

## Congleton Integrated Transport Working Group Meeting

### NOTES OF MEETING

**Date:** Thursday 31 August 2023

**Location:** Spencer Suite and ZOOM

**Time** 4pm – 5.30pm

**Present:** Cllr Suzie Akers Smith, Cllr Suzy Firkin (Z), Cllr Kay Wesley, Cllr Amanda Martin, Cllr David Brown (Z), Cllr Heather Pearce (Z), Jackie MacArthur.

Item	What was discussed / description	Actions	By whom	By when
1.	<b>Apologies</b>	Cllr Glen Williams		
2.	<b>Approve Draft Agenda</b>	Add Way to Work to AOB Add Community Transport to item 8 For future – standard items on Walking, Cycling, Buses, Trains but maybe with a focus for the meeting.	Jackie and Chair	
3.	<b>Appoint a Chair</b>	Agreed Cllr Suzie Akers Smith – who accepted.		
4	<b>Appoint a Vice Chair</b>	Agreed not necessary, if Chair not present will choose at the time		
5.	<b>Flexi Bus Consultation</b> Group discussed the Flexi Bus offer, and the current consultation that is ongoing until the 30 <sup>th</sup> September. To include in the response Generally needs more publicity – not aware of the offer Believe it could be used more widely in Congleton Look at identifying routes – possible at the moment buses are so flexible that people are put off. Would be good if people knew on set days it is going to be in Congleton and could request to join in. Think it could be good to widen the criteria. Booking system 48 hours in advance by individuals could be a barrier – would be good if an event organiser could book in registered people – eg to a luncheon club. Is there a possibility to extend the services into the weekend What's the definition of not being serviced by public transport	Agreed CTC should respond. Jackie to pull together a response from discussion held at meeting and circulate to the WG. Following WG comments to circulate to wider CTC for comments Give more publicity to the flexi link offer	Jackie  Jackie  Marketing	8/9  15/9  Immediate
6.	<b>20 MPH Zones for Congleton</b>	Write to CEC to get a price for Town Centre 20 mph zone to be installed.	Jackie	

	<p>Frustrating that this has not moved forward. Council agreed to all roads in Congleton except A Roads. Cheshire East policy is splitting into smaller sections. Noted Alderley Edge has a 20mph zone for the centre.</p> <p>Find out what CEC will and won't accept to see how we can move forward.</p>	Contact Alderley Edge Town Council to see what the TC paid	Jackie	
7.	<p><b>Walking and Cycling Routes</b> Discussion around the priorities for walking and cycling routes</p> <p>New Estates – doing better – make sure do as planning agreed Legacy routes – label and make sure passable eg Lady Warburton Way.</p> <p>Focus around routes to schools Consider routes in the Town vitality plan and also in the Wilmslow, Congleton and Macclesfield Report List of places that we need crossings - A34 Manchester Road should be in the next year. List of places where there needs to be a path – eg Newcastle Road Extending the River Dane Walkway. Problem area - Reades Lane – access to Biddulph Valley Way</p>	<p>Suzie to get the previous lists – with Jackie group into</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing routes which need cutting back – poss Streetscape</li> <li>Existing routes – bigger project – may be a volunteer day(s)</li> <li>Projects – where construction needed – get into funding streams.</li> </ul> <p>Understand people's personal travel barriers – project for the spring. Raise the issue of Partnership involvement with creating new paths – River Dane walkway</p>	SAS/ JMacA	Sept
8	<p><b>Bus Services .</b> Another difficult subject with CEC not having money to expand buses. Considered the option of Community Transport. Kay reported on a CHALC conference that she attended. Seems to be a natural fit with the partnership minibus scheme. Positive around Flexi-bus/ Community Transport/ Partnership Minibus scheme that we can see improvements for residents in Congleton.</p>	<p>Raise the issue of Community Transport and greater use of the Partnership Minibuses at Partnership Exec and Oversight</p> <p>Positive examples of Town Council's running Community Transport Aware Partnership has funding for driver training</p>	SF  JMacA	
9.	<p><b>Stephen Joseph Report for Congleton.</b> This was commissioned in April and expecting the report shortly. Will circulate when the report arrives.</p>	Jackie to circulate the report	Jackie	Asap

10.	<b>A Frames – report to Community Committee</b> Slow progress as Jackie contacted Highways, Rights of Way and Active Travel when it should be Countryside Rangers. The barriers are not culturally acceptable any more and restrict access to people using non-standard bikes.	Speak with the Countryside Rangers. Ask them to attend the next meeting. There should be a programme to remove across the borough.	Jackie	Sept
11.	<b>Accessibility in the Town Centre</b> Working with Cheshire Eye Society and Disability Information Bureau to arrange two sessions for Councillors - now likely to be in October.	Jackie to confirm dates with the groups and councillors.	Jackie	Sept
5				
	Date of Next Meeting	Thursday 26 October 3pm – 4.30pm - send information	Jackie	