

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 23rd September 2021

Please note – These are draft minutes and will not be ratified until the next meeting of this Committee

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the [Meeting Agenda of the Community & Environment Committee 23rd September 2021](#)

PRESENT:

Committee members:

Cllr Kay Wesley (Chair)

Cllr Sally Ann Holland (Vice Chair)

Cllr Dawn Allen

Cllr Suzy Firkin

Cllr Amanda Martin

Cllr Robert Moreton

Cllr Mark Rogan

Ex Officio members: Cllr Denis Murphy and Cllr Margaret Gartside

Non-Committee Member/s: Cllr Robert Douglas

Also present: Congleton Town Council Officers: Jackie MacArthur, Martha Hayes
One member of the press, two Cheshire Police Officers and nine members of the public involved with presentations.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

Committee members: Cllrs Paul Duffy, Robert Hemsley and Jean Parry

Non-Committee members: Cllr David Brown and Cllr Suzie Akers Smith

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

CE/19/2122 Resolved to approve the [minutes of the Community & Environment Committee held on 8th July 2021](#) as a correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest

Councillors Sally Ann Holland, Robert Moreton and Denis Murphy declared a non-pecuniary interest on any matters relating to Cheshire East Council.

4. Outstanding Actions

See Item 11 for updates from the Community and Environment Committee held on 8th July 2021.

5. Questions from Members of the Public

There were no questions raised at the meeting.

6. Urgent Items

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

There were no urgent items raised at the meeting.

7. Cheshire Police

PC Helen Weeks and PSCO Karen Linton from Cheshire Police gave a verbal update on Policing matters affecting Congleton, please see Appendix 1.

8. Social Supermarket for Congleton

CE/20/2122 Resolved to receive a presentation and report from The Green Tree House Project about a Social Supermarket for Congleton.

Action – Grant application to go to the Council's Finance and Policy Committee on 30/9/21 requesting financial assistance for the project in Congleton.

9. Congleton Domestic Abuse Clinic

CE/21/2122 Resolved to receive an update from My Cheshire Without Abuse on the first year of the Domestic Abuse Clinics in Congleton and the next steps. To hear the story of a Congleton Domestic Abuse survivor and a case study from the police.

10. Support for Safe Pedestrian Access to Bath Vale

CE/22/2122 Resolved to receive a report from local residents asking for Congleton Town Council's support for actions to improve pedestrian safety in the main access to the Bath Vale estate.

Actions

- a) Ask the Town Council's Streetscape Manager to assess the area for inclusion in the Streetscape maintenance programme if feasible.
- b) Write to Cheshire East Highways and Planning Enforcement supporting the concerns of residents in area about lack of path as agreed in the planning application, lack of lighting on the bridge, inadequate signage and the need for a 20mph zone.

- c) Speak to Cheshire East Highways about the need for signs and how these can be financed. If appropriate, apply to the Finance and Policy Committee and also Ward Councillors highway allocation.

11. Updates Paper from previous Community and Environment Committee

CE/23/2122 Resolved to note the updates paper with items from the Community and Environment Committee held on the 8th July 2021. Updates include the Elizabeth Statue, Volunteer Coordinating Point and Havannah Bridge.

12. Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group Notes

CE/24/2122 Resolved to receive the notes of the [Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group](#) held on the 8th July and a verbal update given by Cllr Kay Wesley from the meeting held on 16th September 2021.

13. Congleton In Bloom Working Group Notes

CE/25/2122 Resolved to receive a verbal update from Cllr Margaret Gartside from the [Congleton in Bloom Working Group](#) on the judges visit. Results of the North-West in Bloom are likely to be known late October and Britain in Bloom on the 25th September.

14. 750 Working Group Meetings and Update

CE/26/2122 Resolved to receive the notes of the [CTC 750 Working Group](#) held on the 2nd September and an update report from the Town Centre and Events Officer, Martha Hayes on events planned by Congleton Town Council for the 750 year charter celebrations.

15. White Ribbon Working Group Update

CE/27/2122 Resolved to receive a verbal update from the Cllr Mark Rogan from the [White Ribbon Working Group](#).

16. Congleton Green Working Group

CE/28/2122 Resolved to receive the [notes of the Congleton Green Working Group](#) held on the 22nd July and 18th August 2021, and a verbal update on the [Climate Festival and Green Fayre](#) to be held from the 23rd October – 31st October from Cllr Margaret Gartside, Chair of the Congleton Green Working Group.

17. Action against Inconsiderate Parking

CE/29/2122 Resolved to agree to promote a new downloadable suite of leaflets that residents can use to alert drivers to their inconsiderate parking. These will be placed on www.congleton-tc.gov.uk and hard copies available in the Congleton Information Centre.

Action - Install the Parking Notice leaflets on the website. Print copies for the Congleton Information Centre and send out press release/publicity materials.

18. Feedback from the Congleton Town Council Bus Survey and Next Steps

CE/30/2122 Resolved to note the responses to a Congleton Town Council survey into Bus Use and for the Integrated Transport Working Group to engage with Cheshire East on the development of the Bus Services Improvement Strategy.

Action - To check Cheshire East Council papers for progress on the Bus Improvement Strategy and to alert the Integrated Transport Working Group (ITWG) with the aim of improving services for Congleton. **To continue to work on understanding the public transport needs of Congleton.**

19. Cheshire East Council's Proposed Car Parking Consultation

As Cheshire East Council (CEC) had not approved this consultation at their meeting on the 21st September 2021 the paper was withdrawn from committee.

Action - To stay alert to CEC parking proposals and alert councillors when CEC is due to rediscuss the issue.

**Cllr Kay Wesley
(Chair)**

APPENDIX 1 - UPDATE FROM CHESHIRE POLICE - ITEM 7

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

Drugs and Alcohol

- 1 Drugs Warrant complete Sheldon Ave
- 1 Drugs Warrant in Bosley
- Working with Rumba on allegations of spiking - none with medical evidence.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

- 43 incidents - decrease of 19 on last period and decrease of 29 Year on Year
- Current ASB Repeat locations:
- Bromley Community Centre (9) Public Order Offences/Bikes. Mix of warnings, letters restorative justice and Sec 59 warnings for 5 juveniles. No incidents since 22/08.
- Market area (3) previously unknown youths – now on ASB ladder/ this use to have a Public Space Protection Order on it.

Total Domestic Violence Incidents: 57, 8 decrease on last period and 10 increase of year on year

Total Sexual Offences: 12, 9 up on last period and the same Year on Year

Hate

Congleton Pride Event was a really good day, no issues. Pre-event was issue with banners and witness appeal and liaison with Pride group.

11. Vehicles

Bromley – Off Road Bikes Sec 59 warnings

Community Q & A. RCU/Highways/Beat Specifically A34 Odd Rode/West Speeding TBC

AOB

Congleton/Sandbach Local Policing Unit to go live date 4th November 2021