



Congleton Town Council

Historic Market Town

Chief Officer: **David McGifford CiLCA**

27th March 2025

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Environment Committee to be held at Congleton Town Hall on **Thursday 3rd April 2025 at 7.00 pm.**

- **The Public and Press are welcome to attend the meeting, please note** - There will be 15 minutes at each meeting to receive any questions from Members of the Public, either verbally or at the meeting, including those which have been received in writing 7 days prior to the meeting.
- There may be confidential items towards the end of the meeting which the law requires the Council to make a resolution to exclude the public and press in accordance with Section 100 (B) (2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Please note this committee meeting is as a Paperless Council unless otherwise requested.

Yours sincerely,

David McGifford

CHIEF OFFICER

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

Members are reminded of the necessity to give apologies in advance of the meeting and to give reasons for absence.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings (Enclosed)

To approve and [sign the minutes of the Environment Committee held on 6th February 2025 as a correct record.](#)

3. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to declare both “pecuniary” and “non-pecuniary” interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

4. Outstanding Actions (Enclosed)

To review any outstanding actions from previous meetings.

Date of Meeting	Item Number	Details of Action	Progress
11.07.24	Item 12	Biodiversity Update - Look into signage for the rivers and canals as well as our biodiversity signage on our open spaces, signage to have Congleton Town Council and logo on the signs.	In Progress
28.11.24	ENV/22/2425	Liaise with Housing associations within Congleton on their fly-tipping figures and the possibility of skip clearance days in hot spots sites also from CEC requests funding support from CEC in lieu of ‘pop-up waste facility’	In Progress
6.2.25	ENV/30/2425	Make more of the streetscape update report including vehicle mileage, staffing issues and training, fly-tipping update, job ticket quantity and what the team are working on currently.	In Progress
6.2.25	ENV/31/2425	Report back to the committee via email the breakdown of each sector of the carbon 4 groups, Town Hall, Paddling Pool, Streetscape and Public including how the items are measured eg money, litre, KG etc	In Progress
6.2.25	ENV/33/2425	Community Skip Day - add Skip and Swap Day to the title, encourage residents to not only bring items to the skip but also to swap/ exchange goods. Include local businesses in the area for example rag and Bone Man,	In Progress
6.2.25	ENV/33/2425	Check permission to carry out the skip and swap day on CEC Land	In Progress

5. Questions from Members of the Public

There will be 15 minutes at each meeting to receive any questions from Members of the Public, either verbally at the meeting, including those which have been received in writing 7 days prior to the meeting.

6. Urgent Items

Members may raise urgent items related to this Committee, but no discussion or decisions may be taken at the meeting.

7. Congleton In Bloom Working Group (Verbal Update)

To an update from Congleton in Bloom Working Group Judges Meeting and Tour Guide.

8. Green Working Group (Enclosed)

To receive the notes of the Green Working Group held on 6th February 2025.

9. Streetscape Trading Account (Enclosed)

To receive the Streetscape Trading account report.

10. Streetscape Update (Enclosed)

To receive the report relating to the Streetscape Services.

11. Carbon Footprint Summary (Enclosed)

To receive updates and comments regarding the Town Council Carbon Footprint.

12. Wildflower Planting Sites (Enclosed)

To receive updates and comments regarding the Streetscape Wildflower areas.

13. Electric Vehicles Update (Enclosed)

To receive updates and comments regarding the Streetscape fleet and electric options.

14. Cemetery Capacity Congleton (Verbal update)

Verbal update regarding the status of Congleton Town Cemetery, owned by Cheshire East Borough Council.

15. Cheshire East Report (Verbal update)

To receive a verbal update on items of interest from the Cheshire East Environment and Communities Committee from the Ward Councillor.

To:	Members of the Community Committee
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Cllrs: Suzy Firkin (Chair), Heather Pearce (Vice Chair)
Suzie Akers Smith, Charles Booth, Dave Brown, Sally Ann Holland, Amanda Martin, Susan Mead, Heather Seddon, Glen Williams.

Ex Officio: Cllr Kay Wesley (Mayor) Robert Brittain (Deputy Mayor)
Other members of the Council for Information, Police, Honorary Burgess (5), Press (3), Congleton Library, Congleton Information Centre.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on Thursday 6th February 2025

Please note – These are draft minutes and will not be ratified until the next meeting of the committee.

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the [Agenda & Papers – 6th February 2025](#)

In attendance:

Committee members: Cllrs

Suzy Firkin (Chair)
Heather Pearce (Vice Chair)
Suzie Akers Smith
Charles Booth
Dave Brown
Sally Ann Holland
Amanda Martin
Susan Mead
Heather Seddon
Glen Williams

Ex Officio: Cllrs Kay Wesley (Mayor) & Robert Brittain (Deputy Mayor)

Non-committee Members: Cllrs Robert Douglas

Congleton Town Council Officers: Ruth Burgess – Streetscape Development Manager

Members of the public: None

Minutes

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for the absence were received from: David McGifford – Chief Officer

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

ENV/25/2425 Resolved to approve and sign the minutes of the Environment Committee held on 28 November 2024 as a correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were received from Cheshire East Borough Ward Councillors: Cllr Heather Seddon, Cllr Sally Ann Holland, and Cllr David Brown.

4. Outstanding Actions

ENV/26/2425 Resolved to receive the list of outstanding actions.

5. Questions from Members of the Public

None received.

6. Urgent Items

None received.

7. Congleton In Bloom Working Group

ENV/27/2425 Resolved to receive the notes from the Congleton in Bloom Working Group held on 6 December 2024.

Here is the link: [Moorlands Mid Morning - Congleton in Bloom \(Ruth Burgess\) January 2025 by Tony Mullins: Listen on Audiomack](#)

8. Green Working Group

ENV/28/2425 Resolved to receive the notes of the Green Working Group held on 5 December 2024.

9. Streetscape Trading Account

ENV/29/2425 Resolved to receive the Streetscape Trading account report.

10. Streetscape Update

ENV/30/2425 Resolved to receive the report relating to the Streetscape Services.

11. Carbon Footprint Summary

ENV/31/2425 Resolved to receive updates and comments regarding the Town Council Carbon Footprint.

12. Community Skip Day

ENV/32/2425 Resolved To receive a report on the potential of having community skip days within Congleton.

13. Green Fayre Update

ENV/33/2425 Resolved to receive updates and comments regarding the Congleton Green Fayre being held on 27 September 2025.

14. Paperless Council Next Steps

ENV/34/2425 Resolved to receive updates and comments regarding the next steps for a Paperless Council.

15. Community Poly Tunnel

ENV/35/2425 Resolved to receive a report on the potential use change for the Community Poly Tunnel.

16. Cheshire East Report

ENV/36/2425 Resolved to receive a verbal update on items of interest from the Cheshire East Environment and Communities Committee from the Ward Councillor on the following matters:

- CEC Review of CCTV
- Wider Borough Carbon Action Plan

See the Agenda, Report and Minutes from the CEC Council Meeting:

<https://moderngov.cheshireeast.gov.uk/ecminutes/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=962&MIId=10319&Ver=4>

Cllr Suzy Firkin
(Chair)

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

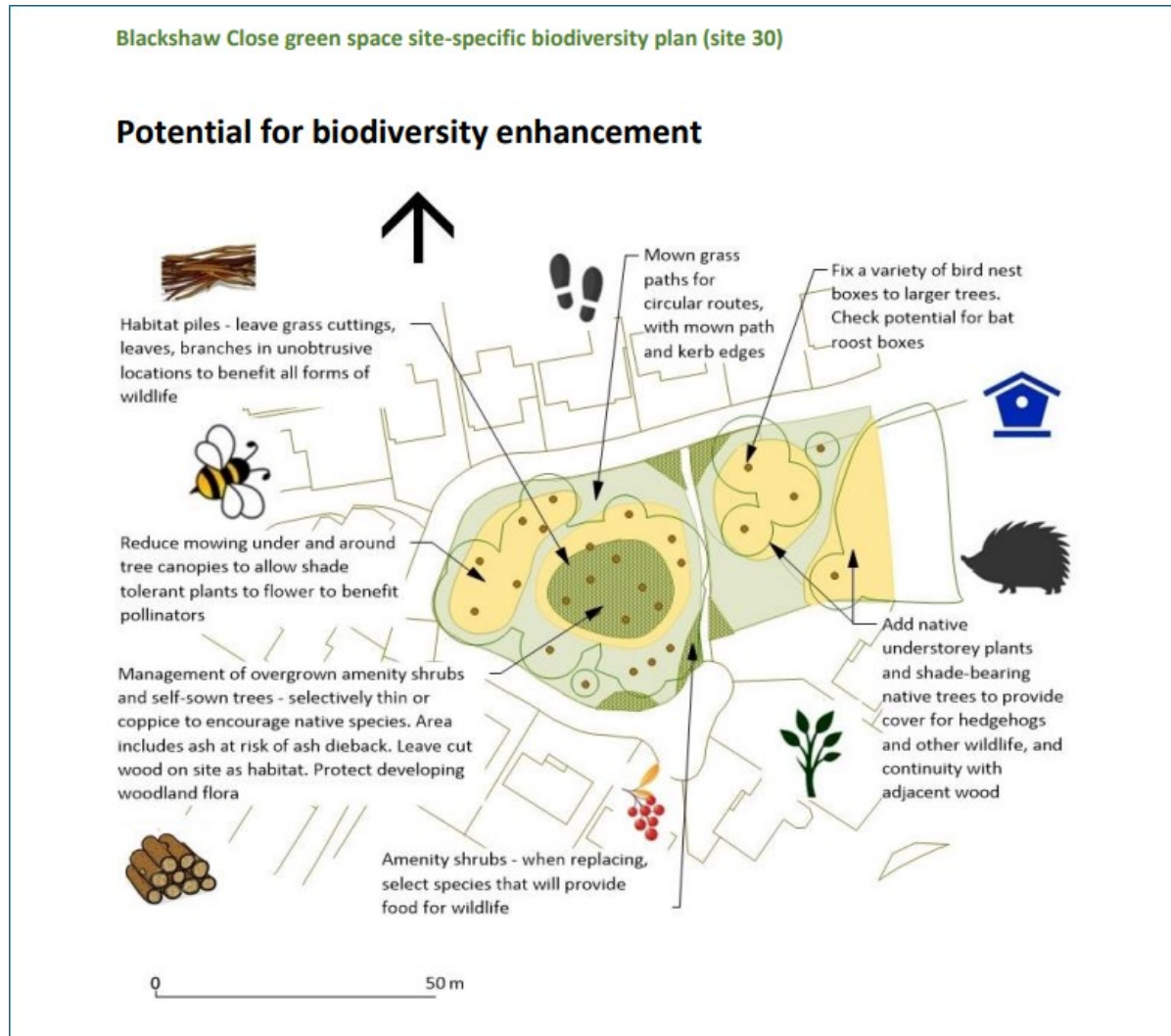
Dear Resident

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	

		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

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	3 rd April 2025 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Serena Van Schepdael – Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	9 Streetscape Services Trading Account		
Background	Variance analysis of the Trading Account for the year 2024-2025 for the month ending 28 th February 2025, Month 11, see Appendix 1.		
Updates	<p>This trading account is information for 11 months of 2024/25, which equates to 93% of the budget, <u>the below figures are based on full annual budgets, column titled % of Actual Budget</u></p> <p>Please refer to the summary for notes/comments.</p> <p>Income</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cheshire East Council Income paid in full- 100%• External Income (Private Works)- 135% (See below*)• Other Income (Miscellaneous, non-works income) 207%.• Other Income (Contract) 0% (See notes in appendix 1.) <p>*Private works expenditure is £9,512; Income to date £20,266 Income Less expenditure £10,754; Against Income Budget of £15,000</p> <p>Expenditure</p> <p>94% based on budgeted lines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Includes £24,637 in other non-budgeted expenses:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ £10,550 Roundabout works○ £14,087 Polytunnel repairs. (£11,387 covered by EMR)• Steet Cleansing includes £3,304 for Fly tipping costs.• Vehicle leasing will be overspent by the end of the financial year, due to replacing 2 vans due to staff requirements, overspending has been approved by the Council.		
Decision Requested	To receive the Streetscape Trading Account for Month 11 to 28 th February 2025.		

	OK
	Monitor
	Overspent

Month 11
Percentage 92.6%

STREETSCAPE

	ANNUAL BUDGET	BUDGET TO M11	ACTUAL SPEND TO M11	£ VARIANCE OF M11 BUDGETS	% SPENT AGAINST M11 BUDGETS	% SPENT OF ANNUAL BUDGET	% VARIANCE AGAINST M11 EXPECTED
4000 Staff Costs	577,073	528,984	530,763	-1,779	100.3%	92.0%	-0.62%
4004 Temp/Casual Staff	0	0	5,036	-5,036			
4008 Training	3,200	2,933	1,337	1,596	45.6%	41.8%	-50.82%
4009 Protective Clothing\H & Safety	5,900	5,408	4,762	646	88.0%	80.7%	-11.89%
4013 Office rent	2,000	1,833	1,833	0	100.0%	91.7%	-0.95%
4016 Cleaning Materials	8,000	7,333	3,475	3,858	47.4%	43.4%	-49.16%
4021 Telephone	1,175	1,077	544	533	50.5%	46.3%	-46.30%
4025 Insurance	9,150	8,388	9,846	-1,459	117.4%	107.6%	15.01%
4041 Property maintenance	1,500	1,375	1,037	338	75.4%	69.1%	-23.47%
4043 Horticultural etc Supplies	14,000	12,833	17,377	-4,544	135.4%	124.1%	31.52%
4047 Vehicle maintenance/Serv etc	12,800	11,733	7,748	3,985	66.0%	60.5%	-32.07%
4048 Vehicle fuel and oil	16,285	14,928	12,490	2,438	83.7%	76.7%	-15.90%
4049 Vehicle rental charges	77,880	71,390	76,591	-5,201	107.3%	98.3%	5.74%
4050 Street Cleansing	8,000	7,333	8,395	-1,062	114.5%	104.9%	12.34%
4162 General expenditure	5,300	4,858	4,517	341	93.0%	85.2%	-7.37%
4168 Other Expenditure	0	0	24,637	-24,637		0.0%	-92.60%
4951 Tfr from EMR			11,387				
6000 Central Overheads Reallocated	44,832	41,096	38,881	2,215	94.6%	86.7%	-5.87%
Streetscape Expenditure	787,095	721,504	737,882	-27,765	102.3%	93.7%	1.15%
3030 Purchases for recharging	0	0	9,512	-9,512		0.0%	0.00%
1165 CEC - Income	-419,256	-384,318	-419,256	34,938	109.1%	100.0%	201.69%
1167 External work income	-15,000	-13,750	-20,266	6,516	147.4%	135.1%	239.99%
1184 Other income	-12,000	-11,000	0	-11,000	0.0%	0.0%	92.60%
1199 Miscellaneous	-900	-825	-1,865	1,040	226.1%	207.2%	318.66%
1040 Recharges	0	0	-36	36		0.0%	92.60%
Streetscape Income	-447,156	-409,893	-441,423	31,530	107.7%	98.7%	200.29%
Net Expenditure over Income	339,939	311,611	305,971	-5,747	98.2%	90.0%	-5.59%

Expenditure Variance 0-100% Green 101-115% Amber 115% over Red

No budget

Paid at start of the year.

Overspent, Noted by Council CTC/63/2425

Will be overspent due to new vans. 3 replaced CTC/63/2425
Per requirements, will be monitored. Includes Fly tipping costs.

Roundabout works, grant due in , will be received in next financial year..
Polytunnel repairs CTC/36/2425, transfer from Capital EMR reserve

No budget

Income Variance 100% Green, 75% to 99% Amber, 0%-75% Red
Three of four payments received

Contract did not go ahead

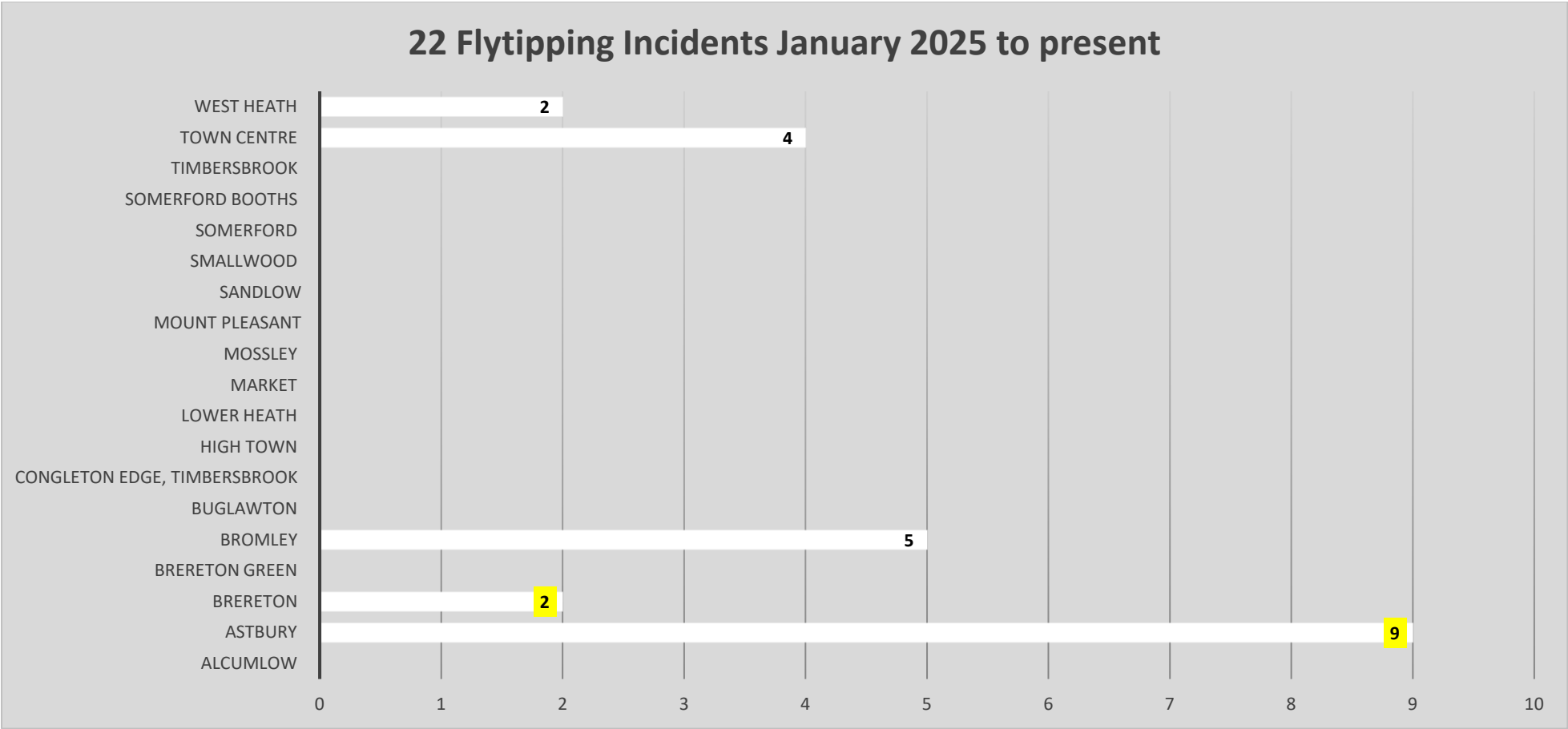
CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee							
MEETING DATE AND TIME	6 th February 2025 7.00 pm			LOCATION	Town Hall			
REPORT FROM	Streetscape Development Manager – Ruth Burgess							
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	10 Streetscape Services							
Update	<u>Fly Tipping</u> As well as noting the quantity of fly tips per month and annually we are now calculating the cost for each specific fly tip over the course of a year. Below you will note the number of fly tips we have dealt with over the last year (2024), in comparison to previous years:							
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Jan	4	4	4	16	30	20	17
	Feb	10	2	10	11	25	7	5
	Mar	4	0	32	24	14	8	
	Apr	10	12	19	10	19	24	
	May	5	40	22	11	11	24	
	June	4	22	2	8	26	20	
	July	8	21	0	13	9	19	
	Aug	5	18	10	26	19	18	
	Sept	6	6	14	23	13	9	
	Oct	5	3	10	8	21	17	
	Nov	4	4	17	25	4	6	
	Dec	5	4	10	30	15	22	
	Total	70	136	150	205	206	194	22
Total Cost	£2324.16	£5380.52	£2481.45	£12,300.87	£ 15,360.76	£ 13,077.18	£2852.68	
	See Appendix A for percentage graphs as per each parish area.							
	<u>Staffing</u> We currently have all members of the Streetscape team in work.							
	<u>Private Work – New Contracts</u>							
	<u>Rhead’s Meadow</u> We are pleased to announce that, as of March 24th, Streetscape has been appointed as the grounds maintenance contractor for Rhead’s Meadow in Somerford. This 10-acre site, rich in wildlife, is a valuable community space, and we are honoured to continue bringing its vision to life. Plans for the park include the development of a native wildflower meadow interspersed with native trees, the creation of a new							

	<p>orchard, and additional native woodland planting. We are thrilled to be working on such a fantastic biodiversity site for the enjoyment of the local community.</p> <p><u>Astbury Mere Country Park</u></p> <p>We are excited to confirm that we have successfully secured another new contract—providing ranger services and maintenance at Astbury Mere Country Park. This is a fantastic opportunity to continue upholding Congleton's pride and maintaining the park to the exceptional standards set by the previous ranger. We are currently in the final stages of discussions and finalising the contract for this site.</p> <p><u>Weed spraying update – CEC Highways</u></p> <p>As you are aware Cheshire East Council Highways are responsible for weed control on roads, footways and paved areas on all adopted roads in Cheshire East.</p> <p>Treatment of weeds</p> <p><i>Due to cost and effectiveness, they are not routinely spraying weeds on the highway. they review requests for treatment of weeds in channels, at the top of kerbs, in footways/alleyways (bordering a wall or fence), footpaths and link paths. Where appropriate and where resources are available, we will remove them by mechanical means.</i></p> <p>Weedspraying by CEC Highways is done once a year, due to the reduction of weed control CTC has been looking at how we help and carry out further weed treatment, however, there will be a cost (labour, material, and chemicals).</p> <p><u>Love Your Street – Campaign</u></p> <p>Your Street where you live as a councillor, we would like you, where possible, to leaflet drop your own road/ street to help start with the campaign and get a group together – all equipment will be provided where necessary.</p>
Financial Considerations	Concerns over the financial impact of fly-tipping as well as an increase of highway weed control on the streetscape budget lines.
Environmental Considerations	Consideration over areas to be weed sprayed and the specific type of chemicals used. Helping with the increase of biodiversity within the Somerford area by working at Rhead's Meadow.
Equality Considerations	Love your street campaign will be an opportunity to engage all sectors of the community and we will look to ensure full inclusivity.
Decision Requested	To receive the report.

Appendix A – Fly Tipping Graphs

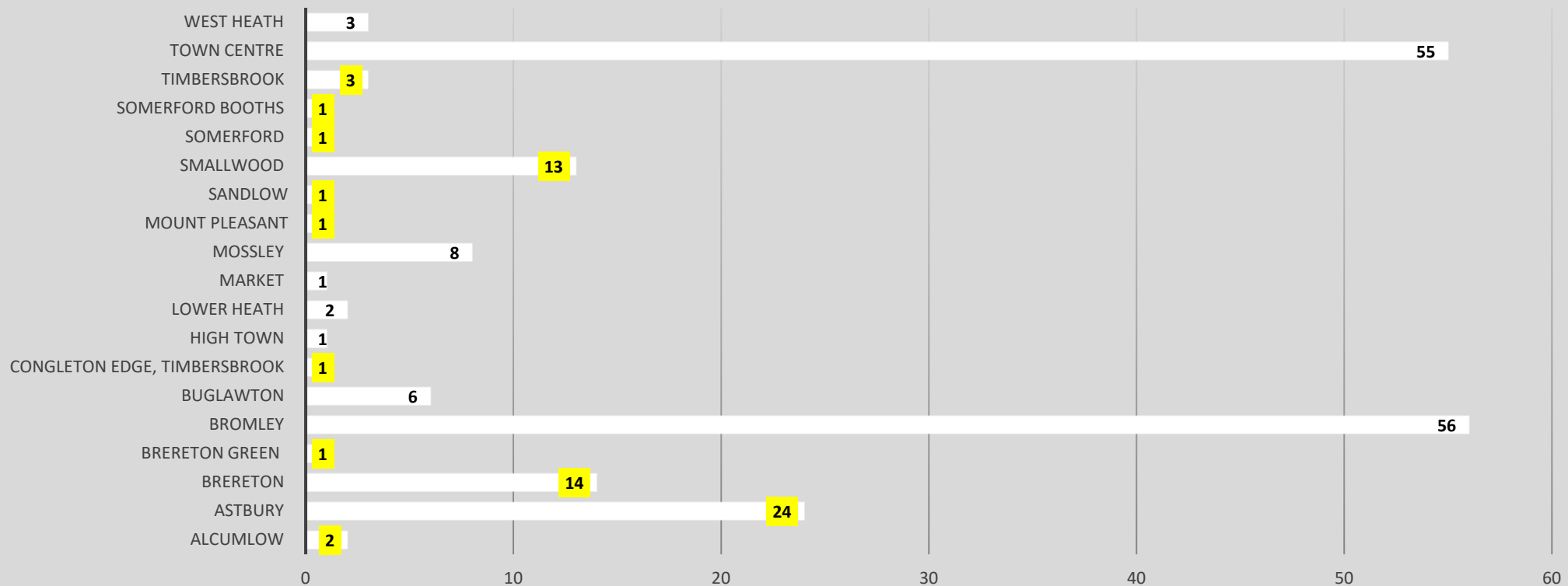


Key

Areas in **YELLOW** are outside of the Congleton LAP

This equates to 11 incidents (50%)

194 Flytipping Incidents January to 31 December 2024



Key

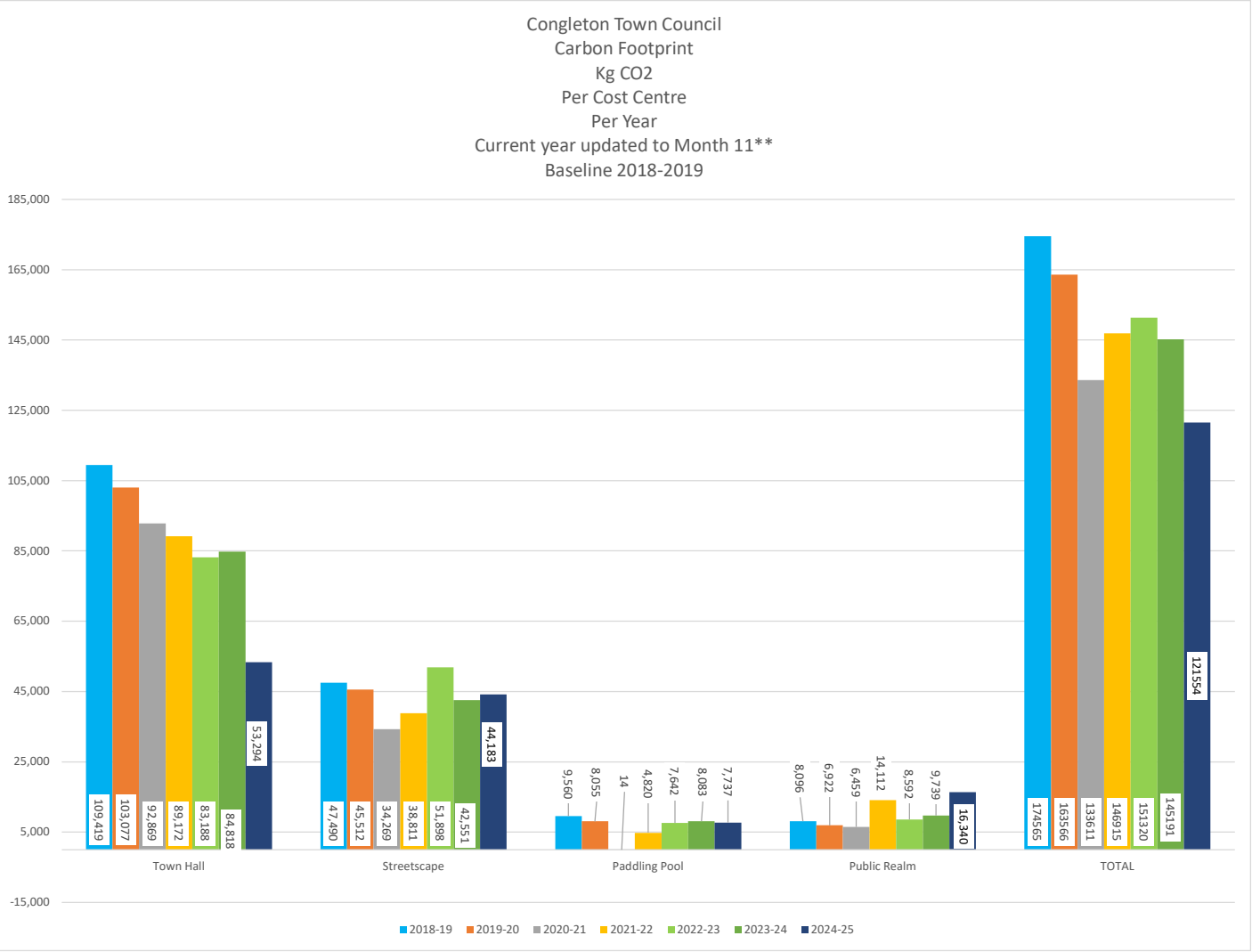
Areas in **YELLOW** are outside of the Congleton LAP

This equates to 62 incidents (32%)

Summary

Area	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	TO MONTH 11 2024-25
Town Hall	109,419	103,077	92,869	89,172	83,188	84,818	53,294
Streetscape	47,490	45,512	34,269	38,811	51,898	42,551	44,183
Paddling Pool	9,560	8,055	14	4,820	7,642	8,083	7,737
Public Realm	8,096	6,922	6,459	14,112	8,592	9,739	16,340
TOTAL	174565	163566	133611	146915	151320	145191	121554

Notes for 204-25 figures:
** Utility Carbon Emissions values not available as yet for Jan to March



Congleton Town Council - Baseline carbon footprint 2018-2019			2018-2019 Baseline Year			%	2024-2025: TO MONTH 9			%	Difference from Baseline Year					
Business area	Activity/Cost centre	units	Measure	x	Total		Measure	x	Total		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-2024	2024-2025
<u>Town Hall</u>																
	Electricity	kWh: From Utility supplier			43,607	39.85%		M9	15,290	18.03%	-8344	-17198	-23852	-22048	-21428	-28317
	Gas	m3:From Utility supplier			64,023	58.51%		M9	35,852	42.27%	1545	-112	3377	-4259	-3814	-28171
	Water	m3: From meter readings			178	0.16%			305	0.36%	68	209	-110	54	296	127
	purchases					0.00%				0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0
	- cleaning supplies	Constant from basline	1,611	1	1,611	1.47%	1,847	1	1,847	2.18%	389	551	338	22	345	236
	waste				0	0.00%			0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	
<u>Town Hall Total</u>					<u>109,419</u>	100.00%			<u>53,294</u>	62.83%	<u>-6342</u>	<u>-16550</u>	<u>-20247</u>	<u>-26231</u>	<u>-24601</u>	<u>-56125</u>
<u>Streetscape</u>					0				0							
	Fuel: Diesel	Per Litre	8,624	2.69	23,200	48.85%	9,518	2.68	25,508	59.95%	194	-250	-3473	7121	7155	2308
	Petrol	Per Litre	754	2.31	1,741	3.67%	850	2.4	2,041	4.80%	810	-75	599	495	1022	300
	purchases					0.00%				0.00%						
	- plants	£	14,796	1.4	20,714	43.62%	11,751	1.4	16,451	38.66%	-3829	-12677	-5660	-3056	-12033	-4263
	- compost	£	2,898	0.019	55	0.12%	1,214	0.019	23	0.05%	-16	-19	-30	-45	-12	-32
	- chemicals	£	388	1	388	0.82%	160	1	160	0.38%	864	-201	-114	-106	321	-228
	horticultural waste	cu yd	240	5.8	1,392	2.93%		5.8	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	-1392	-1392
<u>Streetscape Total</u>					<u>47,490</u>	100.00%			<u>44,183</u>	103.84%	<u>-1978</u>	<u>-13221</u>	<u>-8679</u>	<u>4408</u>	<u>-4939</u>	<u>-3307</u>
<u>Paddling Pool</u>	water	m3		0.3	672	7.03%	0	0.3	0	0.00%	-273	-672	-325	-521	-672	-672
	electricity	kWh: From utility supplier			5,064	52.97%		m9	2,207	27.30%	-1409	-5050	-3939	-3367	-2813	-2857
	chemicals	£	2,390	1.6	3,824	40.00%	3,456	1.6	5,530	68.41%	176	-3824	-477	1970	2008	1706
<u>Paddling Pool Total</u>					<u>9,560</u>	100.00%			<u>7,737</u>	95.72%	<u>-1506</u>	<u>-9546</u>	<u>-4741</u>	<u>-1918</u>	<u>-1477</u>	<u>-1824</u>
<u>Public Realm</u>																
Allotments	Water	m3: From meter readings		0.3	11	0.14%		0.3	8	0.08%	-6	0	-3	-3	-2	-3
Cenotaph	Electricity	kWh:From utility supplier			0	0.00%		M6	15	0.15%					26	15
In Bloom	plant purchases	1.4	5,775	1.4	8,085	99.86%	11,635	1.4	16,289	167.26%	-1168	-1649	5993	473	1588	8204
	Compost	£					1,467	0.019	28						31	28
								1	0							0
<u>Public Realm Total</u>					<u>8,096</u>	100.00%			<u>16,340</u>	167.78%	<u>-1174</u>	<u>-1637</u>	<u>6016</u>	<u>496</u>	<u>1643</u>	<u>8244</u>
TOTAL FOR YEAR					174,565				121,554		-10999	-40954	-27650	-23245	-29374	-53011
					174,565				121,554		-10999	-40954	-27650	-23245	-29374	-53011

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	3rd April 2025 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Ruth Burgess – Streetscape Development Manager		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	12 Wildflower site update		
Background	<p>Following the huge success of the new approach to grass cutting and the newly added wildflowers areas over the last couple of years we are adding to the list of sites and preserving even more wildflowers and the wildlife who rely on them. The team have learned a lot from the previous trials over the last two years and from this we know how we can improve and add further wildflower areas across Congleton.</p> <p>Congleton Town Council is determined to protect and improve Congleton’s natural environment and this fairly simple change to how we cut our grass will help increase the habitats and food that our pollinating insects rely on.</p> <p>Congleton Town Council’s progressive move towards better management of their grass areas is part of their Sustainable Strategy and Climate Responsibility.</p> <p>The Existing Sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Congleton Park x 2 areas- Hankinson Field- Mountbatten Way- Land at the back of the Town Hall (Rotary)- Stirling Close- Tesco Express Roundabout <p>New sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sandy Lane, entrance to Astbury Mere- Buglawton in front of Church House- Many of the Biodiversity sites <p>Sustainable Planting Schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- New planting at Tesco Express Roundabout- Bear Roundabout		

	  
Financial Considerations	The plans can be achieved within the allocated budget which the Town Council has approved and within the contract agreed with Cheshire East Council.
Environmental Considerations	Efforts will be made in line with the Town Council's Climate Emergency Declaration to help provide the ideal habitat for bees and other pollinating insects.
Equality Considerations	The impact on accessibility has been considered.
Decision Requested	To agree to carry on with many wildflower verges, agreeing to the proposal of changing the way we maintain some of our open spaces to encourage the local wildlife to create a habitat.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee																	
MEETING DATE AND TIME	3 rd April 2025 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Town Hall															
REPORT FROM	Streetscape Development Manager – Ruth Burgess																	
AGENDA ITEM	13																	
REPORT TITLE	Electric Vehicle Update																	
Update	<p><u>Battery/ electric operated machinery and vehicles</u></p> <p>As you are aware there has been long discussion and investigations into reducing our fleet and purchasing/leasing electric/hybrid vehicles, instead of the Ford Transit vans that we currently use.</p> <p>From the investigation work, we have had meetings with both Cheshire East Council and the company they currently use for their Fleet, as well as the lease we currently use within Congleton Town Council, with many conversations and options spoken about.</p> <p>*Costings to be provided at the meeting</p> <p><u>Remaining fleet</u></p> <p>Current vehicle – small box van :</p> <p>To confirm our current lease company can supply the Renault Kangoo ZE 33 – Business + model at a monthly rate of between £425.00 - £450.00.</p> <p>This is based on 36 months/10,000 miles per annum and the excess mileage is 12 ppm. Please see below information which may be of some use to you.</p> <div><div><p>YOUR VEHICLE</p><p>engine</p><p>R60</p><p>battery</p><p>Z.E.33</p><p>YOUR CHARGE LEVEL</p><p>Initial 0%</p><p>Target 95%</p></div><div><p>YOUR CHARGING TIME</p><table><thead><tr><th colspan="4">Public Charger / Wallbox</th><th>Fast charger</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>7.4kW (32A)</td><td>22kW (3x32A)</td><td>3.7kW (16A)</td><td>11kW (3x16A)</td><td>43kW (3x62A)</td></tr><tr><td>5h11</td><td>5h11</td><td>9h55</td><td>9h55</td><td>5h11</td></tr></tbody></table><p>Recharged driving range up to 170 mi</p><p><small>For a WLTP (Worldwide Harmonized Light vehicles Test Procedure) certified combined cycle driving range of combined with a Z.E.33 battery.</small></p></div></div> <p><u>Current Ford Transit tipper vans x 6</u></p> <p>A like-for-like electric vehicle is currently not on the market, we are on a waiting list with our current lease company unfortunately many other customers of theirs are also on their waiting list too, Ruth Burgess has met with the rep to discuss the current rolling contract, and they have advised that if we request a new rolling contract until electric vehicles come available they this would be a new contract which would be at the new inflated rate, we are currently on a lower rate from when we originally signed the contract (18/04/18).</p>			Public Charger / Wallbox				Fast charger	7.4kW (32A)	22kW (3x32A)	3.7kW (16A)	11kW (3x16A)	43kW (3x62A)	5h11	5h11	9h55	9h55	5h11
Public Charger / Wallbox				Fast charger														
7.4kW (32A)	22kW (3x32A)	3.7kW (16A)	11kW (3x16A)	43kW (3x62A)														
5h11	5h11	9h55	9h55	5h11														

	<p><u>Feedback from CEC</u></p> <p>Cheshire East Cleansing Team have invested 9 new electric vehicles, their feedback is below :</p> <p>We currently have 9 x Ford Single-cab Transits and 1 team leader type van (BYD) on street cleansing.</p> <p><i>As with all new vehicles there have been some teething troubles, and we are still trying to work with Ford and BYD to resolve maintenance issues in a timely manner. The Ford Transit is good to drive, we had some with cages and tail lifts and the build on these are also good. The BYD is basic but does the job.</i></p> <p><i>FordPro telematics is a really useful product which is free for 12 months and records driver behaviour as well as tracks the vehicles too.</i></p> <p><i>Drivers need a C1 licence or attend an alternatively fuelled vehicle course, as the vehicles are over 3.5 tonnes.</i></p> <p><i>Our main issue is 'range anxiety' due to our location and the proximity of the work we carry out, Our current range is approx. 100 miles but this doesn't always mean they can travel 100 miles, it is very much dependent on the driver's behaviour (harsh braking and speeding) as well as the weather conditions and the weight carried.</i></p> <p><i>The council have invested significantly in the infrastructure to charge the vehicles, and they do need to be plugged in overnight, but we have one fast-charge on site for a top-up during the day. The off-site chargers are expensive to use.</i></p> <p><i>The last thing to note is that to date as far as I am aware there is no EV that would be suitable for grounds activities, i.e. a crew cab to store materials/equipment and the ability to tow but I know that we are still looking.</i></p>
Financial Considerations	None currently.
Environmental Considerations	A move to electric vehicles would help us reduce our carbon footprint and contribute to improved air quality. However, EV charging is only environmentally friendly if renewable energy via a green tariff is sourced.
Equality Considerations	The sourcing of batteries for electric vehicles is controversial due to its reliance on mining of materials in countries where appalling working conditions and use of child labour are known to exist.
Decision Requested	To receive the update report.

Appendix 1

Streetscape Vehicle Mileage

Quartix

Vehicle	Vehicle usage	Estimated consumption	Mileage this month	CO2 emissions (kg)	Estimated closing mileage
JY18 XXC, Ford Transit - Rob Simon	67.7%	25.0 mpg	237.3 miles	115.8	12317.6 miles
YJ18 YBC, Ford Transit Andy	83.9%	25.0 mpg	710.6 miles	346.3	22796.1 miles
YJ18 YFA, Ford Transit Chris	32.3%	25.0 mpg	103.7 miles	50.7	25755.1 miles
YJ18 XWB, Ford Transit Dave and Jim	61.3%	25.0 mpg	227.7 miles	111.0	11302.1 miles
YJ18 YCZ, Ford Transit Mick	71.0%	25.0 mpg	140.4 miles	68.3	6691.7 miles
YJ18 XZV, Ford Transit Noel	67.7%	25.0 mpg	657.7 miles	320.5	26104.4 miles
YJ18 XZF, Ford Transit Terry	0.0%	25.0 mpg	0.0 miles	0.0	13522.1 miles
MA18 EEP, Peugeot Partner	58.1%	25.0 mpg	368.5 miles	179.6	12957.7 miles
AJ13 YBX, Toro Gm3400 Andy	22.6%	25.0 mpg	0.1 miles	0.0	0.0 miles
AJ13 YBY, Toro Lt3340 Pete	22.6%	25.0 mpg	0.1 miles	0.0	0.0 miles