



Congleton Town Council

Historic market town

Chief Officer: **David McGifford**

26th October 2023

Dear Councillor,

Environment Committee – Thursday 2nd November 2023

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Communities Committee to be held at Congleton Town Hall on **Thursday 2nd November 2023 at 7.00 pm.**

- **The Public and Press are welcome to attend the meeting, please note** - There will be 15 minutes at each meeting to receive any questions from Members of the Public, either verbally or at the meeting, including those which have been received in writing 7 days prior to the meeting.
- There may be confidential items towards the end of the meeting which the law requires the Council to make a resolution to exclude the public and press in accordance with Section 100 (B) (2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Yours sincerely,

David McGifford
CHIEF OFFICER

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

Members are reminded of the necessity to give apologies in advance of the meeting and to give reasons for absence.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings (enclosed)

To approve and sign the [minutes of the Community and Environment Committee held on 21st September 2023](#) as a correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to declare both “pecuniary” and “non-pecuniary” interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

4. Outstanding Actions

No outstanding actions.

5. Questions from Members of the Public

There will be 15 minutes at each meeting to receive any questions from Members of the Public, either verbally at the meeting, including those which have been received in writing 7 days prior to the meeting.

6. Urgent Items

Members may raise urgent items related to this Committee, but no discussion or decisions may be taken at the meeting.

7. Decarbonisation Grant Town Hall Update (Verbal Update)

To receive an update on the decarbonisation of the Town Hall.

8. Streetscape Trading Account (Enclosed)

To receive the Streetscape Trading account report.

9. Streetscape Update (Enclosed)

To receive the report relating to the Streetscape KPIs and general update information.

10. CEC Green Spaces Consultation (Enclosed)

To receive the report relating to the current Consultation on Greenspaces within CEC

11. Air Quality (Enclosed)

To receive the report relating to Air Quality Research within Congleton

12. Community Composting and re-use scheme(Verbal for information)

To receive the report relating Community Composting and reuse scheme within Congleton

13. Congleton In Bloom Working Group (Enclosed)

To receive the notes of the Congleton in Bloom Working Group held on 16th October including information regarding the Town results as well as information on our thank you evening.

14. Congleton Green Working Group (Enclosed)

To receive the minutes of the Congleton Green Working Group from the 21st September.

15. Cheshire East Report (verbal update)

To receive a verbal update on items of interest from Cheshire East Environment and Communities Committee from the Ward Councillor.

To: Members of the Community Committee
Cllrs: Suzy Firkin (Chair), Heather Pearce (Vice Chair)

Heather Seddon, Susan Mead, Suzie Akers Smith, Glen Williams, David Brown, Sally Ann Holland, Amanda Martin, Charles Booth

Ex Officio: Cllr Rob Moreton (Mayor)
Other members of the Council for Information, Police, Honorary Burgess (5), Press (3), Congleton Library, Congleton Information Centre.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on Thursday 21st September 2023

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

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the [Agenda & Papers – 21st August 2023](#)

In attendance:

Committee members: Cllrs

Cllr Suzy Firkin (Chair)

Cllr Amanda Martin

Cllr Susan Mead

Cllr Heather Seddon

Cllr Glen Williams

Cllr Sally Ann Holland

Cllr Kay Wesley

Non Committee Members : Cllrs

Cllr Dawn Allen

Congleton Town Council Officers:

- David McGifford – Chief Officer
- Ruth Burgess – Streetscape Development Manager

Minutes

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

Committee Members: Cllr Suzie Akers Smith, Cllr Charles Booth, Cllr David Brown

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

ENV/01/2324 Resolved to approve and sign the [minutes of the Community and Environment Committee held on 13th July 2023](#) as a correct record. Note these have also been to the first Community Committee on the 29th June.

3. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were received from Cllrs Sally Ann Holland and Heather Seddon, on any matters relating to Cheshire East Council.

4. Outstanding Actions

There was one outstanding actions :

Streetscape Manager to send to all councillors a copy of the 30 site specific biodiversity plan – Actioned email sent on 13th September 2023

5. Questions from Members of the Public

There were 13 questions raised by members of the public. [Please view HERE.](#)

6. Urgent Items

There were no urgent items raised at the meeting.

7. Streetscape Update

ENV/05/2324 Resolved to receive the updates on matters relating to Streetscape

8. Wildflower Verges and Congleton Open Spaces

ENV/05/2324 Resolved to receive the updates on matters relating to Wildflower planting schemes.

9. Green Fayre

ENV/07/2324 Resolved to receive verbal update and information on the Green Fayre on 30th September 10am -4pm [Please view HERE.](#)

10. Planning Checklist

ENV/03/2324 Resolved to receive the proposal on matters relating to Building Sustainability checklist for all planning applications.

11. Decarbonisation of the Town Hall Update

ENV/06/2324 Resolved to receive the updates on matters relating to the Town Hall Decarbonisation (this has also been sent to the next THAS Committee)

12. Congleton in Bloom Working Group

CE/49/2223 resolved to receive the minutes of the Congleton in Bloom Working Group from [15th September 2023](#)

Action – To review the timings of the meeting with the Working Group members, as well as the option of a Vice Chair.

13. Congleton Green Working Group

CE/48/2223 resolved to receive the notes of the Congleton Green Working Group held on [17th August 2023](#) The group received a verbal update from the working group held on 21st September 2023, minutes to follow at the next Environment Meeting.

Action: Notes of 21st September to next meeting

14. Cheshire East Report

ENV/10/2324 Resolved to receive the verbal update on items of interest from Cheshire East Environment and Communities Committee from Ward Councillor Cllr Heather Seddon.

**Cllr Suzy Firkin
(Chair)**

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	2 nd November 2023 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Streetscape Development Manager – Ruth Burgess		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	Item 8 Streetscape Trading Account		
	<p>These figures cover the financial period to 31st August 2023, month 5, which represents 41.7% of the budget. (Percentages in this report rounded up /down and are based on full budget figure, month 5 figures provided for information)</p> <p>Please see the summary sheets (Attached) for notes, we are almost halfway through this financial year.</p> <p>215- Floral Budgeted year-end expenditure over income is £13,262 currently £11,212. General expenditure at 95%. We are almost at the end of the expected expenditure time period for this cost centre, there are some further costs to be allocated.</p> <p>241- Allotments Nothing to note.</p> <p>300-Public Realm Nothing to note</p> <p>Streetscape: Expenditure is 42% and income 49%.</p> <p>No issues to note to date, half of the CEC agreement has been received to date.</p>		
Decision Requested	To approve the Management Accounts for current financial year to 31st August 2023.		

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 11/10/2023

Month No: 6

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
280 CTC Streetscape						
1165 Dev'd Services inc CEC Gross	229,818	459,636	229,818			50.0%
1167 Streetscape external work	3,977	15,000	11,023			26.5%
1199 Miscellaneous Income	375	900	525			41.7%
CTC Streetscape :- Income	234,170	475,536	241,366			49.2%
3030 Purchases for recharging	1,311	0	(1,311)		(1,311)	0.0%
CTC Streetscape :- Direct Expenditure	1,311	0	(1,311)	0	(1,311)	
4000 Staff Costs (re-allocated)	267,520	539,468	271,948		271,948	49.6%
4004 Temporary and Casual Staff	0	13,500	13,500		13,500	0.0%
4008 Training	35	3,000	2,965		2,965	1.2%
4009 Protective Clothing\H & Safety	4,681	5,500	819		819	85.1%
4013 Rent Payable	1,000	2,000	1,000		1,000	50.0%
4016 Cleaning materials	2,567	7,500	4,933		4,933	34.2%
4021 Telephone/Fax/Internet	318	1,100	783		783	28.9%
4025 Insurance	7,584	8,500	916		916	89.2%
4041 Property Maintenance	169	2,000	1,831		1,831	8.4%
4043 Horticultural etc Supplies	8,429	21,000	12,571		12,571	40.1%
4047 Vehicle Maintenance\Serv\MOT	12,794	12,000	(794)		(794)	106.6%
4048 Vehicle Fuel & Oil	9,110	15,000	5,890		5,890	60.7%
4049 Vehicle Rental charges	32,677	68,800	36,123		36,123	47.5%
4050 Street cleansing	2,048	5,000	2,952		2,952	41.0%
4162 General Expenditure	2,134	5,000	2,866		2,866	42.7%
6000 Central Overheads Reallocated	24,281	45,187	20,906		20,906	53.7%
CTC Streetscape :- Indirect Expenditure	375,347	754,555	379,208	0	379,208	49.7%
Net Income over Expenditure	(142,488)	(279,019)	(136,531)			
Grand Totals:- Income	234,170	475,536	241,366			49.2%
Expenditure	376,658	754,555	377,897	0	377,897	49.9%
Net Income over Expenditure	(142,488)	(279,019)	(136,531)			
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(142,488)					

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 11/10/2023

Month No: 6

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
<u>215 Floral Displays</u>						
1180 Donations Received	1,354	0	(1,354)			0.0%
1195 Sponsorship income	125	0	(125)			0.0%
1199 Miscellaneous Income	3,725	4,000	275			93.1%
Floral Displays :- Income	<u>5,204</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>(1,204)</u>			<u>130.1%</u>
4011 Rates	162	262	100		100	61.9%
4162 General Expenditure	17,390	17,000	(390)		(390)	102.3%
Floral Displays :- Indirect Expenditure	<u>17,552</u>	<u>17,262</u>	<u>(290)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(290)</u>	<u>101.7%</u>
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(12,348)</u>	<u>(13,262)</u>	<u>(914)</u>			
Grand Totals:- Income	5,204	4,000	(1,204)			130.1%
Expenditure	17,552	17,262	(290)	0	(290)	101.7%
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(12,348)</u>	<u>(13,262)</u>	<u>(914)</u>			
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(12,348)</u>					

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 11/10/2023

Month No: 6

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
<u>241 Allotments</u>						
1010 Rent Received - 3rd Party	0	190	190			0.0%
Allotments :- Income	<u>0</u>	<u>190</u>	<u>190</u>			<u>0.0%</u>
4012 Water	107	200	93		93	53.7%
4041 Property Maintenance	648	1,000	352		352	64.8%
Allotments :- Indirect Expenditure	<u>756</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>444</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>444</u>	<u>63.0%</u>
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(756)</u>	<u>(1,010)</u>	<u>(254)</u>			
Grand Totals:- Income	0	190	190			0.0%
Expenditure	756	1,200	444	0	444	63.0%
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(756)</u>	<u>(1,010)</u>	<u>(254)</u>			
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(756)</u>					

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee																																																																																																										
MEETING DATE AND TIME	2 nd November 2023 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Town Hall																																																																																																								
REPORT FROM	Streetscape Development Manager – Ruth Burgess																																																																																																										
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	Item 9 Streetscape Services - Update																																																																																																										
Update	<p>Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Update:</p> <p><u>Fly Tipping</u></p> <p>We are now working on the cost for each specific fly tip; please see below for the number of fly tips we have dealt with over the last months, plus the total year:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2019</th> <th>2020</th> <th>2021</th> <th>2022</th> <th>2023</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>January</td> <td>4</td> <td>4</td> <td>4</td> <td>16</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>February</td> <td>10</td> <td>2</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>March</td> <td>4</td> <td>0</td> <td>32</td> <td>24</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>April</td> <td>10</td> <td>12</td> <td>19</td> <td>10</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May</td> <td>5</td> <td>40</td> <td>22</td> <td>11</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>June</td> <td>4</td> <td>22</td> <td>2</td> <td>8</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>July</td> <td>8</td> <td>21</td> <td>0</td> <td>13</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>August</td> <td>5</td> <td>18</td> <td>10</td> <td>26</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>September</td> <td>6</td> <td>6</td> <td>14</td> <td>23</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>October</td> <td>5</td> <td>3</td> <td>10</td> <td>8</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>November</td> <td>4</td> <td>4</td> <td>17</td> <td>25</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>December</td> <td>5</td> <td>4</td> <td>10</td> <td>30</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>70</td> <td>136</td> <td>150</td> <td>205</td> <td>164</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Cost</td> <td>£2324.16</td> <td>£5380.52</td> <td>£2481.45</td> <td>£12,300.87</td> <td>£ 11,982.34</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Private Works</u></p> <p>Streetscape: (To end of August) Cheshire East to date £2298.18 External: £5490.13 money received in Roundabout Sponsorship £1500</p> <p>Contracts confirmed yet to be invoiced : £ 11,283.77</p> <p>We are budgeted to bring in a total of £15,000 each financial year</p>						2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	January	4	4	4	16	30	February	10	2	10	11	25	March	4	0	32	24	14	April	10	12	19	10	19	May	5	40	22	11	11	June	4	22	2	8	26	July	8	21	0	13	9	August	5	18	10	26	19	September	6	6	14	23	11	October	5	3	10	8		November	4	4	17	25		December	5	4	10	30								Total	70	136	150	205	164							Total Cost	£2324.16	£5380.52	£2481.45	£12,300.87	£ 11,982.34
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Savings

We have been given notice regarding budget savings which we are required to meet within our contract by Cheshire East Council, these savings will be met by the following:

- Our Operative who left in August will not be replaced
- Reduced Vehicles within the fleet leased from West Wallasey
- Change of seasonal bedding from plants to seed/plug plants
- Mountbatten Way Troughs reduced this will be an Overtime saving for watering and plant numbers
- Change of floral display schemes from seasonal to perennial
- Increase our income from private works to other town and parish councils.

In Bloom

Donations, Sponsorship, Miscellaneous: £4474.99

Winter Bedding 2023

For this years winter seasonal bedding we have grown all the plants on ourselves within our green houses and Polly tunnels from seed/plugs, this has reduced the cost by 50% this was a trial for this season with the aim to carry on through other seasonal bedding as the numbers have now reduced dramatically to allow the tea to grow on in the space we have in the park.

Staffing

We currently have all members of Streetscape staff in work.

Training –

Streetscape Development Manager :

- Carbon Literacy for Local Authorities- Completed
- Climate Action for Smaller Councils- Completed
- Public Verses Climate Action – Upcoming

Streetscape Operatives

- Environmental Awareness Training- Completed
- Biodiversity with in a local council – Upcoming
- Sustainable Planting schemes- Upcoming
- RHS Planting in the new word for public sectors - upcoming

Over the winter period there will be a programme of training for all staff to ensure we are trained on the latest climate change and biodiversity information as possible as well as up to date with all health and safety training and first aid

None currently.

Financial Considerations	
Environmental Considerations	Our KPIs are set to ensure that we are following the latest environmental concerns to see where we can improve and help sustain the environment for both the public and local wildlife.
Equality Considerations	
Decision Requested	To receive the updated report.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	2 nd November 2023 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Streetscape Development Manager – Ruth Burgess		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	Item 10 Green Spaces Consultation		
Background	<p>Cheshire East have a consultation for the maintenance of green spaces which went live on Monday 16th October the consultation outlines proposals for the introduction of a new policy relating to maintenance regimes of green spaces within Cheshire East. As part of the policy site schedules have been produced which set out the typology and overall zone rating for each site. The revised approach allows Cheshire East to deliver savings which were highlighted in their Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023-2027 whilst providing a framework to drive consistency of standards across all Council-maintained green spaces and delivering opportunities for rewilding of specific areas, promoting increases in biodiversity.</p> <p>Within this report we would like to bring to the attention of the councillors what this means and what effects it may or may not have on the Congleton Open Spaces</p> <p>The open spaces have been split down into different groups/typologies :</p> <p>A: Formal Parks & Gardens (Example Congleton Park) B: Outdoor Sport (Back Lane Playing Fields, Congleton) C: Community Green Infrastructure (none in Congleton) D: Urban Open Space (none in Congleton) E: Rural Open Space (Example Townsend Rd / Thames Close OS) F: Cemeteries, Church Yards & Memorials (Example St Peter Church and Closed Sections) G: Inspection only (This typology includes sites where there is no proposed planned maintenance but inspections from a safety perspective will be undertaken, most often related to the presence of mature trees- Verge On Townsend Rd) H: No inspection or maintenance</p> <p>A set of three zones has also been developed to group standards under specific descriptions and to further refine how individual sites will be maintained. They are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1: High amenity (high maintenance)• 2: General/medium amenity (standard maintenance)• 3: Low amenity (low maintenance) <p>As part of the policy site schedules have been produced which set out the typology and overall zone rating for each site. Those sites which have formal accreditations, or are required to be maintained to a higher standard under regulations / specific grant funding conditions will have a higher zone rating. Larger sites will have multiple zones defined within their boundary which could have different amenity levels.</p>		
Update			
Financial Considerations	None currently.		

Environmental Considerations	Our KPIs are set to ensure that we are following the latest environmental concerns to see where we can improve and help sustain the environment for both the public and local wildlife.
Equality Considerations	
Decision Requested	To receive the updated report.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	2 nd November 2023 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Streetscape Development Manager – Ruth Burgess		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	Item 11 Air Quality		
Background	<p>Local air quality management is a statutory process introduced by the Environment Act 1995 (Part IV), which places a legal duty on all local authorities to regularly review both the current and future air quality within their areas. These air quality reviews must follow Government guidance that sets health based objectives, which are based on what is considered acceptable given the known effects.</p> <p>Details on the Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) that have been declared within Congleton. These areas are declared on the basis of being likely to breach the annual mean concentration of nitrogen dioxide, which is set as an Air Quality Standard of 40µg/m³ to be met by 31 December 2010.</p> <p>Congleton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Air Quality Management Area - West Road, Congleton (PDF, 565KB) - between the Waggon and Horses gyratory and the fire station roundabout• Air Quality Management Area - A34/A54 Congleton (PDF, 488KB) - a stretch of the A34 through Congleton incorporating Clayton Bypass, Rood Lane and Rood Hill back towards the town centre roundabout• Air Quality Management Area - Lower Heath, Congleton (PDF, 541KB) - a short stretch on the A34 at Lower Heath		
Update	<p>Cheshire East Council currently has one automatic analyser located on Market Street in Disley.</p> <p>This unit provides high quality, real-time data which can be used to analyse patterns and try to find out more about the characteristics of the pollution as it varies over time. This information is extremely useful for identifying causes of pollution and highlighting where efforts need to be targeted to reduce air pollution.</p> <p>Whilst providing high quality data, this equipment is expensive to purchase and maintain and often compromises have to be made in terms of its location for logistical reasons.</p> <p>Their monitoring site measures levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀).</p>		

	Our Streetscape Development Manager is currently in talks with the team at Cheshire East how we go about getting one for Congleton or when the Disley one is due to be located the next place for it to be used would be here in Congleton.
Financial Considerations	None currently.
Environmental Considerations	Our KPIs are set to ensure that we are following the latest environmental concerns to see where we can improve and help sustain the environment for both the public and local wildlife.
Equality Considerations	
Decision Requested	To support our Streetscape Development Manager on further discussions with Cheshire East Council on Air Quality and use of the analyser within Congleton

Congleton In Bloom Working Group

16th October 2023 Meeting,

Minutes

PRESENT:

Working Group members:

Officer Ruth Burgess

Cllrs: David Brown, Glen Williams, Susan Mead, Heather Seddon,

Volunteers: Bob Edwards, Patti Pinto, Sue Conway, Margaret G

1. **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllrs R Chadwick, C Booth, H Pearce, R Brittain, Rob Moreton

2. **Declarations of Interest:** Members are requested to declare both “pecuniary” and “non-pecuniary” interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

David Brown- Cheshire East,

Patti Pinto- William Dean Trust, Congleton Partnership, Congleton Park FoCP, FoCG

Glen Williams- Bromley Farm, Congleton Partnership, Congleton Park FoCP, Town Tidy Champion

Margaret Gartside- Congleton Partnership, FoCG, Astbury Mere Trust

Bob Edwards- Congleton Partnership, Congleton Park FoCP, Astbury Mere Trust, Town Burgess

Sue Conway – FoCP, FoCG

Susan Mead – IYN Friendly Faces, Bromley Bloomers

Heather Pearce – Hilary Ave Allotment Holder, Green Working Group , Cllr

3. **2024 plant discussions and decisions:** ACTION RB to send out a detailed list of plants to group.

Colour Theme around – Orange Yellow peaches main colour with highlights of Blue and magenta
Ivy as the main trailing

Reduced numbers in the Mountbatten way troughs

Breakdown of IYN groups

A note to the group the below list of all our current IYN Groups

- a. Alexandra Court Hotel (business)
- b. Bath House and physic Garden
- c. Bromley Bloomers
- d. Bromley Farm
- e. Buglawton In Bloom
- f. Congleton Community Garden
- g. Congleton Football Club (2024 Entry)
- h. Congleton Tennis Club
- i. Friendly Faces Day nursery
- j. Friends of Congleton Park
- k. Green Gables care Home
- l. Hilary Ave Allotments
- m. Lion and Swan Public House and Hotel (Business)
- n. Jubilee Club (2024 entry)
- o. The Old Saw Mill

p. Vale Allotments

4. **2024 projects**

- a. Back to Back Gardens Theme – Number 10, and its 10 year anniversary of the scheme
- b. Congleton Park Plaque – Congleton War Memorial 100 years
- c. Wildflowers Verges – new wildflower verges on amenity land similar to the ones already in Macclesfield.
- d. Green Walls – new scheme, Rood Hill will be the first project, other walls that are in place already have been identified.
Action R Brittain to look in to green walls at Bentley

5. **North West In Bloom awards day @ Bolton** (4 Tickets Only)

- a. Thursday 19th October Cheshire Category
- b. Wednesday 18th IYN Category

6. **Congleton awards evening**

Date is 7th November @ 6pm Congleton Town Hall, doors open at 5.30pm, where displays boards can be looked at and groups interact with each other share ideas etc, refreshments available. Thank you and awards given out.

Next meeting : Friday 3rd November 2023

Minutes – CONGLETON GREEN WORKING GROUP

Thursday 21st September 2023

Attendees:- Ruth Burgess, Barry Speed, Heather Seddon, Heather Pearce (Chair), Suzy Firkin, Debbie Coxon, Kay Wesley

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from:
Committee Members: Cllr Glen Williams, Resident

2. Minutes from previous meetings

Approved and acknowledgement of minutes with changes made and approved

3. Declaration of Interest

Heather Seddon matter related to Cheshire East Council

4. Actions from previous meeting

SF- to liaise with Ralph Kemp and Sam Corcoran regarding the heritage of the building and how we can reduce emissions, still awaiting new meeting date, SF has had discussion with Sandbach Town Councilors on similar topics and working together. The new Climate Champion at Cheshire East is Mary Brook

BS – retro fit invite to the green fayre
Spoken to the manager at Arriva Renewables Rick Marlow

SF – Net Zeron Business Roundtable update- received a lot of support and should be a day full of successful talks and exchanging of ideas.

5. Green Marketing and Green Fayre (DC)

Verbal update from DC – 30 exhibitors booked in which 7 are new, a separate Programme of talks which are to be all year round is being looked at.

Visit to Vale Allotments – tour guides around the site

Talk at the Hydro Scheme in place

E-Bike events at Astbury Mere showing the public the E-bikes and the opportunity to find out about the mere.

Action – BS to look into Air Quality talks all year round

Green Marketing Focus for September is around “ Second hand September “ focus on Oxfam led initiatives, all shops have been given posters to advertise the campaign.

Social Media Post on Air Quality 7.9.23 big focus on car free day on Friday 22.9.23 also back page of the chronicle

A Green Glossary has been produced and can be seen on the town council website and also copies within the CIC

Witchy Wednesday in Town Hall for School Holidays
17-23 October energy saving week

Action – Everyone to look at the main 3 pages on Green Living on Town Council website feedback any information not requires. Out of date or links not working etc DC to Lead with support from KW

6. Streetscape action plan update(RB)

Streetscape Vehicles reduce in numbers,
More sustainable bedding being created
Huge message around sustainable planting scheme for the remaining floral displays and where annual planting remains the message across regarding plants being given to community groups, care homes, nurseries etc
Looking into compost bays at different sites within congleton

Action – create new Streetscape presentation on carbon footprint and changes RB

7. Biodiversity – suggest we need at least an action to measure baseline biodiversity across the whole CTC estate. Sounds hard, but we can build on the work from Mark Stubbs has done with his wildlife leaflet and wildlife count,

Action Invite Guest Ruth Benson to next meeting to give us an update on 30 site Biodiverse plan

Notice boards to be added to some of the sites – look into William dean Trust for support on funding, the boards will feature what has been done on the site to help wildlife and what has been seen since the new schemes etc.

Action – to liaise with member needs the 7 main site to see if a Friends of the sites can be formed.

8. Air Quality (BS)

3 sites are being visited organised by BS testing will be on 22.9.23

Action – Invite someone from CEC to speak on Air Quality SF/ BS

Action – RB to look into monitoring machines for Congleton, paper to go to next council meeting

9. Methodology Update

Create a sub group to go through the methodology and update SF to lead with BS suggestion of the following in the group, Paul Williams, Heather Pearce, Kaye Wesley

10. Sub Pod Wormery (HP)

New idea from HP to add to the garden and also promote to local business- should be a good demo project within the park working with stocks

subpods for our open spaces <https://subpod.co.uk/>

11. Trees for Congleton (RB & MG)

To receive further update from meeting held with Trees for Congleton and Streetscape on 12th September

KW working on communicating with all local farmers on planting trees and hedgerows on their land with the support from trees for congleton group

Handover sheet will now be put in place when schemes are completed between Trees for congleton and Ruth Burgess . including maintenance plan and costings.

12. Any Other Business

Decarbonisation – summary plan of the savings in the different sections report ready for next meeting (BS)

Public sector funding grant is being put in worked on SF closing date 10.10.23
Solar together scheme by Cheshire east council – informing the group when you sign up you are just showing an interest not fully signing up to the changes and work. (HS)

Link sent to all the group on monitoring air quality

School awareness on biodiversity and green issues (HP)

Would like to look at new approach for the carbon footprint of the paddling pool (HP)

CEC update new biodiversity net gain document – a planning document all about how developers are expected to increase biodiversity on their sites- this will be out for consultation soon (HS)

Green Spaces consultation will be out soon as well 89 out of 530 are in congleton and will be affected

RB to put a paper to the next environment council meeting

Household waste and recycling sites there is going to be three option which the council committee at CEC will be voting which will affect congleton – further info on CEC webpages

13. Date of Next meeting

26.10.23 @ 1pm via zoom