

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 26th May 2022

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the [Meeting Agenda of the Community & Environment Committee 26th May 2022](#)

PRESENT:

Committee members:

CLlr Kay Wesley (Chair)

CLlr Paul Duffy

CLlr Suzy Firkin

CLlr Robert Hemsley

CLlr Amanda Martin

CLlr Denis Murphy

CLlr Jean Parry

CLlr Mark Rogan

Ex Officio members: CLlr Rob Moreton (Deputy Mayor)

Also present: Congleton Town Council Officers Jackie MacArthur and Debbie Coxon
One member of the press, one Cheshire Police Officer and two members of the public, one of whom presented.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

Committee Members: CLlr Dawn Allen and CLlr Sally Ann Holland

Ex-Officio member: CLlr Margaret Gartside (Town Mayor)

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

CE/01/2223 Resolved to approve the [minutes of the Community & Environment Committee held on 31st March 2022 as a correct record](#).

3. Declarations of Interest

Councillors Denis Murphy and Rob Moreton declared a non-pecuniary interest on any matters relating to Cheshire East Council. CLlr Denis Murphy declared an interest as a former trustee of CE Citizens Advice Bureau

4. Outstanding Actions

See Agenda item 9 for any outstanding actions for the Community and Environment Committee.

5. Questions from Members of the Public

There was one [question raised by Jackie Kay from the Congleton Climate Change Action Group referring to the Tree Planting Programme](#).

6. Urgent Items

There were no urgent items raised at the meeting.

7. Cheshire Police

Sergeant John Roberts from Cheshire Police gave a verbal update on Policing matters affecting Congleton, please see Appendix 1.

8. Congleton Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

CE/02/2223 Resolved to receive the update report on the Cheshire East's Citizen Advice operation in Congleton and to thank Liz Shaw (Chief Officer) for her informative presentation about the changes to the operation. The Town Council pledged to actively support the CAB in its drive to support more residents and to recruit more volunteers.

9. Updates from previous Community and Environment Committee

CE/03/2223 Resolved to receive the updates paper from the Community and Environment Committee held on 31st March 2022. These covered the CE52/2122 re Covid funds, CE55/2122 re SHOUT campaign support and CE62/2122 re Chatty Benches.

10. Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group

CE/04/2223 Resolved to receive the [notes of the Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group held on the 5th May 2022](#) and a verbal update from the chair.

11. White Ribbon Working Group

CE/05/2223 Resolved to receive the verbal update from the White Ribbon Working Group on its recent activities.

12. Domestic Abuse Clinic and Related Services in Congleton

CE/06/2223 Resolved to receive the updates paper regarding Domestic Abuse services and agreed to show its support for the continuation of the clinics, to positively support applications for funding to enable these clinics to continue and to promote the services of the clinic and new ones to Peer Support Group.

13. Congleton In Bloom Working Group

CE/07/2223 Resolved to receive the [notes of the Congleton In Bloom Working Group from the meeting held on the 28th March and 3rd May 2022](#) and a brief verbal update from the team.

14. Congleton Green Working Group

CE/08/2223 Resolved to receive the [notes of the Congleton Green Working Group held on the 21st April 2022](#)

15. Air Quality Concerns in Congleton

CE/09/2223 Resolved to approve the request from the Congleton Green Working Group, to write to Cheshire East Council (CEC) with the results of the Air Quality surveys and request further testing by CEC. To put Congleton forward for any air quality pilots being run in the area and to support the National Clean Air Day on the 16th June.

16. Support for Ukrainian Guests and their Hosts

CE/10/2223 Resolved to receive the paper and continue to support the Congleton Area Ukrainian Support Network (CAUSN), Cheshire East Council and Refugees Welcome to support Ukrainians and host families in the area.

17. 750 Year Celebration Working Group

CE/11/2223 Resolved to receive the [notes of the 750 Year Celebration Working Group held on the 7th April and 5th of May 2022.](#)

**Cllr Kay Wesley
(Chair)**

APPENDIX 1 - UPDATE FROM CHESHIRE POLICE - ITEM 7

Sergeant John Roberts introduced himself as the new Beat Sergeant. He gave an overview of Congleton crime related figures from 1/4/2022 – 25/05/2022. This covers Congleton East and West Wards

Anti-Social Behaviour – 39 Incidents - same time for 2021 – 65 incidents
Domestic Abuse 64 Incidents - same time for 2021 – 63 incidents

Other Crimes

Drug Related Incidents – 11 - same time for 2021 - 19 incidents
Burglary – 7 same time for 2021 - 18 incidents
Criminal Damage 18 same time for 2021 – 27 incidents

Overall crime is stable or reducing in Congleton at this time. The number of investigations remains comparable with much larger Beat Teams. Arrest Rates are around 40%.

Night Time Economy has not given any cause for concern in recent weeks with minimal issues reported. Beat team will continue to monitor this over the summer months. Only one Spike related incident has been reported – this turned out not to be a spike.

Road awareness work around SAFEPASS completed around overtaking cyclists, this was filmed by ITV and should be on TV on 9/06/2022.

New Beat PC ANNA JENKINSON Starts in Congleton on 20th June.