

Minutes of Meeting
Community Safety Working Group
Thursday 4th September 2025 3 pm – 4.30 pm

Present: Cllr Kay Wesley (Chair), Cllr Glen Williams, Rachel McCarthy,

Sgt Karl Tatlock, Linda Webber, Laura Woodrow-Hirst, Cllr Susan Mead

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Robert Brittain, Jim Adams, Cathy Dean, Julia Pestell-Hassall,

2. **Notes of the meeting** of 3rd July 2025 were accepted as correct.

3. **Action Log**

- **ANPR Update**

Cheshire East are not signed up for this service, so this is very hard to enforce in Congleton. We believe that CE are using Derby City Council for their ANPR enforcement, in Knutsford and possibly Macclesfield are having trials, we will ask Richard Christopherson, also we really need an update on the last meeting from RC along with minutes from that meeting and an update generally from him, RMc has already emailed this week for an update regarding the last meeting, still waiting for an reply. Follow up on cameras and gate **ACTION RMc**

- Invite Dane Housing to the next meeting **ACTION RMc**
- Ask Stuart for a report for the next meeting regarding CCTV **ACTION RMc**

4. **Police update on Crime (Sgt Karl Tatlock)**

Report to follow, attached to minutes (January to August crime is down from 1,392 to 1,220)
Operation Sidelines – a national strategy drive to police on foot in town centres which has come from central government, staff can be drafted from other areas and allocated anywhere in Cheshire, or even the traffic police can be drafted in. Originally larger towns, it's now drafted to smaller towns and mainly on Saturdays (8 am – 5 pm or 2 pm – 10 pm).
Already had successful lockups from this, including a prison recall.
Article in Bear Necessities **ACTION DC/RMc**

5. **Police Priorities for Congleton Beat Team**

Operation Yellow Baptism – bypass car racing.

Dale Crescent has been a huge focus recently for the police, with all offenders known, with many residing on this road.

Hopefully, another 'Design Out Crime Day' focusing on Barn Road and West Heath.

E-bikes, arrest made, bike seized (Suron Bike) and Plev E Scooter are illegal, private land only.

6. **CEC ASB Team –**

Nothing specific is going on that they know about. We have concerns for the bowling green in the park as our hot spot, but reports haven't been seen. Reports will be seen if passed from the police to the ASB team; it's very tricky for the police to pass over to ASB without names and addresses for them. James Rowley to pass on suspects to the ASB team **ACTION KT**

7. Street Pastors Update

Report shared with RMc to attach to these minutes. **Community Resilience Pilot** – pastors called in nationally for major incidents, three Congleton street pastors have already done this training.

8. Shopwatch

Very quiet which is good, we need to launch the 'Design out Crime' scheme in West Heath and Barn Road, also check in the town centre who is using the scheme to its full advantage. Police have already visited Tesco and M&S. **ACTION RMc/KT**

9. AOB –

Rota for CCTV visits with Stuart – Linda, Glen, Susie, Kay, Shaun, **ACTION CD**

Community Safety Charter is on our website, online learning and how to be an active bystander, link below.

[Community Safety Charter - Congleton Town Council](#)

Date of Next Meeting - Thursday 6th November, 3 pm – 4.30 pm

Congleton Street Pastor Update

Congleton Town Council Community Safety Working Group

Thursday 4 September 2025 3 pm – 4.30 pm

July to date

Helped or observed to safety 8

Helped sober up, water, wipes 4

Bottles and cans binned 21

Glasses returned to establishments 10

Broken glass swept up 8

Defused situations - Assisted with a group of 20 near Wetherspoons

- Assisted the nightclub door staff with a difficult female

Emotional support 6

Directions 7

Foil blanket 1

During a patrol on 26 July, a young woman collapsed suddenly after getting out of a taxi with friends and an ambulance was at the scene. They had been out in Manchester and not knowing the cause team members chatted with her concerned friends and also showed an ambulance crew member our sample Rapid Cup drug test pot available in our establishments. He was not aware of these and later I spoke to a Procurement Officer at the North West Ambulance Service who was grateful to be sent further information and the Stamp Out Spiking link.

There are still concerns regarding Ebikes being ridden at speed through the pedestrian area weaving in and out of pedestrians and dangerously on the road too. Sometimes with two people on board. Several cars and not just taxis, are also passing through the pedestrian area in both directions.

Although the team were not directly involved, a policeman came and thanked them for their presence the night he needed to press his emergency button for the first time.

Some minor ASB, such as a lad breaking off a long strand from a hanging basket to swing round his head. Thankfully, his friends were not amused.

Street Pastor September to November

Our current rota covers 10 Saturday patrols from 9 pm to 1 am on Sundays.

Community Resilience Pilot

Three of our Street Pastors have already completed additional training to be Response Pastors and I have therefore responded to an invitation to receive additional information regarding this pilot. Response Pastors are listed under Cheshire Resilience Forum CRF Major Incident Response Principles under Voluntary Sector Organisations and Capabilities.

Linda Webber
Co-ordinator