

Meeting : Congleton Sustainability Group.

Date : 2.11.15 **Time:** 10.00am **Location:-** Plus Dane Boardroom.

In attendance: M.Gartside, P.Pinto, S.Foster, B.Fox, P.Hirst, M.Taylor, G.Williams , P.Minshull, M.Smith & P.Aston.

Guests:- Suzanne Akers-Smith(Congleton Town Councillor)

Item	Agenda Item / discussion	Action / comment
1	<u>Welcome and Introduction.</u> The meeting was chaired by P.Aston.	
2.	<u>Apologies.</u> P.Ranson, M.Axford.	
3.	<u>Minutes of the last meeting, matters arising (5.10.15)</u> The notes from the last meeting (5.10.15) were circulated prior to the meeting. <u>Matters Arising were as follows:-</u> Item 3. Town Hall 150 years celebration 2016. PA to add a discussion around this item to the next CSG meeting.	
4.	<u>Approval of the Agenda.</u> The agenda was taken as circulated.	
5.	<u>Town Hall 150 Years Celebration.</u>	

	<p>The Town Hall opened on 11th July 1866. Events will be held as close to this date as possible.</p> <p>S. Akers – Smith chairing the committee.</p> <p>CSG interested in having their Oak Leaf logo featured on one of the blank shields on the front of the Town Hall. PA to lobby the committee.</p> <p>Tea Party – Could involve Apple Juice</p> <p>Societies – Partnership / CSG should be involved in the day.</p>	<p>PA lobby for our crest on a shield</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><u>Neighbourhood Plan – Transport Group</u></p> <p>Meeting held Sat 31st October. Discussions around questions for the next Questionnaire and carrying out a Travel Survey of the town.</p> <p>Need to learn of the constraints that effect people’s choice / mode of travel and what it would take to make them become more green in their choice.</p> <p>At this point Suzie Akers – Smith took us through her Cycling / Walking Themed Country Park project. The aim is to provide safe, fenced provision for various cycling sports and general walking that can be accessed by Cycle and not need / involve car journeys.</p> <p>It was generally accepted as a good idea by the group. PA to write a letter of support on behalf of CSG.</p> <p>Health & Wellbeing Group to look to include this idea in the Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>MS to put S A-S in touch with Janet Mills and Genni Butler CEBC for their support through Cycling Strategy / S106 requests from new developments and getting onto CEBC budgets / plans for the future.</p> <p>S. Akers- Smith may hold a simple questionnaire event in the Town Centre.</p>	<p>PA write a letter of support.</p>

7.	<p><u>Neighbourhood Plan – Sustainability & Environment Grp</u></p> <p>Nothing new to add. The group like all of the others is working on questions for the next Questionnaire.</p>	
8.	<p><u>Vale Allotments.</u></p> <p>Congleton Green Space Trust in meeting later this week to consider the latest offer from Mr Minshull.</p> <p>CSG has no further comment / actions to take.</p>	
9.	<p><u>Dane Valley Community Energy.</u></p> <p>Once funding has been received then a feasibility study will be carried out. The result of this will indicate the viability or not of the whole project.</p> <p>GW to have discussion with Elizabeth Whitehurst at Eaton Bank around their involvement.</p>	<p>GW to discuss with E.Whitehurst</p>
10.	<p><u>Group Reports.</u></p> <p>Report from the Commenting Team for October 2015</p> <p>1. Tall Ash Farm – 250 dwellings off Buxton Road The application was considered at the October meeting of the Strategic Planning Board and PM spoke on behalf of CSG. The Board decided to defer a decision on this application due to insufficient detail information from the applicant. The application will go back to a later SPB meeting.</p> <p>2. Seddon Homes – 230 homes off Canal Road PM has spoken with Paul Hurdus, (head of the development control team at CEBC Highways) concerning the serious issues relating to the way CEBC’s highways officers dealt with this application. Paul needed to investigate the issues and would revert to PM; to date he has not come back on this matter. PM is meeting with Fiona Bruce on this matter next month.</p>	

<p>3. Somerford Green PM has submitted a letter to CEBC's planners raising concerns over the safety of walker/cyclists and the possible impact on the efficacy of the Link Road. Adrian Fisher acknowledged receipt of the letter and undertook to consider the issues raised.</p> <p>4. Land off Giantswood Lane PM submitted a letter of objection on behalf of CSG based on our objections to the earlier proposals.</p> <p>5. Congleton Neighbourhood Plan – Transport Group The Transport Group met Sat 31st Oct, now working on questions for the next issue of the N H Plan Questionnaire.</p> <p>6. CEBC Local Plan The Inspector resumed hearings in October, but as the current sessions are considering general matters PM is not involved. Our next involvement will be at the site allocations stage.</p> <p>7. Congleton Link Road A planning application for the Link Road has been submitted but has yet to be registered, so there is no information on the CEBC website yet. PM will consider and prepare a response on behalf of CSG when the information becomes available. If anyone has anything else they would like to add, please get it to Peter Minshull a.s.a.p</p> <p>8. Volunteer hours for October 2015</p> <p>CSG commenting team (excluding NP): 28hrs NP Transport Team (all members) 0hrs</p> <p>Carbon Reduction – M.Taylor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congleton Sustainability Group meeting Total hours = 2hr • Selling CSG Apple Juice at Rode Hall 	<p>Let PM have any added input a.s.a.p</p>
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Total hours = 5hrs

- New Life Church presentation for Age UK

Total hours = 2.5hrs

- SLIC 5 course with U3A at St John's West Road

4 lessons for October 2015

Total hours = 16hrs

Total volunteer hours for October 2015 = 25.5hrs

The main emphasis of the Carbon Reduction team this month has centred on running the new SLIC 5 course through U3A with 5 volunteers, using the updated workbook and improved props for demonstrations with each of the modules.

A Carbon Reduction presentation was shared for Age UK, at New Life Church in Congleton, to show the workings of the team promoting energy saving.

Apple Juice was sold at Rode Hall Farmers Market in support of Congleton Sustainability Group early in the month

SECCG / Cycling Campaign – P.Hall

SECCAG were invited to the CE Cycling Strategy Stakeholders Consultative Group meeting in Crewe on Oct 13.

At this, a summary of comments received through the Cycling Strategy consultation were presented. In total over 750 people made comments online, by email or by letter.

The actual results are not for public consumption as yet. (I have a copy and hope to bring it to CSG.

It is planned that the Strategy will be amended by the comments made and a public consultation will be held in early 2016.

It is planned that CCC will organise a ride for new and returning riders in the summer of 2016. Bikes will be available for loan. More details to follow.

Eco Schools – P.Pinto.

We had **13 schools awarded Green Flags in Congleton & District Eco cluster**, three schools at silver (W. Well, EBA, CHS) working towards GF. Bosley, Daven & Havannah have lapsed to silver.

- **Marton was awarded their 2nd GF on 1 October, Congratulations**
- Schools due to renew their Green Flag status in 2015 are:
Astbury (to renew by 10.01.16),
Havannah, Bosley, Daven (working on GF topics in the Autumn term);
- Schools working towards their first Green Flag: Congleton High School, Eaton Bank Academy, Woodcocks' Well Primary
- 6 Oct: PP assessed primary school in Northwich for 4th GF
- 20 Oct: JRO training at Cong Town Hall, 7 of our primary schools attended
- 21 Oct: PP ran What's Under Your Feet sessions at Saint Mary's

Congleton In Bloom:

- 13 & 17 Oct, Prep and planting up tubs with school children
- 20 Oct: plan Cong In Bloom celebration event (10 Nov, 6-7pm, Town Hall)
- 28 Oct: Attend Cong In Bloom team meeting

- 30 Oct: Attend NW In Bloom finals in Southport

Congleton Partnership/CSG:

5 Oct: CSG monthly meeting

18 Oct: CSG Apple Day at Astbury Mere

23 Oct: Station & Canal clean up, photos

25 Oct, Antrobus St Gardens PP planted selection of herbs and hardy cyclamen after discussions with Julie Byrne; official opening 29 October

15 Oct: Community Pride awards at Ellesmere Port Civic centre, PP awarded Community Champion for all Cheshire

Publicity

Photography & Press articles on eco-schools/In Bloom activities sent to Chronicle.

PP continues to admin facebook pages [Congleton In Bloom, Congleton Food4free & CSG pages]

PP Volunteer hours Oct 2015: 50 hr

Balance Sheet.

PA gave a copy of the sheet to MS for distribution.

Apple Juice.

Apple Day was very successful with over 100 people turning up throughout the event.

Appears to be a good harvest this year.

Already produced 714 Apple juice / 54 Cider and sold 20ltrs of Draught to Olde Kings Arms.

Olde Kings Arms keen to have exclusivity for the cider in the town. Possible further development on this with Titanic

**PA put draught
cider article in
The
Chronicle.also
looking a
building a**

	<p>Brewery PA attending an event at Burslem (1 to 7pm selling AJ and Cider) in the near future. PA will put a feature in The Chronicle around this subject.</p> <p>The manager of The Olde Kings Arms is a keen conservationist, PA to look at how to develop a working relationship with him.</p>	working relationship.
11.	<p>Twitter Training. Cathy Dean followed up last month training session. CSG now on Twitter (@CongoGreen) system manager is Patti Pinto.</p> <p>You can follow and retweet as you like, anything you wish to put onto Twitter will need to be sent to Patti. MS has circulate a PDF on Twitter to the team.</p>	
11.	<p><u>News / AOB.</u></p> <p>There was no A.O.B</p>	
13.	<p><u>Meeting closed at 12.15pm.</u></p> <p><u>Next Meeting:-</u></p> <p>Monday 7th December.</p> <p>Astbury Mere Visitor Centre. 10.00am</p>	