

**CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES**

<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	Community Committee		
<b>MEETING DATE AND TIME</b>	29 February 2024	<b>LOCATION</b>	Congleton Town Hall
<b>REPORT FROM</b>	Rachel Wallace NHS Trust and Rachel McCarthy, Town Centre and Events Officer CTC		
<b>AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>Item 7. Celebrating 100 years of the War Memorial Hospital</b>		
<b>Background</b>	<p>Congleton War Memorial Hospital was opened by the Duke of York on 22 May 1924. This year marks 100 years of the hospital serving the people of Congleton.</p> <p>Rachel Wallace, Head of Communications and Engagement and the NHS East Cheshire Trust will attend the Community Meeting to update councillors on actions that the Trust and hospital is planning to do to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.</p> <p>This paper also updates Councillors on the progress that the Town Council has made towards marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.</p> <p>This paper is for discussion and noting.</p>		
<b>NHS Trust</b>	<p><b>To celebrate the centenary of the hospital, the trust is planning to organise the following activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Hosting a commemorative tea party for patients and families of the Aston Ward, with staff dressed in uniforms from different decades.</li><li>b) Launching a fundraiser for the hospital.</li><li>c) Creating news stories and generating interest in the War Memorial’s past, present, and future, along with a regular monthly column in the Congleton Chronicle.</li><li>d) Collaborating with schoolchildren to design a birthday card for the hospital.</li><li>e) Working with Trees for Congleton to plant trees and hedges around the hospital</li></ul>		
<b>Town Council</b>	<p><b>To mark the centenary the Town Council is:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Planting up the main plaque in the park to commemorate 100 years of the hospital. Weather permitting this will be ready for the park event</li><li>b) Gave the WMH the front page of Bear Necessities in January</li><li>c) Organise a large public event in Congleton Park on Bank Holiday Monday 27 May from 12 – 5pm</li></ul>		

	<p><b>More on the Public Event in the Park</b></p> <p>Rachel McCarthy has taken the lead on this activity. The park has been booked and relevant forms completed for the Event Safety Advisory Group. The event will be in the style of the events that CTC has organised for the Platinum Jubilee and King’s Coronation. Free entry into the park with games, entertainment, options to purchase food and drink or to bring your own.</p> <p>The Hospital Garden Party in the Park will take on a 1920s theme.</p> <p>CTC will apply to CEC for road closures for Park Road and Mill Green. Six staff and volunteers passed their Chapter 8 licence exam on Tuesday 20 February enabling CTC to close roads with CEC permission.</p> <p>A brass band and Swing band have been booked for the Bandstand. The RSPCA will run a dog show, several food and drink stalls are confirmed. The WMH will have a couple of gazebos and uniformed staff putting on activities, Congleton Museum will have a stall. Various groups, organisations and commercial companies that may be able to help provide traditional garden party type activities have been approached.</p>
<p><b>Financial Implications</b></p>	<p>The event in the park is expected to account for around 50% of the CTC Tourism budget for the year. Staff are exploring income generation through grants and sponsorship.</p>
<p><b>Environmental Implications</b></p>	<p>Organisers are looking to implement much of the learning from the Green events sessions to minimise waste, mileage and plastic use.</p>
<p><b>Equality and Diversity</b></p>	<p>The group will work with the Equal Access group to make the event as inclusive as possible.</p>
<p><b>Decision Requested</b></p>	<p>To note this report.</p>