended high school. She and many family and friends who use the bridge every day to travel into the park and the town centre support this proposal. Her elderly Nan is unable to use this pedestrian route to the park because this bridge is in an undesirable state and the barriers in place prevent her from accessing Congleton Park and to be independently mobile. One of the reasons why she has become involved in this project.</p> <p>The Equality Act 2010 means councils have to make pedestrian routes accessible.</p>
<p>PROPOSALS AND SOLUTION</p> <p>1. Clean the bridge, the pathway and access using volunteers and Congleton Town Council Streetscape team.</p>	 <p> 📍 Dane bridge connects Buglawton community to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eaton Bank Academy 2. Bus stop to Macclesfield 3. Convenience store and restaurant 4. Chip Shop 5. Sustrans route 573, the only safe cycle route north out of Congleton. It is also a direct pedestrian route for hundreds of children to Eaton Bank Academy and the most desirable walking route to Congleton Park for pedestrians and cyclists in particular the most </p> <p> 📍 Connecting the Lower Heath community to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. St. John's Playing fields and play area 7. Beartown Boxing 8. Witness the Fitness gym 9. Buglawton Primary School </p> <p>The location of the bridge and the importance of it as a pedestrian and safe cycle connects two communities cannot be underestimated.</p>
	  <p>Left image - View from Eaton Bank over the bridge to Havannah Lane. Siemens fencing on the left.</p> <p>Bottom left image - The view turning left from Havannah Lane along River Dane Road towards Congleton Park.</p>   <p>The weeds need clearing, a sweep of the area, take out the overgrown grass onto the path. Painting the bridge railings and removing or replacing the broken dilapidated metal barriers is a great place to start to make the area attractive and to make residents feel this is a cared for part of Congleton and an essential active travel route.</p>

RIVER DANE BRIDGE, CONGLETON WALKING SAFARI REPORT

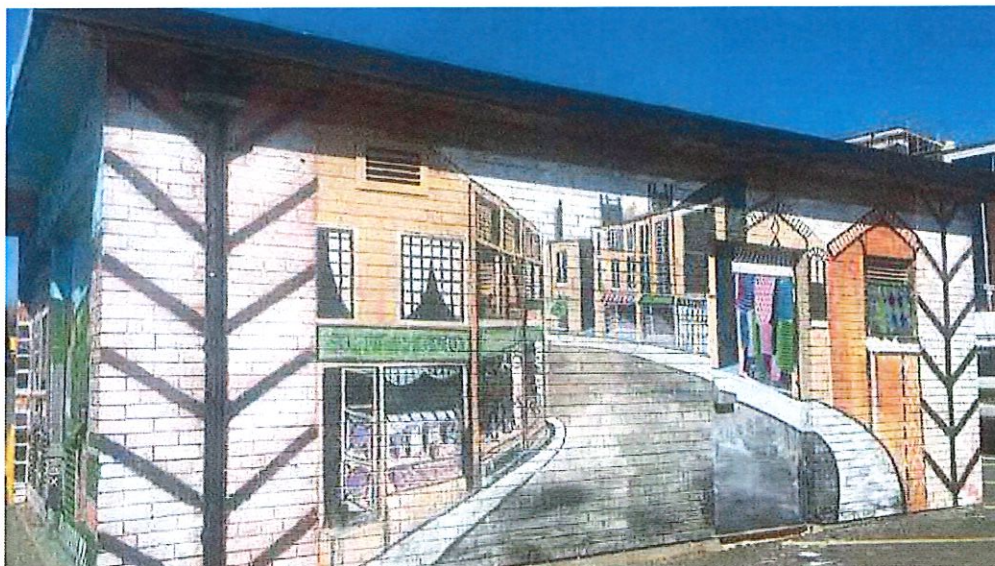
CLLR SUZIE AKERS SMITH, CYCLING AND WALKING CHAMPION

<p>2. Congleton Town Council support for cleaning and a financial contribution to paint the railings and handrail. To include the bridge for regular maintenance throughout the year.</p>	<p>We are looking for town council support from Streetscape to place the bridge and the surrounding area on a regular clean and sweep as part of their bin emptying and general maintenance. A commitment to check it for mess every two month or two months whilst doing their rounds.</p>  <p>A financial contribution from the town council to paint the rusted metal bridge, maintenance of the footway and the removal of a strange looking metal pole that has never been used or had anything hung from it.</p> <p>Mood lighting and a lamppost on both sides of the bridge to promote safe walking at night time.</p> <p>Removal of the barriers to the bridge and to Congleton Park preventing access for those who need mobility aids, other active forms of transport as well as bicycles, such as tricycles.</p> <p>A dropped kerb in place to enable all users to be active and some tree or hedge planting to create a border on the green space. A bench for people to sit and enjoy life.</p>  
<p>3. River Dane Crossing Project Idea By Becca Smith</p>	<p>I propose the installation of weather-proof ply wood boards to the railings on the north-east side of the bridge on Riverdane Road. I will then design and paint a mural that connects to the distinctive environment of the Dane valley in Buglawton, with the potential to use local flora and fauna, historic landmarks (Havannah Village and weir) and the poetry of Havannah Street resident and former Cheshire Poet Laureate John Lindey. Positive outcomes for the community will include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art in action- excitement and interest drawn by seeing a (local) artist at work on our neighbourhood will provide inspiration to residents and a positive role model to Eaton Bank School children • Art for wellbeing- the presence of a beautiful and interesting visual artwork will increase wellbeing and reduce isolation, engage the imagination of children and their parents, enliven the walk to work, school or town centre shopping

RIVER DANE BRIDGE, CONGLETON WALKING SAFARI REPORT
CLLR SUZIE AKERS SMITH, CYCLING AND WALKING CHAMPION

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeing things differently -Renewed interest in the location will highlight the need for infrastructure improvements and alter the perception of a neglected, dysfunctional space to being a high-point on a journey or even a visitor attraction <p>Costing for this project:</p> <p>Materials : Waterproof ply boards to fit the lower fencing panels by the bridge: £40</p> <p>Installation- to be advised by CTC</p> <p>Artists acrylic primer and paints, brushes and varnish : £150</p> <p>Artist's design and delivery (delivery time between 20 and 30 hours) £1000</p> <p>Additional expenses £50 (dust sheets, cleaning equipment, rain coverings)</p> <p>Total before installation of boards £1240</p> <p>There is also the potential for solar powered lights to be designed to fit the mural's themes and made by me and my colleagues which could be installed in the mature trees over hanging the bridge and Riverdane Road for a low cost.</p>
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RIVER DANE BRIDGE, CONGLETON WALKING SAFARI REPORT **CLLR SUZIE AKERS SMITH, CYCLING AND WALKING CHAMPION**



An example of work by Becca commissioned by Macclesfield Town Council. She said to Nub News who wrote an article on the project

"Creativity is one of the most important states for humans ... and is essential to mental health and wellbeing".

4. Support and financial help from Siemens to create artwork on some of their railings to continue the theme.

Contact Siemens to ask if they will allow a further installation on some of their railings. This will enhance the River Dane making the area livelier and larger. The view of the installation along River Dane Road on the approach to the bridge will be nothing short of magical.



RIVER DANE BRIDGE, CONGLETON WALKING SAFARI REPORT
CLLR SUZIE AKERS SMITH, CYCLING AND WALKING CHAMPION

5. Lighting to enhance the area and make it feel safer throughout the winter.

A light installation for the tree to create a fairy grotto type of feel.



6. Longer term Infrastructure improvements to make walking and cycling more enjoyable and feel safer.



A. Removal/replacement of barriers on Havannah St side and cutting back of hedges to widen pavements.

RIVER DANE BRIDGE, CONGLETON WALKING SAFARI REPORT

CLLR SUZIE AKERS SMITH, CYCLING AND WALKING CHAMPION

- B. Replacement or removal of barriers on Eaton Bank side.
- C. Removal of the metal post and replace cyclist dismount signs with give way to pedestrians.
- D. Removal of the empty pipes.
- C. Widen the bridge or add another bridge at some point.
- D. Waypoint signage stating how long to walk and cycle to different places.
- F. Landscaping and a re-surfacing of the tarmac to complement each other.
- G. Dropped kerb heading towards Congleton Park.
- H. Additional pathway created on the grass verge or a solid white line showing pedestrian movement. This desire line is the most used. On the pavement side there are no dropped kerbs all the way along and often cars and lorries are parked on the pavement.



SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The recommendations are:

1. Clean the bridge, the pathway and access using volunteers and Congleton Town Council Streetscape team.
2. Congleton Town Council support for cleaning and a financial contribution to paint the railings and handrail. To include the bridge for regular maintenance throughout the year.
3. River Dane Crossing Project Idea
4. Support and financial help from Siemens to create artwork on some of their railings to continue the theme.
5. Lighting to enhance the area and make it feel safer throughout the winter.
6. Longer term infrastructure improvements to make walking and cycling more enjoyable and feel safer.

RIVER DANE BRIDGE, CONGLETON WALKING SAFARI REPORT
CLLR SUZIE AKERS SMITH, CYCLING AND WALKING CHAMPION

	<p>This could be a joint project working with Congleton Community Projects and with contributions from Trusts and local business. With Cheshire East Council Highways department, CEC assets, Eaton Bank Academy to include the children and local residents.</p>
Links	<p>https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/council_information/equality-and-diversity/equality_analysis.aspx</p> <p>https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/council_information/media_hub/media_releases/council-appoints-new-equality-champion.aspx</p> <p>https://barnabyfestival.org.uk/macc-assemble/</p> <p>https://macclesfield.nub.news/n/this-epic-macclesfield-street-mural-took-one-year-to-make-1619431547</p>

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community & Environment		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	3rd June 2021	LOCATION	Bridestones Suite, Town Hall
REPORT FROM	J MacArthur Communities and Marketing Manager and Deputy Chief Officer		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	9. Updates Paper from Outstanding Actions from Communities and Environment		
Background	<p>This paper is provided to give Members an update on actions from reports discussed at the previous Community and Environment Committee and are 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/03/2021 Moody Hall – Discussions have been ongoing between the developer and Cheshire East Council Conservation and Planning. A decision notice was published on the 5th May 2021 showing the discharge of conditions for the internal works. DEMOCRATIC SERVICES (cheshireeast.gov.uk)</p> <p>CE/51/2021 Elizabeth Statue: – A proposed location was discussed at Council Meeting, where the Committee supported the statue, but wanted all the sites reconsidered before making a final preference on the preferred site to be submitted to Cheshire East Council for planning consent. Work on the locations is still underway.</p> <p>CE/52/2021 Volunteer Co-ordination Point - Officers have been involved with meetings with officers from Cheshire East Council Communities Team and with the Social Action Partnership to work through issues that Congleton Town Council wished to resolve before signing up as a Volunteer Co-ordination Point partner. Believe this issue will be resolved before the committee in July.</p> <p>CE/62/2021 CEC: Air Quality Strategy – The approved response to the Air Quality Consultation was submitted to CEC</p> <p>CE/63/2021: Introduce a Civic Award scheme – this was launched and a number of applications have been received. The applications are due to be considered by a panel next week.</p>		
PROPOSALS	1. To note the report		

Minutes Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group

Zoom Call – Thursday 13th May 2021

Present: Cllr Kay Wesley (Chair), Cllr Dawn Allen, Cllr Amanda Martin, Cllr Rob Moreton, Glen Williams, Stig Paul Brunton – Cheshire Police, Julia Pestell Hassall (CEC), James Groves (Cheshire Fire Service), Jackie MacArthur (CTC)

Apologies: Cllr Denis Murphy (joined for last item), Ruth Burgess (CTC)

	Agenda Item	Issue/Action	By Whom	When
1.	Notes of 24 th March	Notes went to CE on the 11 th of March 2021 – agreed by group		
2.	Elect Chair and Vice Chair	Chair to be contested. Agreed to move the item to the end of the meeting and deal with business first	Discussed as item 9	End of meeting
3.	Review Membership for current year	All non-council members confirmed wish to stay on. James Groves from Cheshire Fire to join the group. No other suggestions for regular members given.	JMacA Add James to group email	May 1
4.	Action Log	<p>a) CCTV camera (Denis/Jackie)</p> <p>b) Bamboogie Event (Rob Moreton)</p> <p>c) Alcohol free beer (Denis/ Jackie)</p> <p>d) Bromley Farm off road bikes</p> <p>e) West Heath Shopping Centre</p>	<p>Jackie/Denis re CEC</p> <p>Item CLOSED</p> <p>Jackie/Denis</p> <p>Item on bikes CLOSED</p> <p>Item CLOSED</p>	<p>May</p> <p>May</p>

5.	<p>Police Update Note all figures are for the 6 weeks before the meeting.</p> <p>Drugs and Alcohol Work extended under Op Piloted PLACE to tackle Dealing on Biddulph Valley Way and Bromley Farm Estate. Further Arrest/House search</p> <p>Total: ASB Incidents: 90 increase of 62 incidents on last period and reduction of 85 Year on Year (YoY) Current ASB Repeat locations Bridestones Shopping Centre incl Morrisons, Queen's Head and Dane-in-Shaw pastures.</p> <p>Total DV Incidents: 39 reduction of 10 on last period and reduction of 9 YoY Total Sexual Offences: 3, 2 down on last period and 1 up YoY</p> <p>Congleton Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEAM: COVID and Licensing, green space patrol plan, joint visits conducted 14/04 more planned for 17/05, assistance around rules as well as enforcement of breaches. Additional 6 Officers provided for easing of national restrictions as well as Beat Patrols. • PERSON: Problem Solving Package Domestic Abuse, ASB and Crime • PLACE: Op Piloted – Bromley <p>Total COVID Related Incidents: 27 Repeat location (2) Astbury Mere – 1 incident closed: 1 incident 4 fines given. Op Paw and Op Delivering continue</p> <p>Hate Crimes 4 Incidents (3 Public Order Acts Crimes, 1 Incident)</p> <p>NOTE new Inspector – Jim Adams rather than Kelly Johnston. New Police Crime Commissions John Dwyer - Cllr Dawn Allen and Cllr Kay Wesley have already made contact on behalf of Congleton</p>	
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	Agenda Item	Issue/Action	By Whom	When
6.	Fire Brigade Update	Coming into the summer season can see an increase in deliberate and secondary fires. In April five incidents of deliberate fires in Congleton – Dane in Shaw, Congleton Park, Dale Crescent area. Working with Streetscape to keep areas clear of rubbish that young people may use to create fires. Education on the dangers. Also dealing with Fires that are a nuisance, but not a crime – e.g., bonfires or setting fire to waste that should not be burned on own land. No current issues at Moody Hall – but if the building is accessible then should report to CEC Vacant and Void team	Ongoing Police CTC	
7.	Purple Flag	The Group viewed a presentation on Purple Flag accreditation – a scheme designed to help promote towns as having a safe, successful and diverse evening economy. ASB and crime is one aspect of this multi-layered award and if the Town Council wished to promote and work towards this scheme it would need a multi-discipline town team to work on the campaign. The group suggested that in terms of budget and officer time now is not the right time to promote this scheme – but the fundamental principles in the criteria for Purple Flag are good and something that Congleton should aim to adopt whether or not it ends up going forward for the scheme in the future.	No action for now but could be a scheme to put to the Council later.	
7	AOB	Police carrying out a Week of Action on Speeding - from 17 th May. Gawsworth/Cheiford/Odd Rode – TruCam/Traffic Stops Question raised re Antrobus Street space – no further issues reported, PCSO Hooper conducted regular patrols and reports all in order over time.	Police	
8.	Date of Next Meeting	Thursday 8 th July 3.30pm – 5pm via ZOOM – if needed 3-4 could meet in the Spencer and other join via Zoom	Let Jackie know if you wish to come into the Town Hall otherwise all zoom	
9.	Election of Chair and Vice Chair	After some debate and a vote Cllr Kay Wesley was elected as Chair and Cllr Amanda Martin as Vice Chair.	Jackie Update info on Web	May

Congleton In Bloom Working Group10th March 2021 Virtual Zoom Meeting,
Minutes

Attendees: David Brown, Bob Edwards, Glen Williams, Amanda Martin, Margaret Gartside, Patti Pinto, Ruth Burgess, Martha Hayes

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Members are respectfully reminded of the necessity to submit any apology for absence in advance and to give a reason for non- attendance.
 - None.
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:** To approve the Notes of the previous meeting as a correct record. 7th December 2020.
 - **Approved.**
3. **Declarations of Interest:** Members are requested to declare both "pecuniary" and "non-pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become known.
 - David Brown- Cheshire East
 - Patti Pinto- William Dean Trust, Congleton Partnership, Congleton Park FoCP
 - Glen Williams- Bromley Farm, Congleton Partnership, Congleton Park FoCP
 - Margaret Gartside- Congleton Partnership
 - Bob Edwards- Congleton Partnership, FoCP
 - Amanda Martin- Congleton Park, Congleton Partnership
4. **RHS Community Awards:** Representatives from CIB to join a digital Q&A session 12 - 1pm on Wednesday 24th March.
 - Agreed to be PP & MG.
5. **Back to Back Gardens- Theme:** Colours of the Rainbow. PP discussed a display for one of the polytunnels, using a bear, boat and raised beds.
6. **Dutch Wall:** AM informed the group that she would like the responsibility of looking after the wall and surrounding area to go to someone else in the group or to the Streetscape team.
7. **Covid Update- Volunteering Activities:** RB to update at the next meeting.
8. **AOB:**
 - As Spring bulbs are starting to show, good idea to start getting Spring pictures of the daffodils and crocus', especially the roundabouts. When we have these pictures, it will also identify the areas that lack Spring bulbs that can be planted up for future projects.
 - Access to the polytunnel is looking to be second week of July.
 - MG praised the work of RB and the Streetscape operatives for all their continued hard work.
 - Any questions about the In Bloom projects will be taken to the Community & Environment Committee.
 - Memorial Garden in Community Garden, discussed about the clearing of this area, ready to start the project.
 - Discussed potential ideas with what Astbury Mere could do for judging day. Also to support it all year round, such as installation of more information boards.
 - Noted that both Congleton Park and Astbury Mere have been heavily used throughout the pandemic for exercise. Both spaces have been good for physical and mental health.
9. **Date of next meeting: Tuesday 30th March, 9.30am-** to discuss the information from the Q&A session 24.03.21. Potential to meet outside (six people) after the meeting, in the Community Garden to discuss the Memorial Garden Project.

Congleton In Bloom Working Group30th March 2021 Virtual Zoom Meeting,Minutes

Attendees: David Brown, Bob Edwards, Glen Williams, Amanda Martin, Margaret Gartside, Patti Pinto, Ruth Burgess, Martha Hayes

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Members are respectfully reminded of the necessity to submit any apology for absence in advance and to give a reason for non-attendance.
 - None.
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:** To approve the Notes of the previous meeting as a correct record. 10th March 2021.
 - Approved.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** Members are requested to declare both "pecuniary" and "non-pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become known.
 - David Brown- Cheshire East
 - Patti Pinto- William Dean Trust, Congleton Partnership, Congleton Park FoCP
 - Glen Williams- Bromley Farm, Congleton Partnership, Congleton Park FoCP
 - Margaret Gartside- Congleton Partnership
 - Bob Edwards- Congleton Partnership, Congleton Park FoCP
 - Amanda Martin- Congleton Park FoCP, Congleton Partnership
4. **RHS Community Awards Seminar Feedback:** With five categories to choose from, only three need to be completed. Suggested to complete four and then the one that doesn't get used, see if the projects from that could be added to the three being submitted. PP looking at the Wheelbarrow Project, MG for the inclusion of the Congleton Green group and GW for the parks in town. All to contribute answers which will be collated and submitted together. The focus is on the story and who has been involved in the projects. Up to 10 photos and a five minute video can be submitted.
5. **IYN Displays:** Discussed that as the core In Bloom team, we need to make sure that all the separate IYN groups are all okay with what they are doing/ any new projects etc. ACTION MH to send IYN contacts to DB. ACTION DB & BE- to virtually meet or go out to the IYN's to check on progress and any areas they seek help with, to report back at the next meeting.
6. **Compost Delivery:** Compost will be delivered to the polytunnels on Friday 23rd April with no access to this until Monday 26th April. Slots will need to be booked to collect compost between 26/04 – 02/05. ACTION RB: to send a letter from DB to all IYN to let them know.
7. **COVID-19 Update:** As of 29th March, six people can meet outdoors, still following guidance and restrictions. PP is currently planting fruit trees in groups no larger than six at any one time. Risk Assessment complete and sent to RB.
8. **AOB:**
 - Look into placing of blue hearts around the Town.
 - A wildflower meadow is to be planted at Hilary Avenue, funds for this from Plus Dane.
 - Link Road roundabouts, will these be planted in time for the road opening in mid-April?
 - National Gardening Week at the end of April- potential for a 'Town Tidy'.
9. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 20th April, 9.30am

Congleton In Bloom Working Group

20th April 2021 Virtual Zoom Meeting

Minutes

Attendees: David Brown, Bob Edwards, Glen Williams, Margaret Gartside, Patti Pinto, Ruth Burgess, Martha Hayes

NB: Amanda Martin has stepped away from the In Bloom group. At the start of this meeting, Chair David Brown highlighted the fantastic work that Amanda has put into the group over the years and thanked her for all her hard work.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Members are respectfully reminded of the necessity to submit any apology for absence in advance and to give a reason for non- attendance.
 - None.
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:** To approve the notes of the previous meeting as a correct record: 30th March 2021.
 - Approved.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** Members are requested to declare both "pecuniary" and "non-pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become known.
 - David Brown- Cheshire East
 - Patti Pinto- William Dean Trust, Congleton Partnership, Congleton Park FoCP
 - Glen Williams- Bromley Farm, Congleton Partnership, Congleton Park FoCP
 - Margaret Gartside- Congleton Partnership
 - Bob Edwards- Congleton Partnership, Congleton Park FoCP
4. **National Gardening Week at the end of April- potential for a 'Town Tidy':** Planned Schedule for meet the gardeners and volunteers/ tours:
 - Monday 26th April- Hillary Ave Allotments and Bromley In Bloom: Display meeting at the allotments 11am-12pm
 - Tuesday 27th April- Community Garden (Lawton St) 10am-12pm
 - Wednesday 28th April- Elizabeth Garden (West St) 2pm-3pm
 - Thursday 29th April- Bath House & Physic Garden (Colehill Bank, nr Cenotaph); 10-12 and Margaret's Place (Antrobus St) 2pm-3pm
 - Friday 30th April- Congleton Park 10am-12pm
 - Sunday 2nd May- Buglawton in Bloom, meeting outside Church House 10am-12pm

Rule of 6 outdoors still applies, social distancing signs and equipment will be provided at each site. Sign-in sheets also needed for contact details if needed. Seeds also needed for some planting (ACTION RB).

Poster for this to go into the town noticeboards and dates added to social media pages.

Other town tidies in line with National Keep Britain Tidy Week (28th May-13th June):

- Saturday 29th May- Congleton Park, 10am-12pm- can also tie in a seed swap with this date.
- Saturday 12th June- Astbury Mere, 10am-12pm

5. **Congleton Park- Update from Meeting with CE and ANSA (RB):**

CTC and Ansa are developing strategies for replanting, successional planting and preservation of existing trees with the intention to preserve the lifespan of the many mature and established trees in the park and the town and prevent tree felling. As part of saving well established tree which currently are showing defects there will be a new maintenance schedules put in place around 4 beech trees within the park to deter people from walking near them and the ground the decompact.

6. **IYN Entrants Update:**

Agreed to take part in NWIB: Friends of Congleton Park, Bromley Farm, Buglawton In Bloom, Heath View, Bath House & Physic Garden

Possibly taking part, need to check: Old Saw Mill, Hillary Avenue Allotment Association, Astbury Mere Care Home, New Life Church Jubilee Club.

New IYN Group: Community Gardens

Business: Alexandra Court Hotel

7. AOB:

- Visyon Garden- Path unsafe. Suggested for 'Town Tidies' to focus on a garden area, rather than litter picking, as generally the town is litter free.
- Send thanks out to litterpickers.
- Blue Heart Campaign
- Photo's of Dane in Shaw needed for portfolio
- Choral Society Flower Bed- RB
- Friendly Faces Nursery- first eco nursery to gain a green flag- need to send a letter of congratulations to the nursery. Green flags, Marlfields have 7, Saint Mary's have 6, Buglawton have 4,
- Children's Plant-Up- Saturday 22nd May- MH to send letters to schools.
- North West In Bloom Route- same as last year.
- Daneside Theatre planters- RB has spoken to and sorted.
- Compost from ANSA to WRVs on Tues-Thurs 27th-29th April; Cong IYN groups to collect on Fri 30th April PP will be there 1-4pm
- Community Garden Festival in the double polytunnel: Central Bear in a boat in the 'river' (need to order lots of lobelia), Back to backs: Friendly Faces, Buglawton in Bloom; U3A, BHPG, Saint Mary's Tree trail (4 ytc schools (Marlfields, Buglawton, Saint Mary's, Smallwood) & Trees for Congleton
- Displays- the boat is cleaned and ready to go, same as the penny farthing, just awaiting permissions.
- IYN Displays, WDT Wheelbarrow challenge: Pre-Schools, Primary Schools, Uniform Groups, Care homes
- Buglawton Scouts planting hedgerows on Thurs 29th Apr
- MG is looking to work with the hospital at The Christie for volunteers to work in their gardens. Bench ready to go, sponsored by the Town Trust. ACTION DB & MG- to write a letter to the hospital.

Congleton Integrated Transport Working Group Meeting

NOTES OF MEETING – Meeting called to discuss Government Bus Back Better Strategy

Date: Wednesday 21 April 2021

Location: Zoom Meeting

Time: 6pm – 7pm

Present: Cllr Suzie Akers Smith (Chair), Cllr Duncan Amies, Cllr Suzy Firkin, Cllr Sally Ann Holland, Cllr David Brown, Cllr Kay Wesley, Ant Bolding (Active Travel), Jackie MacArthur.

Guest: Steve Haydon, Hollinshead Coaches from 6.20pm – 6.40pm

Item	What was discussed / description	Actions	By who	By when
1	Apologies	Cllr Margaret Gartside (not sent invite)		
2	Cllr SAS introduced the meeting. Gave background to the meeting and introduced the Bus Back Better Government Strategy – aim of the meeting to review the April 2020 document sent to CEC with ideas for better buses in Congleton and to discuss any additions for ideas for better bus services in Congleton that the group would like to add in response to the Government's Bus Back Better strategy. Understand that CEC as the tTransport Authority is the body that can apply to Government for a share of the £3bn to deliver better buses and increase uptake of use of buses as a mode of transport. Important to work with CEC and make suggestions for improvements in Congleton. Steve Haydon from Hollinshead Coaches gave a brief understanding from a bus operators point of view and some background to the Beartown Buses that his company runs via a contract with CEC Transport Services Solutions Things Group thought to consider: Main aim buses within Congleton v buses connecting Congleton to other towns. Impact and use of Open Bus Data Source	Cllr SAS to speak with Richard Hibbert re how CEC is likely to progress with the Government Offer Thanked Steve for his offer of help and advice Considered Power Point with ideas submitted in April 2020 – circulated after the meeting. Ideas to be sent to Cllr Kay Wesley. Comments needed to Kay within the week. Forward to other CTC Councillors to keep informed.	Cllr SAS Cllr KW	End of April End of April

	<p>Better servicing of West Heath, Lower Heath and new estates:</p> <p>Buses to more places of employment/education</p> <p>Buses to commuter trains at Congleton/ Holmes Chapel</p> <p>Understanding how the Link Road impacts on journeys and use of road – serving new communities.</p> <p>Cheaper fares/ tickets to be used across bus services</p> <p>Bus timetables and services need to be easy, simple and cheap</p> <p>Electric buses</p> <p>More attractive bus infrastructure – clean bus stops, shelter, knowledge of timing</p> <p>Better connectivity for various modes of transport – eg bike racks on buses.</p>	<p>In line with CTC response to the Local Transport Plan Delivery Plan consultation and as it is only suggestions with no financial input from CTC felt the group was ok to submit this to CEC but would circulate response to all Councillors before sending to CEC. Active involvement from CTC would involve committees.</p>		
3	<p>Cllr SAS reported that CEC has been successful in gaining £21,820 from Clean Air funding from Defra to increase uptake of cycling and active travel in Congleton. Funding for wayfair markers showing time by walking/cycling, cycle buddy scheme for adults and 8 covered cycling shelters in Congleton.</p>	<p>Send a copy of the CEC project to ITWG members</p> <p>Work starts early May</p>	Jackie Mac	By 23 April
4.	<p>Clean Air Day – 17th June. Question about closing High Street to traffic to enjoy a car free time in the Town Centre. Agreed would need to wait until COVID-19 restrictions relaxed before encouraging town centre event.</p>	<p>Officers to develop a suggested plan and share with group</p>	Jackie Mac	End of April
5	Date of Next Meeting	To be agreed		

**Minutes of the White Ribbon Working Group meeting held on
25th March 2021 at 10.00am**

Meeting to be conducted remotely via Zoom

Meeting ID: 897 8380 8702
Passcode: 767527

In attendance

CLlr R Hemsley (Chair) CLlr K Wesley, CLlr R Douglas, P Munro, R Walton,
D McGifford (CO)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from CLlr Mark Rogan

2. Minutes from the last meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 14th January 2021 were approved

3. Review of Action Plan

Updated Action Plan

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/1yj34tvu7jpvgno/210325%20CTC%20White%20Ribbon%20Action%20Plan%20v4.3%20KW.xlsx?dl=0>

White Ribbon Toolkit including documents and Ambassador's Toolkit is here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zlzyrlw1d6wlfs/AAACep-FUmanzbDYuPvOoCzva?dl=0>

4. Outreach Items related to outreach captured within the Action Plan.

a) "Wash up" session for councillors and staff targeted for the 8th July 2021

- DM to deliver for Streetscape staff and any other staff members. 8.7.21 early a.m
- RH / RW for Councillors pre committee / council meeting 8.7.21 ensure there are no clashes with CEC meetings. Explore the potential of a guest speaker at this event eg Prof Green / Chris Hemmings (KW)

b) Mentoring the 'whatabouters' – how we are going to change perceptions as Ambassadors.

Agreed that we needed more training to build confidence, proposed Ambassadors workshop / roll playing session post 21.6.21

c) Update on schools

RH to follow up with CLlr Gartside re Eaton Bank and Marlfields

d) Pubwatch / Purple flag

No meeting has taken place yet, need to arrange a meeting via J Mac as soon as possible

e) Makers Market stall

KW to schedule with J Mac

f) Chalc - Town and Parish Councils awareness of White Ribbon

DM to contact J Weaver to make her aware of the campaign and the progress CTC have made

g) White Ribbon Town Plaque

Agreed to explore the details of this and the potential site (s) KW

h) White Ribbon Webinar

Agreed that it was a good idea and needed to be explored KW

5. Media about our group in the wake of recent events?

Not covered in the meeting but by subsequent email the group agreed to launch a private Facebook Group – Congleton White Ribbon – to support men who want to get involved.

6. Proposed date of next meeting

8th July 2021 at 10.00am

NOTES FROM 750 YEAR ANNIVERSARY MEETING

1.30pm THURSDAY 1 APRIL

Present: Cllr David Brown, Cllr Suzy Firkin, Cllr Kay Wesley, Cllr Suzie Akers Smith, Cllr Margaret Gartside, Cllr Sally Holland, Jenny Unsworth, Jackie MacArthur, Martha Hayes, Debbie Coxon

1. Apologies –Cllr Rob Moreton

2. Purpose of the group

- Members agreed to the purpose and objectives of the working group as illustrated in the presentation slide
- Members agreed that this group should be accountable for all civic activity e.g., decorating the town, events in the Town Hall and town centre activities

It was identified that three other groups are operational:

1. Community & Environment Committee
2. Congleton 2022 headed by Jo Money with individuals and community groups reporting to Jo
3. Marketing Group – in its infancy, responsible for branding & marketing. Comprising Mark.Edmondson (ex BBC), AD Profile, CTC Officer's

A discussion evolved regarding communication, collaboration, and responsibilities to facilitate cohesion and avoid duplication amongst the partners. It was agreed that Congleton Town Council should be accountable for final decision making and take management responsibility of the project. This needs to be communicated to all working groups.

ACTION: Produce a group structure diagram and circulate to all parties, so members are clear of the hierarchy, roles, and responsibilities from the outset. ACTION JACKIE MAC

3. Agree a Chair

The role of Vice Chair was suggested due to the expected volume of work, project duration and commitment required from the Chair.

- David Brown volunteered & voted in as Chair
- Suzie Akers Smith volunteered & voted in as Vice Chair
- Councillors agreed to support the Chair and Vice Chair where possible

Jackie M explained that CTC Officers only can raise purchase orders. Councillors are not permitted to do so. David Brown asked if the process of accessing the budget can be simplified, so funds are available when purchases need to be made.

ACTION: JM to refer this request to the Chief Officer / Finance & Policy committee

4. Review overall initial ideas

Jenny Unsworth presented to the group the Heraldic Flag project

The idea is based on the flags and banners that are used in the medieval town of Tewkesbury. It is proposed that flags, banners, and bunting should be used to dress the town to add colour and interest to all the events, and to attract people into the community for the benefit of the High Street.

It became apparent that a second project has evolved as an off shoot from the Community Projects flag scheme. The group agreed that the Mountbatten Way project should be treated as a separate initiative.

ACTION: Jenny has drafted two separate project proposals (see attached):

Project 1 - Congleton Community Medieval Flag Project

Project 2 – Mountbatten Way Banners & Flags

ACTION: The formal proposal will be taken to council for confirmation and funding approval. Community Projects will not be involved in the Mountbatten Way project, so a working group will need to be established if approved.

Funding

Cllr Sally Holland explained the Town Mayors budget has a surplus due to Lockdown. She volunteered the surplus towards funding of Project 2.

Other possible funding sources:

Margaret Williamson Fund / Congleton Partnership Inclosure Trust / Town Trust / Match funding

Sponsorship

Local businesses will be invited to sponsor both projects.

ACTION – SAS to use Jenny's proposal to recruit potential sponsors. Morrison's has been identified as a key sponsor to approach.

MH – Email town centre businesses to promote sponsorship opportunities.

Project 1 - Suggested donation for sponsorship: £50 per flag

Project 2 - Suggested donations for sponsorship: £250 per banner

Costings

Jackie M provided costings for the flags. Bay Media have quoted £207/flag (double sided). A potential 34 locations have been identified. Total cost: £7,500. This excludes fixtures and fittings.

Jo M is thinking 60 – 80 flags in total.

Planning permission will be required for shops with listed building status.

CEC Highways will need to approve lamp post & roundabout flags.

ACTION: w/c 5 April JU, DB, MH to go on a walkabout to explore prime locations. Costings can be firmed up when actual flag/banner quantities have been confirmed.

Other ideas

- In Bloom to co-ordinate with the medieval colours, predominately purple and yellow
- Food & Drink Market – producers to devise recipes from 750 years ago
- Medieval ale festival
- Beating the bounds tradition
- Town Hall exhibition – to educate school children. Stocks are required.

ACTION: Contact the fire station to see if they would loan their stocks

- Jubilee Wood – tree planting

ACTION: DB & SH to check with Highways

NEXT MEETING: TBC

Notes taken by Debbie Coxon

Meeting: CTC 750 Group

Date: 20.5.21

Time: 3.00pm

Location: via Zoom

Present: Cllr David Brown, Cllr Suzy Firkin, Cllr Kay Wesley, Cllr Margaret Gartside, Jenny Unsworth, Jackie MacArthur, Martha Hayes, Debbie Coxon


Item	Agenda Item / discussion	Action / comment
1	<p>Welcome & Apologies Meeting was chaired by D.Brown</p> <p>Apologies –Cllr Rob Moreton, Cllr Suzie Akers Smith, Cllr Sally Holland</p>	
2.	<p><u>Notes and Matters Arising from the last meeting (1.4.21)</u></p> <p><i>The notes of the meeting from the 1st April 2021 were accepted as a true and correct record of the last meeting.</i></p> <p>Noted JM has submitted a £2K grant application to Heritage & Lottery towards 60 - 80 flags. Opportunity to apply for a £20K grant in 2022. The Town Council will be part of the team helping with the Heraldic Flags project, but this is being led by Congleton Community Projects.</p>	
3.	<p>Review the Action log</p> <p>3b) Heraldic Flags - update – town walkabout, sponsorship, grants. DB/MH/JU – reported low response, slow uptake from shops due in part to COVID. Shops don't appear to be forward planning due to recent re-opening.</p> <p>KW suggested the invite to sponsor should be extended to businesses outside the town centre. There will be businesses willing to sponsor a flag and have it displayed in the town. Note – Marketing team has submitted an article to the July edition of the Chamber Magazine to encourage businesses to get on board.]</p> <p>JU mentioned two other events: Antiques and Heritage Festival & Bath House event.</p>	<p>MH, JU, JMon to revisit High Street to see best location for flags and speak to shops</p> <p>JMac to discuss with JMon who is leading the Heraldic Flag Project</p>

6	<p>Outline of Potential Projects</p> <p>DB asked the group which projects they were in agreement with to take forward. Ball part costings need to be estimated, to be submitted in a proposal for funding to Community & Environment on 3rd June and to Council on 24th June.</p> <p>All the projects below (6a – 6i) were agreed.</p> <p>An event budget of £30K was calculate, much of which may be covered through sponsorship, grants, ticket sales etc. Project leads/volunteers were allocated to the events.</p>
6a	<p>Flags project on Mountbatten Way - Full year Estimated cost: £10,000</p> <p>(Flags alone cost: £7,500 see 1.4.21 minutes for detailed breakdown).</p>
6b	<p>Medieval Festival Day in the Park - See JU proposal</p> <p>Provisional date – Saturday 13 August 2022. Check for date clash.</p> <p>Entertainment – the group were happy with the proposal from Knights of Middle England (see separate doc), but wanted to understand more about cancellation policies and what would happen in case of poor weather or pandemic!</p> <p>Issues raised:</p> <p>Admission – free (with donation buckets) or paid event (requires further discussion to confirm). Need a mechanism to monitor attendance figures for H&S reasons. Eventbrite or facebook event?</p> <p>Marshalling will be essential for H&S. DB suggested involving the carnival committee and Congleton Rotary</p> <p>Marquee hire to protect from the elements. To offset costs JU suggested hiring out to local groups to utilise usage on the Friday and Sunday e.g. theatre performance, flower show. Will need further discussion on viability of marquee before offering it out! If possible then SF agreed to contact Alsager Community Theatre for an expression of interest.</p> <p>Estimated cost: £7,500 to include: entertainment/ PA / marquee hire / security / toilets / signage – some off-set through food and drink concessions</p>

6c	<p>Week-long Schools/public event in the Town Hall - July 2022</p> <p>Proposed date w/c 4.7.21 - Town Hall booked for the potential event. Based on the event held in 2016 to celebrate 150 years of Congleton Town Hall. Invite schools in for an experience. Potential of the idea already raised with head teachers and well received. Based around what medieval life would have been like. Idea to reproduce a copy of the Charter and one of the activities could be the children signing their own modern day charter.</p> <p>Zoom meeting arranged for 24/4/21 to progress the idea further</p>
6d	<p>Medieval Banquet in the Town Hall</p> <p>Review of 2016 event: Cost: £2790, ticket sales: £2400. Tickets were priced @£30, 96 sold. Noted that SAS sold the majority of the tickets when we last held a medieval banquet in 2018. In 2018 it was part of 700 years of Congleton Mayors and took part during the Antiques and Heritage Week in September. As template exists group thought it was worth including in the mix of CTC events</p>
6e	<p>Town Centre entertainment programme</p> <p>Not discussed - but looking to have monthly entertainment in the Town Centre from April – October as part of the year-long celebrations. This would be organised through Marketing Team as part of increasing footfall in the Town Centre</p>
6f	<p>Co-ordinating a community-wide competition for a Catchpole (s) and Ale Taster (s)</p> <p>SF volunteered</p> <p>Roles could change monthly - although Jenny warned re costumes – one size won't fit all. JU will provide a description of roles.</p> <p>Discussion on how to engage with pubs & the community, how best to co-ordinate with town landlords.</p> <p>ACTION: Liaise with PubWatch and the Beartown Brewery once it has been established how we want these roles to work</p>
6g	<p>Decorating the Town Hall</p> <p>Jenny happy to loan the team the decorations that she has made and owns which was used for the medieval banquet and 700 years of Mayoralty.</p>
6h	<p>Linking in with anything CIVIC for the town</p> <p>This will be developed in line with the Civic Year</p>

6i	<p>OTHER SUGGESTIONS</p> <p>Traditionally lots of Medieval events take place around May time.</p> <p>Beating the bounds Organise a walk round the town boundary, to be held Easter or May time. Potential fund raiser. Get 750 people to join in each paying £1?</p> <p>Funfair SAS in contact with John Collins fair. Charter Rights were about Fairs and Markets. Could we have a 2022 big Fair with a large Charter scroll present and make more of the rights to hold a fair?</p> <p>Town Treasures DB suggested showing the Town Treasures during the year – could be done as part of the schools project which could be opened up to the public in the evening or at the weekend.</p>	<p>Lead SAS</p> <p>Lead SAS</p>
7.	<p>Meeting finished at 16.45pm</p> <p>Next Meeting: TBC</p>	

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES**

COMMITTEE:	Community & Environment		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	3 rd June 2021 7.00pm	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Cllr David Brown, Chair of CTC 750 Working Group and Jackie MacArthur, Deputy Chief Officer - Communities and Marketing		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	15 Congleton Town Council proposals as part of the 750 Charter Year 2022		
Background	<p>Next year, 2022, Congleton will be celebrating 750 years since the town was granted its first Charter by Henry de Lacy in 1272. To mark the occasion a number of events are being proposed for Congleton. This paper sets out the proposals for initiatives that the CTC 750 working group recommends that the Town Council leads on. A wider group, called Congleton 2022, is co-ordinating a full calendar of events, talks and local activities which includes activities from lots of groups and organisations across Congleton. A Congleton 750 Marketing Group is working on branding, a publicity plan and materials to knit all the events into one big Congleton 750 festival.</p> <p>The Congleton Town Council 750 Working Group is chaired by Cllr David Brown. Members of the group are Cllr Suzie Akers Smith, Cllr Margaret Gartside, Cllr Suzy Firkin, Cllr Rob Moreton, Cllr Kay Wesley, Jenny Unsworth, Martha Hayes, Debbie Coxon, Jess Imber and Jackie MacArthur.</p> <p>The key objectives of Congleton 750 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To bring the community together and reconnect with their town post pandemic and create greater community involvement and cohesion b) To raise the profile of Congleton and encourage more visitors to the town c) To help residents understand more about the history of their town d) To instil community pride and opportunities to get involved e) To encourage people who are new to the area to visit their town centre f) To create memories and some fun times for our residents <p>The town will be suitably dressed for the year and via Congleton Community Projects work has already started on an heraldic flag project to create medieval style flags to decorate the town centre. A Heritage and Lotteries small grant has been applied for to help fund this project.</p> 		

<p>Proposal</p>	<p>The CTC 750 working group is recommending that the Town Council takes the lead on the following nine initiatives for Charter Year</p> <p>a) Flags project on Mountbatten Way – all year event To install banner flags on the lampposts on Mountbatten Way and around the Fire Station roundabout. Both of these sites already have Bay Media equipment installed on the lamp post and so CTC has been offered the reduced fee of £207 per double-sided flag for printing, installing, insuring and maintaining. There may be some additional design costs and two planning applications. Currently there are 28 sites on Mountbatten Way and 6 at West Heath Roundabout. Total cost if all sites used would be £7000 + cost of planning application and some design work. Would look to offset the majority of this project through sponsorship of individual banners (as achieved on the previous two times that we have installed banner flags). The flags would be up for the full year.</p> <p>a) Community-wide competition for a Catchpole(s) and Ale Taster(s) - Late 2021 Looking to co-ordinate a competition to appoint the roles of Catchpole and Ale Tasters – two of the roles that the Charter gave the town permission to appoint. These would be ceremonial roles with no powers or pay, but just to add to the fun and sense of occasion of 2022.</p> <p>b) Decorate the Town Hall – timing to be agreed The Town Council has been offered use of the flags and decorations which were used to decorate the inside of Town Hall for the 700 years of Mayoralty and the Working Group would like to explore decorating the Town Hall for 2022.</p> <p>c) Town Centre entertainment programme - April to October Proposing to host monthly entertainment in the Town Centre from April – October as part of the year-long celebrations. This would be organised through the Marketing Team as part of increasing footfall in the Town Centre.</p> <p>d) Organise a Beating of the Boundaries Walk - April/May Organise a walk around the town boundaries either at Easter or Whitsun – potentially as a fund raiser.</p> <p>e) Encourage the Fair to come to Congleton – to be agreed (usually May and Oct) Holding Fairs and Markets was part of the Charter. The Fun Fair has not been to Congleton for a few years so suggested to work with CEC to enable the fair to return as part of the Charter celebrations.</p> <p>f) Week-long Schools and Public showcase event in the Town Hall - July 2022 Proposing to hold a living theatre event for schools and the public in the town hall where they can find out more about medieval life. CTC organised a similar event for schools in July 2016 as part of the 150 year celebration of Town Hall, which was a great success. The schools would like to attend if the Town Council chooses to go ahead with the event. Cost in 2016 was **</p>
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	<p>g) Medieval Festival Day in the Park - August</p> <p>This would be a flagship event of the festival. Proposing Saturday 13th August as it fits into the current 2022 calendar and there is availability of a jousting team for that day. Envisage a special festival day with medieval acts – jousting, long bow archery, costumes, falconry, jesters, music, food and drink and side stalls. Estimate cost around £7,500.</p> <p>h) Medieval Banquet in the Town Hall – possibly September</p> <p>The Town Council organised a medieval banquet as part of the 700 years of Mayoralty in 2018, again it was a great success and a lot of fun. This event should cover its costs. A template exists and the working group thought it would be worth hosting a repeat event as part of Charter year.</p> <p>i) Acknowledging the 750 Charter Year at Civic Events throughout the year</p> <p>The Working Group suggests that the Town Council should look to acknowledge the 750-year anniversary where ever possible through the year.</p> <p>The Working Group would like the Community and Environment Committee to approve the 10 ideas above and give delegated responsibilities to the Working Group to take these projects forward.</p> <p>If the Committee gives the Working Group the green light to carry on progressing these projects a paper will to Council on the 24th June 2021 to request funding so that deposits can be made to secure acts and venues.</p> <p>Sponsorship, grants and ticket sales will help to cover some costs, but it is anticipated that some underwriting and Town Council funds will be required to deliver these ambitious projects. This is anticipated to be £10k in 2021/22 and a further £15k in 2022/23</p>
Financial	Some initial funding will be required to enable the group to secure acts and venues and a more detailed paper will go to the Town Council meeting.
Environmental	Efforts will be made to minimise the impact of events.
Equality	Every effort will be made to ensure all events are accessible and open to all and needs of all members of the community are considered
Decision Requested	For the Community and Environment Committee to support in principle the programme of events being proposed by the CTC 750 Working Groups for the Town Council's Input in the 750 Charter year and to delegate responsibility to the working group to work on these initiatives within the budgets agreed at Council

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community & Environment		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	3 rd June 2021 7.00pm	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Martha Hayes- Town Centre & Events Officer		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	16 Congleton Christmas Event 2021		
Background	<p>This paper has been written to give members an insight into the plans for the Christmas Lights Switch-On Event for 2021.</p> <p>Congleton has enjoyed a Christmas Light Switch-On event for more than 20 years. The event is coordinated by Congleton Town Council and Congleton Community Projects with the support of volunteer4. The Town Council takes responsibility for the health and safety of the event and is the event's main sponsor with a working budget of £6k towards Christmas activities and marketing. Further funds are raised through sponsorship and grants.</p> <p>The current Christmas Team is made up of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bob Edwards- Congleton Events Volunteer• Chris Booth- Congleton Events Volunteer• Jackie MacArthur- CTC Officer• Jo Money- Congleton Community Projects• Linda Ward- Congleton Marshals• Martha Hayes- CTC Officer• Paul Duffy- CTC Councillor• Russell Chadwick- CTC Councillor <p>In 2020 Christmas Light Switch on events across the country were cancelled due to the pandemic and the need to enforce social distancing and restrict opportunities for the virus to spread. The Town Council invested in new Christmas lights and commissioned a short film to show the lights being switched on.</p> <p>Following the Government roadmap, all restrictions are due to lift on 21st June and the team feels more confident to organise an outdoor community event to celebrate the lights being turned on and to encourage people into town to support the shops and businesses.</p> <p>The team is also conscious that we need to be flexible to adapt if the circumstances change and that for 2021 it would be prudent to arrange the event to give people more opportunity to find space and to limit losses to the Council if the event needed to be cancelled or restricted. We will follow advice from Government and the local Public Health and Event Safety Advisory teams. The team is also conscious of concerns about bringing large numbers of people into close contact this winter (the event usually attracts 5000/6000 members of the public).</p> <p>Scene from the Christmas Light Switch on 2019</p>		



With this in mind, the team is proposing the following:

Switch-on Event, 2021 Plan:

- a.) Temporarily for 2021, switch the event back to a Friday evening. Before 2017, the main Christmas event was held on a Friday evening, the reason it was moved to an all-day Saturday event was to grow the event and to encourage more people throughout the day. In the current climate, we feel it would be sensible to move back to a Friday to scale down the length, activities, and participants at the event.
Proposed for Friday 26th November- giving four shopping weekends with the decorative lights.
- b.) Timings: 4-6pm, lights to be switched on at 5.30pm.
- c.) CCP to coordinate a Lantern Procession as in previous years with Santa and his sleigh. Jo Money will undertake Lantern Making Workshops on the weekends leading to the event and the procession will be on a rolling road closure from Back Street Car Park, walking the reverse direction of Lawton Street and on to the High Street in time for the main switch-on. Both workshops and procession can be social-distanced if needs be.
- d.) To make a small, staged area by the Christmas Tree, as this area is naturally raised. This would be for Santa to make any key announcements and to start the countdown for the main switch-on.
- e.) To have Christmas music playing throughout the event – including brass band.
- f.) Investigating including a small number (around 12) local charity stalls at the event, as traditionally they have used the Christmas event as a fundraiser for their organisations. It may be possible for the stalls to be trading from 2pm. This would be in the pedestrian area. We are not planning any indoor events for 2021.
- g.) Encourage local businesses - especially town centre hospitality and food businesses - to participate and have take-away stalls outside their premises
- h.) Investigate having a firework display after the lights have been switched on and to mark the end of the event. These are weather dependent and so there will be a cancellation agreement in place.
- i.) Not to invite a fun fair onto the High Street in 2021 as this restricts space and funnels people into a tighter space.
- j.) Include street entertainment such as Christmas themed stilt walkers, magicians, balloon benders etc. to create atmosphere.

	<p>The idea is to still have a Christmas event, as last year's was missed, but to deliver this in a way that still has an exciting Christmas atmosphere and that also could be delivered under potential restrictions. The Christmas team feel that for 2021, this is the most sensible way we could do this.</p> <p>Other aspects of Christmas 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decorating the Town: The Town Council owns the lights to decorate the town. The colour scheme is silver and gold. The lights are all LED (they have been replaced over the years). We are starting a new three-year contract with PME Electrical taking responsibility for storing, maintaining, installing and removing the lights. - Small Shop Trees: In addition to the main Christmas lights small Christmas Tree(s) will be installed above the shops. There are usually around 100 small trees above shops and the proposal for 2021 is to repeat the offer of 2020 where the Town Council sponsored one tree per business that had a bracket and would normally pay for a tree. Additional trees were paid for. The shops provide the lights and electricity. - Main Tree: Installed and decorated by PME Maintenance. New coloured lights and silver star added in 2020. - Other Christmas related entertainment: This includes booking entertainment for Saturdays leading up to Christmas and working with traders to promote Congleton's Christmas offer to a wider audience. - Marketing the Town and its offer - Rotary Tree of Light in the Community Garden
Financial Considerations	The plans can be achieved within the allocated budget which the Town Council has approved for the Christmas festivities
Environmental Considerations	Efforts will be made in line with the Town Council's environmental policy to source locally. The impact of fireworks will need to be considered and mitigated.
Equality Considerations	This is a town-wide celebration that is open to all. It is free to access. Safety and consideration of all visitors is addressed as part of the planning.
Decision Requested	To agree the proposed Christmas Event outline made by the Christmas Team so that works on plans can commence.