

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE HELD ON
26 October 2023**

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the [Agenda and Papers of the Community Committee on 26 October 2023](#)

PRESENT:

Committee members

- **CLlr Kay Wesley (Chair)**
- **CLlr Emma Hall (Vice Chair)**
- Cllr Dave Brown
- Cllr Mark Edwardson
- Cllr Suzy Firkin
- Cllr Susan Mead
- Cllr Glen Williams

Non-Committee Members: Cllr Richard Walton

Officers: Jackie MacArthur DCO & Communities & Marketing Manager and Mark Worthington, Town Hall Manager

Also in attendance: One Police Officer (left after item 9), 2 members of the press, 3 members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Arabella Holland, Cllr Sally Holland and Cllr Shaun Radcliffe

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

CO/16/2324 resolved to approve and sign the Community Committee minutes held on 3 August 2023 as a correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Dave Brown and Cllr Emma Hall declared a non-pecuniary interest as Cheshire East Councillors.

4. Questions from Members of the Public

None

5. Urgent Items

None

6. Cheshire Police

PC Andrew Cornell updated members on the police activities based around the paper included in the agenda

7. CHErubs (Cheshire Really Useful Breastfeeding Support)

Emma Evans delivered a presentation on the importance of communities supporting and normalising breastfeeding. [See the CHErubs Presentation here.](#)

CO16/2324 resolved to

- a) Promote the 'Breastfeeding Welcome Award' through our communications channels
- b) Encourage other public buildings to become Breastfeeding Welcome venues
- c) Inform and encourage other businesses in Congleton which welcome the public into their building to join the scheme.

8. Updates from Previous Community Committee

The updates were received from the Community Committee held on 29 June 2023 and 3 August 2023.

9. Approve the Notes of the Community Safety Working Group

CO17/2324 resolved to accept the notes of the Community Safety Working group held on 12 October 2023.

10. Health and Wellbeing Working Group

CO18/2324 resolved to accept the notes of the Health and Wellbeing Working group held on 10 August and the 10 October 2023.

11. Congleton War Memorial Hospital

CO19/2324 resolved to accept

- a) Write to formally congratulate the East Cheshire Health Trust on gaining a grant to build a diagnostic centre at the Congleton War Memorial Hospital
- b) Establishing regular communication with the trust on plans for the hospital
- c) To engage with the trust on plans to get involved in the 100-year celebration of the hospital in 2024.

12. Disability Positive Congleton

CO20/2324 resolved to delegate responsibility to the Health and Wellbeing Group to deliver on the following tasks within existing resources and report back to the committee on progress.

Actions following the visual impairment awareness:

- A. Working with local businesses to de-clutter the town centre and make it more accessible for the visually impaired.
- B. Actions to make street furniture more visible to support people with visual impairment.

Disability Positive Agenda

1. A Survey of Congleton people with a disability to learn more the issues that they are facing in Congleton and what they believe the Town Council or other groups could do to make their lives easier.
2. Continue to develop and offer awareness-raising sessions for Councillors and staff to help build appreciation of the issues. The first visually impaired awareness session has happened and more are in the planning stage.
3. Set up a Consultation Group of experts representing different disabilities e.g. visual impaired, hearing impaired, neurodiversity, dementia, wheelchair users etc. and work with them to compile priority areas to work on for Congleton.
4. Create a disability Guide to Congleton – on paper and online- showing disability-friendly accessible buildings and facilities.
5. Investigate becoming a Disability Confident Council/Employer
6. Apply for funding (if possible) to progress these areas of work and consider providing a Changing Places Toilet within the town centre.
7. Plan further action based on input from the survey, the experience days, and the Consultation Group.

13. Integrated Transport Working Group

CO21/2324 resolved to accept the notes of the Integrated Transport Working Group on the 31 August 2023.

14. White Ribbon Working Group

CO22/2324 resolved to accept the notes of the White Ribbon Working Group held on 3 August and 19 September 2023.

15. Communications Update

Received and noted a report from the Communications and Marketing Officer on communication activity since the last committee.

16. Totally Locally Congleton Update

CO23/2324 resolved to actively promote Totally Locally and to encourage independent retailers to join in the initiative.

17. Change of Date for the next Community Committee

CO24/2324 resolved to change the date of the next Community Committee from 14 December to 4 January 2024.

The meeting finished 8.29pm

Cllr Kay Wesley
Chair of Community Committee