

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE HELD ON
29 JUNE 2023**

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

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the [Agenda and Papers of the Community Committee on 29 June 2023](#)

PRESENT:

Committee members

- **Cllr Kay Wesley (Chair)**
- **Cllr Emma Hall (Vice Chair)**
- Cllr Dave Brown
- Cllr Mark Edwardson
- Cllr Suzy Firkin
- Cllr Arabella Holland (from item 7)
- Cllr Sally Ann Holland
- Cllr Susan Mead
- Cllr Shaun Radcliffe
- Cllr Glen Williams

Ex Officio Members: Cllr Rob Moreton (Mayor)

Non-Committee Members: Cllr Amanda Martin, Cllr Richard Walton, Cllr Liz Wardlaw

Officers: David McGifford CO, Jackie MacArthur DCO & Communities & Marketing Manager

Also in attendance: one Police Office (until item 10), one Burgess, three members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

None received.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

CO/01/2324 resolved to approve and sign the [minutes of the Community and Environment Committee held on the 16 February 2023](#) as a correct record.

The minutes will also be considered at the first Environment Committee on July 13 which was also formed from this previously combined committee.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Dave Brown, Cllr Emma Hall, Cllr Sally Holland and Cllr Robert Moreton declared a non-pecuniary interest as Cheshire East members. Cllr Emma Hall and Cllr Mark Edwardson declared an interest in item 15.

4. Questions from Members of the Public

None – one question was submitted two weeks in advance as this was approved as a paper for discussion after conversations with the Committee Chair.

5. Urgent Items

None

6. Safer Streets - Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Update

This item was postponed until the next meeting (3 August 2023)

7. Cheshire Police

Sergeant John Roberts updated members on the paper issued with the agenda.

Action: For the police to look at visiting nurseries as well as schools

Action: To assist with publicising the importance and ways to communicate with Congleton police

8. Updates from Previous Community and Environment Committee

CO02/2324 resolved to note the updates from the Community and Environment Committee held on 16 February.

9. Terms of Reference from Working Groups feeding into this Committee

CO03/2324 resolved to approve the Terms of Reference for the following:

- a) Community Safety Working Group
- b) Health and Wellbeing Working Group
- c) White Ribbon Working Group
- d) Integrated Transport Working Group

10. Request from Congleton Sustainable Travel Group

CO04/2324 resolved to approve the paper introduced by Congleton Sustainable Travel and to write to Cheshire East Council asking them to investigate and resolve the issue of the restricted access to the Biddulph Valley Way from Bromley Road and access to Bromley Play Park from Community Centre from Ayrshire Way.

Action: Write to Cheshire East Council regarding the two issues raised

Action: Write to Cheshire East to review barriers used across Congleton with the aim of making all areas accessible to all.

11. Understanding Town Centre Access Issues

CO05/2324 resolved to approve the report to organise practical awareness sessions allowing councillors to experience the Town Centre as faced by those with physical or visual challenges and to draw up a list of improvements needed.

Action: To liaise with councillors and organise a number of sessions.

12. Update on Potential Wellbeing Hub for Congleton

CO06/2324 resolved to support the idea of a Congleton Wellbeing Hub in Worrall Street and to continue to take an active part in the development of the project.

13. Congleton Town Council Website Update

CO07/2324 resolved to approve that Cllrs Brown, Edwardson and Wesley work with officers in a task and finish group to review the current website, make recommendations for a new site and develop a brief to create a site that will be good for the next 5 or more years.

14. Town Crier Role for Congleton

CO08/2324 resolved to appoint Cllr Suzy Firkin to be part of a small task and finish group with officers tasked with leading on the appointment of the Town Crier. A volunteer agreement was attached to the paper.

Action: To agree on a communication plan to make the process as inclusive as possible

Action: To ask Burgess Douglas Parker to be an advisor to the group.

15. Bear Necessities Newsletter

CO09/2324 Resolved to approve that Bear Necessities should continue as a stand-alone newsletter at least twice a year. For officers to investigate the best value within the budgets for print and design and the potential to use other ways to get the Council message to residents.

Action: Check print and distribution costs for Bear Necessities

Action: Consider alternative ways to publicise ensuring inclusivity.

16. Beer and Gin Festival

CO10/2324 Resolved to note the report and authorise the officers to take the project to the next stage of seeking sponsorship and testing the market for ticket sales.

Action: Build awareness of Health and well-being within the festival and consider offering a non-alcoholic beer and gin option.

Meeting closed 21.07