

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	17 April 2025 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Cathy Dean, Communities and Admin Officer		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	17 Congleton Partnership Update		
Background	<p>This paper has been prepared to update committee members on the Congleton Partnership activities and direction following the new constitution voted in at the AGM on 10 September 2024.</p> <p>Founded in 2006, the Partnership originated from the Congleton Market Town Initiative, evolving significantly since its first constitution in January 2007. The Partnership continues to respond to the needs of the community and support the VCFSE (Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise) sector, leveraging local resources to enhance Congleton.</p>		
Details	<p><u>Events held –</u></p> <p>Discover Volunteering – held 11th March Congleton Town Hall with Congleton Volunteer Action, spotlight on volunteering organisations within the town.</p> <p>16 organisations showcased opportunities, and over 40 people attended. A good atmosphere in the room. How effective the event is will depend on the follow-up and new volunteers.</p> <p>Alison Wright leading on Congleton Volunteer Action will follow up with people.</p> <p>Costs £140.00 T&C's / £62.50 Room Hire / £46.35 Promotion = £248.85</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing Fayre – held 18th March Congleton Town Hall - A total of 166 attendees signed in—30 more than the previous year. Approximately 120 goody bags were distributed. As not all attendees signed in, it's estimated that over 200 people were present (excluding exhibitors).</p> <p>The event saw participation from 42 organisations and received positive feedback overall. This year, the event ran with a shorter schedule (10 am to 2 pm), which proved effective, maintaining a steady and positive flow throughout. No workshops or talks were held this time, following low engagement in previous years—and they weren't missed.</p> <p>Total event expenditure came to £624.94, covering room hire, refreshments, and marketing. The date for next year's event has been booked for 17th March 2026.</p> <p><u>Upcoming Events -</u></p> <p>VE Day Celebrations – 8th May – A shared moment of celebration.</p> <p>In partnership with CTC, plans are being made to celebrate the 80th celebration of VE Day. Confirmed lineup for the day:</p> <p>9 am – Proclamation & raising of the VE Day flag at the Cenotaph.</p>		

	<p>11 am – Public Service at the Cenotaph with the British Legion, Rev Ian Endicott & dignitaries.</p> <p>12-2 pm – Fish and Chip dinner at Congleton Town Hall (invite only) expected to have around 100 attendees. The Grand Hall will be decorated, 1940's singer booked. RBL will be selling poppies at the Town Hall.</p> <p>Mossley WI will bake 8 Ginger and Orange cakes.</p> <p>3 pm – Rev Ian Endicott conducting a service at St Peter's Church. (TBC)</p> <p>6:30 pm – Ringing of Church Bells</p> <p>9:30 pm – Light up the Town Hall, Red/White/Blue.</p> <p>Congleton Park In Bloom Floral Display</p> <p>Electric Picture House is refurbishing one of the Congleton Bears from Bearmania, as a WW2 Soldier Bear. The Bear will be stationed at the Town Hall for people to have pictures with.</p> <p>Congleton Lion's is sponsoring the event and contributing £300.</p> <p>Green Fayre – 27th September</p> <p>The 6th annual Green Fayre is a chance to explore green issues and local solutions. Around 30 stallholders take part on the day, a good mixture of local businesses, groups and organisations. As the Green Fayre coincides with the Markers Market it is always a busy day. The Makers Market is on the Bridge Street area and the Green Fayre is on the closed High Street and Town Hall.</p> <p><u>Other Projects:</u></p> <p>Margaret Williamson Memorial Fund – The Partnership administers the MWMF, applications closed on the 10th of March. The MWMF board met on March 28th to distribute £1700.</p> <p>Awards went to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOL Theatre School - £150 • Rode Hall Silver Band - £585 • The Congleton Youth Orchestra - £240 • Congleton Community Projects - £350 • Congleton Sustainability Group - 100 • Congleton Pride - £175 • Alderley Gate Residents Group - £100 <p>No Teir Snooker Society</p> <p>Dementia Friends/Senior Forum to sponsor a snooker table for the dementia group held at the snooker club on Royal Street. One table for 6 months to help the group get established (cost £408.00). No Teir Snooker Society supports those with Early-stage dementia, carers also come along to enjoy refreshments while their loved one places snooker. It's going from strength to strength.</p>
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	<p>8th of June Dennis Taylor is visiting the club, tickets will be sold at £25.00 to raise funds.</p> <p>Pop-Up Sports Equipment Agreed to fund the purchase of sports equipment including football nets, basketball hoops/nets and backboards, plus portable stands. Agreed to part fund an outdoor table tennis table at Bromley Farm. In total Approx £3770</p> <p>Trees for Congleton The group have surpassed their ambitious goal of planting 30,000 trees—one for every resident—since launching in 2019. Formed after the town council declared a climate emergency, the volunteer group has worked tirelessly over six years despite COVID delays. A special event unveiling a plaque for the 30,000th tree at Hankinson’s field on 9 May at 4 pm to celebrate.</p>
Financial Implications	None. Work is delivered within the reserved funds for Congleton Partnership.
Environmental Implications	Considered as part of each piece of work.
Inclusivity Diversity Impact	The Congleton Partnership uses communication tools to meet different audiences and provides events/activities that try to reach isolated members of our community.
Decision Required	That Councillors note this report.