

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	4 January 2024	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Rachel McCarthy, Town Centre and Events Officer and Jackie MacArthur, Communities and Marketing Manager/Deputy Chief Officer		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	Item 10. Congleton Events for 2024		
Background	<p>This paper is provided to give Members an update on the larger public events taking place in Congleton in 2024 along with details of the organisers. It also contains details of events in discussions for the coming year and beyond. It does not include details of charity events, concerts, performances, displays and exhibitions. As we become aware of these events they are included on the What's on Calendar on the Town Council website.</p>		
Calendar of Events	<p style="text-align: center;">Key Events –Main Events</p> <p>Appendix 1 – Overview of 2024 events .</p> <p>Town Hall Tribute Series – Stephen Holbrook (27 Feb) Organised by Congleton Town Council.</p> <p>Town Hall Tribute Series – UK Bjorn Again – ABBA Tribute Band (1 March) Organised by Congleton Town Council.</p> <p>Congleton Swimathon (15 & 16 March) Organised by Congleton Rotary and raising funds for charities.</p> <p>Congleton Unplugged (15 -17 March) - run by the Congleton Live Community Interest Company. 40 gigs in a wide range of Congleton Town Centre venues. Free for the public.</p> <p>Congleton Health & Wellbeing Fayre (26 March) – organised by the Congleton Partnership bringing lots of groups involved in Health and Wellbeing into the Town Hall for a public event.</p> <p>Easter Activities (March-April) – Hop around the Shops Easter Trail run by the Town Council from 30 March to 13 April. Easter Treats day – games in the Town Centre on 9 April.</p> <p>Easter Service in the Town Centre – Good Friday – Churches partnership.</p> <p>Mayor's Civic Ball (26 April) - Organised by Congleton Town Council. Raising money for Mayor's Charities.</p> <p>Mayor Making & Annual Town Meeting (16 May) - organised by Congleton Town Council. Election of the 2024/25 Mayor, Organised by Town Council.</p>		

Congleton Paddling Pool Opens (25 May) Organised by Town Council.

The Mayor's Parade & Civic Service – June date TBC

D-Day 80th Anniversary (6 June) – tbc what will happen for this event

Food and Drink Festival (9 June) now in its 15th year – organised by Congleton Community Projects along with a dedicated Food and Drink team. This year the group has invested a great deal of time in making the event more environmentally friendly.

Congleton Pride (20 July) – organised by Congleton Pride Group. Town Centre all-day event and an evening event.

Congleton Summer Specials - organised by Congleton Town Council, weekly activities to bring people into the town centre during the school summer holidays.

Jazz and Blues Festival (24-25 August) – Organised by Jazz and Blues group volunteer team. Attracts thousands of people to Congleton's pubs and venues for some excellent music. Now in its 12th year.

Congleton Paddling Pool Closes (1 September)

Congleton Horticultural Society Show (7 September)

Town Hall Tribute Series – Electromantics – 80s Tribute Band (27 September)
Organised by Congleton Town Council.

Green Fayre (28 September) – Organised by Congleton Town Council/ Congleton Partnership. Free event in the Town Centre and Town Hall promoting environmentally friendly activities, products and lifestyles.

Congleton Half Marathon (???) – organised by Congleton Harriers – raises money for good causes and attracts around 500 runners. Now in its 37th year.

Congleton Halloween Trail (26 October – 3 November)

Witchy Wednesday (30 October) Organised by Congleton Town Council.

Town Hall Tribute Series – Rule the World – Take That Tribute Band (1 November) Organised by Congleton Town Council.

Congleton Bonfire and Fireworks (2 November) – organised by Congleton Rotary raising funds for local charities.

Congleton Remembrance Sunday (10 November) – organised by Congleton Town Council and supported by the Congleton branch of the Royal British Legion.

	<p>Congleton Christmas Lights and switch-on (29 November) organised by Congleton Town Council, Congleton Community Projects and a team of volunteers.</p> <p>Tree of Light (?? November) organised by Congleton Rotary. Raising funds for local charities. Tree now in a permanent location in the Community Garden.</p> <p>In addition, there will be 12 Makers Markets taking place in the pedestrian area on the last Saturday of the month. The Town Council can offer two free of charge community stalls at each market.</p> <p>A monthly Repair Café is held on the last Saturday of the month at Old Saw Mill.</p> <p>The new Congleton Market Quarter will be organising regular Friday evening markets and Saturday markets.</p> <p>The Totally Locally team is looking to organise some regular events including Totally Tenner Wednesdays to encourage people into town on Wednesday evenings and Fiver Fest February.</p> <p>Congleton War Memorial Hospital is 100 years old on Sunday 4th August, and the East Cheshire NHS Trust is beginning to plan a number of centenary celebrations. Congleton Town Council has said it will support this.</p> <p>There will be a number of activities around the North West in Bloom 2024 competition. In Bloom creates its own events such as two kids plant up events per year.</p>
Financial implications	<p>The Town Council contributes £16k towards the cost of events and their promotion. £6k is ring-fenced towards Christmas and £10k towards tourism. The Town Council also supports other organisations with grants. The team at the Town Hall also apply for external grants and sponsorship towards events. Tribute acts in the Town Hall were new for 2023-24 and surplus profits from these events will contribute towards community events in the town.</p>
Environmental Implications	<p>Steps are being taken to reduce the carbon footprint around events through sustainable signage, waste collection and agreements with those exhibiting or selling at the events.</p>
Equality and Diversity	<p>Creating events where all members of our community feel welcome, engaged and connected is the aim of events. We are also looking at the programme across the year to try and cater, entertain and educate for towards a kinder society.</p>
Proposal	<p>To note this report and to act on any actions raised in the Committee Meeting.</p>

Events 2024

January 2024				February 2024				March 2024			
Date	Event	Venue	Event	Date	Event	Venue	Event	Date	Event	Venue	Event
	Bear Necessities to Print		CTC	27 February	Steven Holbrook	Town Hall	CTC	1 March	UK Bjorn Again	Town Hall	CTC
								15-16 March	Congleton Rotary Swimathon	Congleton Leisure Centre	General
								15-17 March	Congleton Unplugged	Various	General
								26 March	Health & Wellbeing Fair	Town Hall	CTC Sponsored
								30 March +	Easter Trail	Town Centre	CTC
April 2024				May 2024				June 2024			
Date	Event	Venue	Event	Date	Event	Venue	Event	Date	Event	Venue	Event
1-13 April	Easter Trail	Town Centre	CTC	16 May	Mayor Making & Town Council AGM	Town Hall	CTC	6 June	80th Anniversary D-Day	Town Centre	General
9 April	Easter Treats Day	Town Centre	CTC	25 May	Paddling Pool Opens		CTC	9 June	Food & Drink Festival	Town Centre	General
23 April	St George's Day	FLAG						Date TBC	Mayor's Parade & Civic Service		CTC
26 April	Mayors Civic Ball	Town Hall	CTC								
July 2024				August 2024				September 2024			
Date	Event	Venue	Event	Date	Event	Venue	Event	Date	Event	Venue	Event
20 July	Pride	Town Hall	General	24 - 25 August	Jazz & Blues	Town	General	1 September	Paddling Pool Closes		CTC
								7 September	Horticultural Society	Town Hall	General
								27 September	Electromantics	Town Hall	CTC
								28 September	Green Fayre	Town Centre	CTC Sponsored
October 2024				November 2024				December 2024			
Date	Event	Venue	Event	Date	Event	Venue	Event	Date	Event	Venue	Event
10 October	World Mental Health Day		General	1 November	Take That Tribute Band	Town Hall	CTC	1 December	World Aids Day	Flag TH	General
	Halloween Trail		CTC	2 November	Mankind Day of Action		General				
30 October	Witchy Wednesday	Town Hall	CTC	2 November	Rotary Bonfire	Congleton Park	CTC Sponsored				
				10 November	Remembrance Reception	Town Hall	CTC				
				22/29 November	Christmas Lights	Town Centre	CTC				
				25 November	White Ribbon Day		General				
					Rotary Tree Of Light	Community Garden	General				