

Question from Members of the Public

Community and Environment Committee - 26th May 2022

Question from Jackie Kay, Congleton Climate Action Group (not present)

Question

“Congleton Climate Action Group has been informed that a member of public who opposed tree planting near his home by Trees for Congleton had been invited to a meeting with CTC where it was decided the trees would be removed? Can you confirm this is true? If it is true, is this a new precedent whereby if a single resident complains to the Town Council and then goes to the Chronicle their wishes will be met?”

Response:

Over the last 18 months there has been some great work undertaken by local volunteers who are leading on the tree and hedgerow planting for Congleton as part of the climate emergency challenge we are all facing.

As we are now outside of the planting season, it provides us with the opportunity to review the work that has been undertaken so far. The principle of the scheme has been endorsed by many across the town and during this review we have listened to residents who have made various observations which have resulted in some slight amendments, which include the provision of more space for active play by relocating trees and shrubs or replacing the types of trees that have been planted. This will be carried out by the Town Council's Streetscape services in the autumn.

These changes will be undertaken from October as the tree planting season resumes, the volunteers are continuing to work with the Town Council and Cheshire East Council to identify more sites to achieve the overall objective of planting the equivalent of 30,000 trees by 2025.

Of the 25 sites that we have planted, there have been concerns raised about three sites, which were actually the first three sites to be planted.