

## **CONGLETON TOWN MEETING**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

**Virtual Meeting** – available to view at <https://youtu.be/q3ezD87IXWg>

**PRESENT** Councillor Denis Murphy (Deputy Mayor), David McGifford (Town Clerk)  
54 members of the public via zoom

1. **Welcome** by the Deputy Town Mayor, who chaired the meeting apologies from Town Mayor
2. **Introduction to the Panel** – Cllr Suzy Firkin, Cllr Robert Douglas, Cllr Kay Wesley, Cllr David Brown, Cllr Margaret Gartside, Cllr Amanda Martin.
3. **Received 5 presentations and chance to ask questions :**
  - a) Congleton Household Waste Site
  - b) Congleton Neighbourhood Plan
  - c) Climate Change
  - d) Gender-Based Violence
  - e) COVID-19 Response for Congleton
4. **Submitted Questions**
  - a) Maurice Walker – Concerned about potential new road plan and impact on Rood Hill
  - b) Glen Bright – Concerned about the Active Travel Plan consultation and impact it will have on the town (nothing went forward for Congleton following public opinion)
  - c) Maurice Walker – wanted to know why the Town Council precept was increasing when the Town Council was underspent by £150k (answer to do with long-term maintenance plans for the Town Hall and Streetscape equipment plus ambitious plans for the town.
  - d) Andrew Copestick – questioned spending money on an Elizabeth Statue when the town is struggling with mental health. (Elizabeth Group raised funds for its project)
  - e) Andrew Copestick – questioned if the statue would be better in the museum or entrance to the Town Hall. (All possible sites were being considered, but looking for an outside venue where Elizabeth could be amongst the people.
  - f) Gary Dolman – questioned why travellers are allowed to park in the car park and what their legal status is.
  - g) Olga Whitmore – questioned whether CTC gave funds to Bromley Farm and if we had checked their accounts. (Town Council had helped to fund an annual edition of Bromley Farm news at approximately £300 per time)
  - h) Pippa Jeffrey asked about more allotments for Congleton – an issue that needs to be addressed although not easy to get hold of land and long-term project.
  - i) Richard Wharf asked who owns Hankinson's Field - legally Cheshire East for the people of Congleton.
5. **CLOSING REMARKS** The Town Mayor thanked everyone for their virtual attendance