

Virtual Congleton Green Working Group Meeting –

NOTES OF MEETING

Date: Thursday 22nd July 2021

Location: Zoom

Time: 10am – 11.30pm

Present: Councillor Margaret Gartside (Chair), Councillor Kay Wesley, Cllr Amanda Martin, Cllr Suzy Firkin, Peter Aston Barry Speed, Heather Seddon and Jackie MacArthur.

Item	What was discussed / description	Actions	By whom	By when
1	Apologies	Cllr Mark Rogan, Cllr Duncan Amies Adam Linnet invited		
2	Minutes of meeting on the 24 th June 2021	Accepted as a true record - add to Working Group Page	Jackie	August
3	<p>Biodiversity – objective setting for the group (Cllr Suzy Firkin) - Cllr Suzy Firkin gave a definition and discussion around biodiversity. Discussion on things that we have done and things we could do. Importance to have Ruth and Adam on the meetings for this section to give professional input and updates. Group alerted to the Cheshire East Biodiversity Net Gain Draft Planning document.</p> <p>Ruth needing help to put out blue hearts and signs on the rewilding sites – Cllrs SF, KW and MG offered to help.</p>	<p>WHAT WE’VE DONE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identified potential tree planting locations across the town • Supported tree planting programme • Identified verges for wildflower planting • Identified pilot schemes for reduced mowing regimes • Ceased the use of Glyphosate on defined sites <p>WHAT WE COULD DO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify open spaces where hedges can replace fencing • Write to Cheshire East Council urging permission to be given for tree planting on highway verges • Starting writing to planning applicants to encourage tree planting / replacement planting • Sow wildflower meadows on appropriate sites 		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install bug hotels at appropriate sites • Install bat and bird boxes in our open spaces • Organise an annual bulb planting programme • Launch a campaign to promote hedgehog holes and highways • Work with landowners to identify the potential for wildlife corridors • Identify ponds for planting improvement schemes • Encourage landowners to plant trees and hedges to connect wildlife corridors • Make more allotment space available. • Stall at the Makers Market to promote biodiversity. <p>Create a plan around these actions. Also important to protect what we have, In the Autumn Bear Necessities more on treasure and value your hedge. Find out more about what we have done on each of these areas.</p>		
4	Rewilding – update on CTC work - Cllr Margaret Gartside gave an update on the 13 areas that CTC is piloting as	<p>Check the details on the Town Council Website</p> <p>Ruth needing help to put out blue hearts and signs on the rewilding sites – Cllrs SF, KW and MG offered to help.</p>		
5.	CTC Targets – updates and plans	<p>To update the list and add to the website</p> <p>To include an Action Log showing all the work and meetings that have been held in working towards reducing the targets.</p> <p>Gas is one of the biggest contributors to our carbon footprint and one of the more difficult areas to resolve at present. Group recommend that move away from gas must be done whatever the price.</p> <p>Vehicle leasing also not easy at the moment as the vehicles that we need (tipper trucks) are not available as electric vehicles.</p> <p>Look at plans from other councils – eg Salisbury City Council Green Plan</p>	Jackie	For next meeting
6.	Update on Air Quality survey (Barry)	Barry has carried out 12 sessions, preliminary data raises more questions than answers. Now has two sensors – high degree of certainty. Likely to continue for longer. Want to check school areas when schools return in		

		September – Schools not a true picture as many have had staggered start during COVID-19. Barry will organise more sessions need volunteer support. Insurance needs to be updated for additional time and additional sensor.	Barry Barry/ Jackie	
7.	E-learning – update	Almost there – still a bit of coding needed by TMC to help with the flow Need to be in a position to push out by early August for the Councillors and others.		August 21
8.	Green Fayre	Now organising a week of events prior to the Green Fayre on Saturday 30 th October. The Green Fayre will be in the High Street. Meeting to take place straight after this meeting – Barry/Jackie/Peter/ Margaret.	JMacA/	July 21
9.	AOB	Offsetting – need to work through actions from meeting of the 24 th and get a report back from Adam for the September meeting. Need to chase Joe Pimblett for actions and news on Peat Bogs	JMacA add to agenda	
10.	Date of Next Meeting	Would like the August meeting by Zoom –Margaret on AL. Cllr Suzy Firkin will chair meeting. Ruth to be invited to at least first section. Jackie can sort minutes. Next Meetings: Wednesday 18 th August – 5.30pm - 7pm Thursday 16 th September – 10am – 11.30 Wednesday 20 th October 5.30 – 7pm Thursday 18 th November – 10am – 11.30 LEAVE DECEMBER Wednesday 19 th January 5.30pm – 7pm Thursday 17 th February 10am – 11.30am Wednesday 16 th March 5.30pm – 7pm		