

Congleton Integrated Transport Working Group Meeting

NOTES OF MEETING

Date: Thursday 9 March 2023

Location: Spencer Suite

Time: 5.30pm – 6.45pm

Present: Cllr Suzie Akers Smith (Chair) Cllr Suzy Firkin, Cllr Kay Wesley, Cllr Amanda Martin, Cllr Margaret Gartside, Cllr David Brown, Cllr Duncan Amies, Val Scaresbrook (Climate Action Group - Active Travel), Jackie MacArthur.

Item	What was discussed / description	Actions	By whom	By when
1.	Apologies	None		
2.	Agreement of agenda	Implied Agreement		
3a	<p>20 mph Speed limit - discussion on how best to take this forward following the resolution made at Council on the 8th December</p> <p>CTC/42/2223 RESOLVED to recommend to Cheshire East Highways Authority that, subject to full consultation and funding being made available, Congleton Town Council would like to see all streets in the built-up settlement of Congleton where people live, work, shop, play or learn made safer by reducing speed from 30 mph to 20 mph. The exception would be the main through routes of the A34, A54, A527, A534 and the A536.</p> <p>This was communicated to Cheshire East on the 13th of December and also forwarded to the Road Safety Team. Our understanding is that CEC is still looking to move forward in small chunks.</p>	<p>Ask David McGifford to speak to other Town Clerks at the clerks meeting on the 10/3/23 to see what approach other towns are taking.</p> <p>Speak to the officers at CEC about the best way to move this project forward. If CTC needs to do consultation make sure that the questions are in line with what CEC needs for decision making.</p> <p>Speak with Councillors and senior officer about ways to move forward.</p>	<p>David</p> <p>Jackie</p> <p>Cllr SAS</p>	<p>March</p> <p>March</p> <p>March/April</p>
3b	<p>CEC ACTIVE TRAVEL</p> <p>Discussed ideas to get more people, more active, more often. Such as Footstep Fridays, Cycle Saturdays, Walk to work, walk to school and other green active travel days.</p> <p>Q. About the CEC Cycle Audit request</p>	<p>Have a page in the next Bear Necessities about the benefits of active travel.</p> <p>Write to schools (with partnership) to raise awareness and encouragement of the walk-to-school days. Look at Living Streets materials and possible competitions and prizes.</p> <p>Make sure all the links are on the green pages</p> <p>Information as known has been sent to CEC</p>	<p>Jackie</p> <p>Jackie</p> <p>Jackie</p> <p>Jackie</p>	<p>May</p> <p>March</p> <p>March</p> <p>Done</p>

3c	<p>BUSES – can we move forwards Discussion about the closure of the Arriva bus depots and the implications for the 38 route (Macc to Crewe via Congleton) Currently 2/3 of the buses are Arriva, and only 1/3 D&G. Can we get more involved – be a stakeholder – in the service? Can we help to promote the service?</p>	<p>Already written to the Commercial Director of D&G but to chase up for answers on restoring a full and if possible expanded service. Speak to other towns and parishes on the 38 route – can the Towns and Parishes enhance the route? Understand CEC Bus team’s role in negotiations.</p>	Jackie	March
	<p>Is the £2 fare still being extended -can we help promote Discussion about the Beartown buses – can we relook at ideas with Steve for improvements? Steve is happy to consider changes, how would that work with the CEC contract with Hollinshead?</p>	<p>Ask Richard Hibbert about the Bus Fare extension. Jackie to catch up with Hollinshead buses at the end of the month.</p>	Jackie	March
3d	<p>Making Road Crossings more Pedestrian Friendly. Cllr SAS gave some feedback on a walk-around with the Highways Team. A number of traffic lights need to be re-programmed so that pedestrians do not have to wait so long. Ideas included making Market Street a zebra crossing, Buxton Road, Rood Hill, Mill Green. Most crossing will cost £50k to £100K</p>	<p>Cllr Suzie Akers Smith to continue discussions with the CEC Highways Teams to seek practical and affordable solutions to help pedestrians and cyclists in our town.</p>	Cllr SAS	Ongoing
3e	<p>Closed Road Days Discussion around whether more could be made of the opportunity to close roads for the coronation – encourage people to party in the streets.</p>	<p>The closed roads that CTC has applied for are needed for safe access to the park. To check on the offer for residents and promote via social media</p>	Jackie	March
3 f	<p>Proposal to engage a consultant to help develop an integrated transport Plan for Congleton. Discussions held with Stephen Joseph. Could work on a bespoke working document for improving active travel in Congleton will cost £1,000. Has worked for other town councils and appreciates the level of government that we are. Agreed it would be operationally useful for the next Business Plan</p>	<p>Tighten up on the brief Commission the work – as already discussed with the RFO and CO.</p>	Jackie and Cllr KW	March
4.	<p>AOB Facilitating the use of e-scooters. E-scooters are not going away and so as a town should we consider how best to accommodate them going forward.</p>	<p>To add to the brief for Steven Joesph. To discuss with CEC Highways</p>	Jackie Cllr SAS	March March
5	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p>	<p>To be agreed – but likely to be late May</p>	Jackie	