

AGENDA/Minutes – CONGLETON GREEN - 06/02/25 (4.10 – 4.50 – delayed start due to Zoom)

next meeting is **3/04 at 1.00** – Ruth can you send out a date for the Green Fayre preparation meeting

In attendance: Heather Pearce, Suzie Firkin, Jackie Kay, Amanda Martin, Kay Wesley – NB Kay was at Community Safety WG till 4.30 – Ruth, a request that when WG meetings are booked, they do not overlap

1. Apologies for Absence – Ruth Burgess
2. Declarations of Interest - none
3. Minutes of Previous Meetings – accepted
4. Action Log (Appendix A)
5. Biodiversity - update of sites
 - Adrian has visited all sites and commented on progress (Ruth can we see these comments?), Section 106 monies are possibly available to progress certain elements
 - Kay has written a consultation communication for residents near Blackshaw Close (Appendix C) which will need delivering
6. Balsam Bashing June 2025
 - Ruth to consult with Groundwork (who operate a Balsam Bashing timeframe between 22/5 and 18/6) and organize a joint event at ? Loachbrook or Congleton Hydro or Bromley Farm and invite residents to take part on a weekend date – (Cathy has emails of residents who were interested from last year's Green Fayre)
 - Ruth and officers to draft educational materials re identifying, reporting or removing HB
 - Materials to be posted on CTC website, in Bear Necessities, in Chronicle and on noticeboards in various locations - other suggestions please
7. Environment Committee Papers going to Council on 6.2.25
 - a. [Carbon Footprint Summary](#)
 - b. [Community Skip Day](#)
 - c. [Green Fayre update](#)
 - Action log from meeting (Appendix D)
 - Kay has contacted Susan Mead and Patti Pinto re. involving schools and nurseries e.g. planning an 'Eco Schools Zone'
 - Suzie Firkin has asked Paul Williams to run a solar panel/ASHP drop-in. Suzie to contact Plus Dane's energy efficiency advisor to ask them if they can also operate a drop-in at the Fayre
 - Commercial stall holders e.g. Modern Milkman will be asked to make a donation
 - d. [Paperless council next steps](#)
 - e. [Community Polytunnel](#)
 - An Initial event on composting will be run in April – Heather to arrange weekend date with Ruth and ask Cathy to help with promoting and registering for the event on Eventbrite
 - Other ideas suggested by WG = Lisa Miller's plant swaps, seed saving and swaps, starting a Mushroom Log, creating a wildflower lawn – there is some budget for external speakers

AOB

8. KW is suggesting a joint CTC Google Sheet to list 'meetings and events etc.' to enable better communication and participation.
9. Peatland project SF reported – RB tasked to find out who are the landowners to contact – then involve interested parties e.g. Dane's Moss, CWT, CEC, Moors for the Future
10. Terracycle – SF has been into Superdrug – they are recycling blister packs 'in house' rather than outsourcing to Terracycle (due to cost). To inform residents (gently so as not to overwhelm SD). Sandbach Town Council are funding a Terracycle box – to learn from their experience and act accordingly
11. RB to source designs for a CTC Green ? banner/ standing flags for the stalls and ask group for their thoughts before buying them
12. Plus Dane's involvement in helping their residents retrofit (?) – we would like to know more

Appendix A - new and current actions from meeting

| Date | Number | Details of Action | By who | Latest Update | Progress |
|----------|--------|--|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|
| 26.10.23 | 6.00 | Margaret Gartside has an action speak to all the local Parish Council how they can help and join in with tree planting and help bring more land opportunities for planting, (SF) would like to help contact the PC if needed | Cllr S Firkin & Margaret Gartside | 1.2.24 Mg has already contact many Parish councils that attach to our boundary Cllr Firkin to have follow up at their next PC meetings | In Progress |
| 26.10.23 | 8.00 | Green Fayre 2024 - HP to look into the talks for next years | Cllr H Pearce | Date - Update Details | In Progress |
| 1.2.24 | 9.00 | Eco - Schools Ongoing action to be added, various liaison needed with the local primary and high schools by Cllr Firkin and Margaret Gartside. | Cllr S Firkin & Margaret Gartside | Date - Update Details | In Progress |
| 1.8.24 | 5.00 | Green Fayre2024 - speaker and presentations - Cllr HP to investigate who can be invited to talk | SF | Date - Update Details | In Progress |
| 1.8.24 | 6.00 | grant funding opportunities | Heather P | Date - Update Details | In Progress |
| 1.8.24 | 9.00 | carbon offsetting - start looking into Financial costs as well as pros and cons of peatland patch project working with CWT | Suzy F | Date - Update Details | In Progress |
| 1.8.24 | 10.00 | contact groundwork re their training on water quality | Ruth B | Great UK WaterBlitz in Spring 2025 submitted. | In Progress |
| 03.10.24 | 5.00 | HP to liaise with KW on supporting the Tree group on marketing and updating their website etc. to attract more volunteers and promoting their work | Heather P | Date - Update Details | In Progress |
| 03.10.24 | 8.00 | what questions do we want to ask UU Action SF to sum up questions ready for 28.11.24 Environment Meeting | Suzy F | Date - Update Details | complete |
| 03.10.24 | 7.00 | Bio fuel - RB to look into closest stockist and possibility of storage within Congleton . | Ruth B | Date - Update Details | complete |
| 03.10.24 | AOB | To look into dates for balsam bashing within congleton and setting up a working party. Needs to be done before the seed drop. | Heather P | Date - Update Details | In progress |

Appendix B – archived actions

| Date | Number | Details of Action | By who | Latest Update | Progress |
|----------|--------|--|--------------------------|--|-----------|
| 26.10.23 | 4.00 | Chris Hilliard has offered a use of a Ecargo Bike (SF) | Cllr S Firkin & H Pearce | 1.2.24 Loan for a trial bike Cllr Pearce to chase up | Suspended |
| 26.10.23 | 5.00 | New streetscape Carbon Footprint document | R Burgess | Date - Update Details | Complete |
| 26.10.23 | 6.00 | Ruth Burgess to send copy of wildlife leaflet a to the group | R Burgess | resent with amendments 7.2.24 | Complete |
| 26.10.23 | 7.00 | Carbon footprint methodology meeting - create a subgroup and some ownership | Cllr S Firkin | Date - Update Details | Complete |
| 1.8.24 | 6.00 | To go through site specific plan and add £ values to what is required at each site | Ruth B | emailed out to the group 7.10.24 | Complete |
| 1.8.24 | 7.00 | invite guest speaker to one of our future green meeting CEC officer James Baguley | Suzy F | update received at GWG meeting 4.10.24 from SF | Complete |
| 03.10.24 | 10.00 | Mossley Biodiversity launch event - RB to liaise with KW regarding the event | Ruth B | Date - Update Details | Suspended |
| 03.10.24 | 9.00 | allotments - RB to speak to DMcG regarding a letter to all local Parish Councils regarding possibility of land within their parish to help support the shortage of allotments. | Ruth B | Date - Update Details | complete |

Appendix C

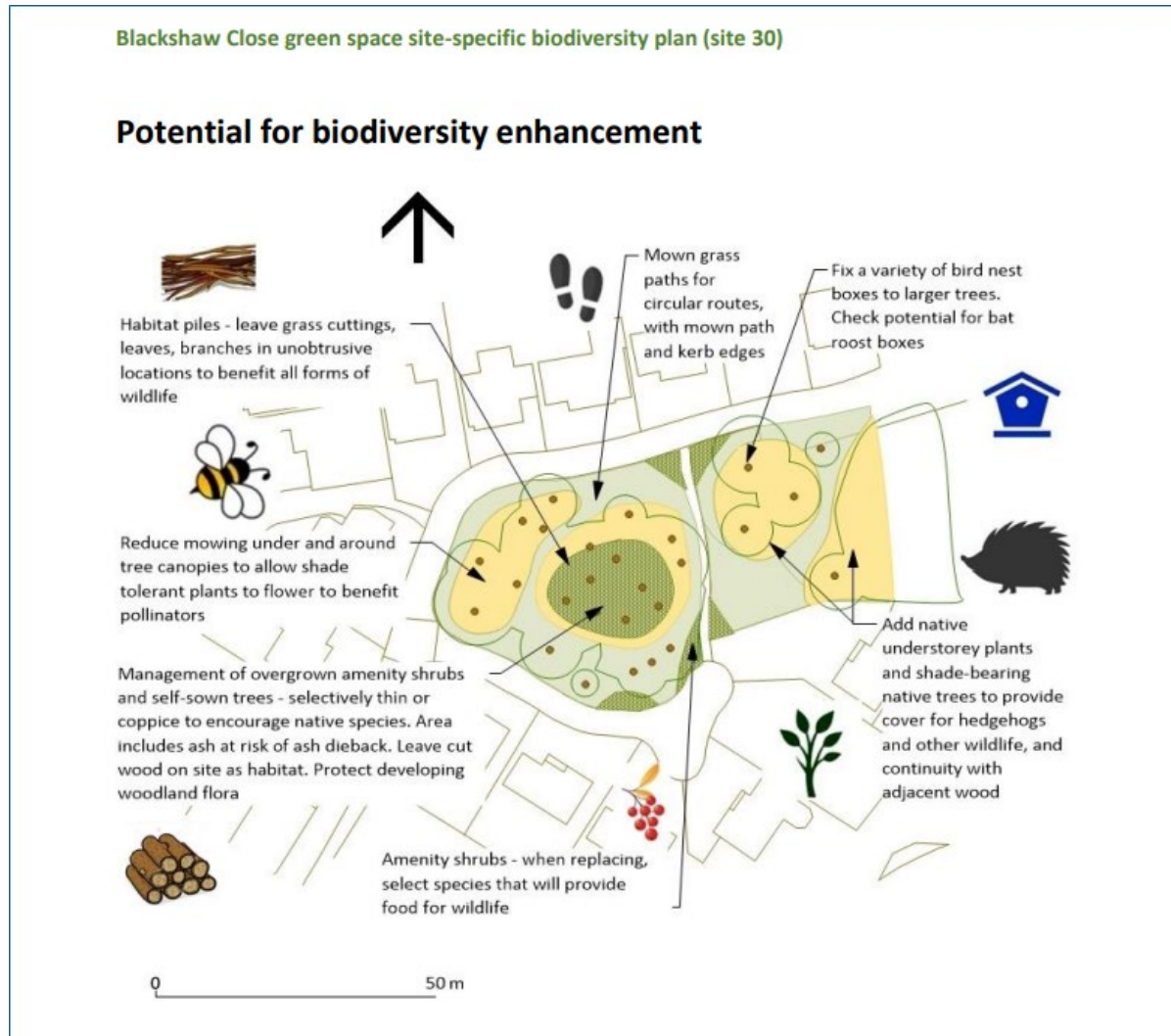
Dear Resident

As you may know, the Town Council has identified the open space on Blackshaw Close as one of 30 important Biodiversity Sites in Congleton. We would like to explore with you how we can enhance this area for plants, wildlife and people.

We will only work on any area with the approval and co-operation of the people who live there, so this note is to ask for your opinion on the green space in Blackshaw Close.

Our biodiversity expert said *“there is an opportunity to increase the proportion of native woodland plants on this area of infilled clough, to improve integration with adjacent ancient woodland, and benefit wildlife.”*

We have drawn out a suggested plan of what this might look like, that you can see below.



Do you agree with these ideas? Do you have any other ideas? Please let us know what you think.

Would you be interested in attending a meeting in Congleton Town Hall to discuss this? Or perhaps you'd like me to visit you, or call on the phone? If so, please send your address or phone number.

Would you like to help look after this area? We would be happy to organise a Friends of Blackshaw Close Group and perhaps have tree or shrub-planting days, and other local supported activities.

Please write and let us know what you think and how you'd like us to get in touch, by replying to this email or by letter to Congleton Town Council Biodiversity, Town Hall, High Street, Congleton CW12 1DY.

Thank you very much for your views on how to improve this important area.

Kind regards

Cllr Kay Wesley

[Appendix D](#)

Green Fayre Preparation Meeting –

NOTES OF MEETING

Date: 15th January 2025

Location: Spencer Suite

Time: 9.30am– 10.30am

Present: Suzy Firkin, Kay Wesley, Ruth Burgess, Cathy Dean, Debbie Coxon, Jackie Kay, Heather Seddon

Apologies : Glen Williams, Margaret Gartside, Heather Seddon

| Item | What was discussed / description | Comments | Actions | By whom | By when |
|------|---|--|---------|------------------|---------|
| 1. | Proposed Date Saturday 27 th September 10am -3pm | All agreed date and time | | | |
| 2. | Do we want to do anything this week (Talks, Seminars, etc) leading up or after the Saturday Green fayre date | All agreed due to lack of participants in previous year we would not have any talks separate to the day but would have them on the day in Blueys | | | |
| 3. | Green Fayre 27.9.25 | Logistics of the day | | Cathy and Rachel | |

| | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| | | Road Closures - | | | |
| | | Stalls – booked through Niche events | New Stall suggestions | Cathy | |
| | | New Stall suggestions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cuttleford Farm (Organic Farm) - Modern Milkman / Beartown Dairies - Florist - Wildflower seed / turf - Composting Demo | Cathy Cathy Heather P Ruth Jackie K | |
| | | Entertainment – | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Hedgeman -Junk Modelling Art Space - Schools and drama groups | Cathy Cathy Kay | |
| | | Volunteer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calendar invite to be sent to All Councillors asking for help on the day - Separate meeting to be held with Rotary to discuss their support and involvement | Cathy | |
| | | Green Raffle – could raise some funds | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See if this can be led by Rotary with split 50/50 proceeds | Cathy and Ruth | |
| | | E-learning sign ups? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sperate Meeting, have re launch at the green fayre | Cathy | |
| 4. | Publicity | | - | | |
| | | poster | - | | |
| | | banner | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ordered - Separate banner so visitors know they are going into Green Fayre and out of the makers market | Cathy | |
| | | Information for the booklet | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online with order of the day and map | Cathy and Debbie | |
| | | Information and designs for the Town Hall windows | - | Cathy and Celeste | |
| | | Social Media | - | Cathy and Debbie | |
| | | Website | - | Cathy and Debbie | |
| | Other Action from Meeting | | - | | |
| | | Booking of Blueys | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Talks | Cathy | |
| | | Videos | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Solar Video - Biodiversity Video - Home , Saving energy video | Debbie | |

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|--|--|------------------------|---|-----------|--|
| | | Plus Dane Housing | - Invite to carry out a talk in Blueys or have a stall | SF and KW | |
| | | Town Council Stall | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting what we are doing - What we have done so far - Biodiversity - Decarbonisation of the town hall project - Question and answer sheets | Heather P | |
| | | Electric Bikes | - Large space in between Makers Market and Green fayre to be filled with electric bikes | Jackie K | |
| | | EV Cars | - Signage to Burns Garage forecourt | Cathy | |
| | | Children's Competition | - Flower pot men project out of recycled plant pot and other materials, organised by Congleton Climate Action Group who will also provide prizes , | Jackie K | |

Next Meeting Mid March