

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COUNCIL

MEETING DATE AND TIME	10 th August 2023	LOCATION	Town Hall
REPORT FROM	David McGifford, Chief Officer		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	Agenda item 16 – Reassignment of the lease for Congleton Town FC		
Background	<p>Due to the significant increase in grassroots football Congleton Town FC, in conjunction with other junior teams have been looking to develop more and improved facilities either at the ground or using the development value of the current ground to a sports hub for the town.</p> <p>Their current lease is with Cheshire East Council but they feel that they would rather be linked to the Town Council due to the lack of ambition and capacity within Cheshire East Council to improve sports facilities within Congleton</p> <p>This links to our Corporate Business Plan which states within the Key Issues Facing Congleton we have <i>Insufficient and poor-quality sports and recreation facilities</i></p> <p>Initial discussions have taken place with CEC and they are informally suggesting the current lease is transferred to the Town Council and we would sublease the ground to Congleton Town FC .</p> <p>For the ambitions to be realised for CTFC an agreement would need to be included about the potential sale of the ground and the condition that all revenue is re-invested into additional facilities. Alternatively, there would need to be a significant investment into the current location and the provision of an all-weather pitch which would facilitate more games than is currently possible on grass.</p> <p>Within their current lease CTFC are responsible for all grounds maintenance inclusive of the perimeter fencing, buildings such as the clubhouse, stands changing rooms, floodlights and pitch maintenance.</p>		
Proposal	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. For officers of the council to formally engage with Congleton Town Football Club and Cheshire East Council to explore a change in the leasing arrangements for Congleton Town FC ground at IVY Gardens.2. Report back to the relevant committee.		