

**Meeting :** Congleton Sustainability Group.

**Date : 2.2..16**

**Time:** 10.00am

**Location:- Astbury Mere Visitor Centre.**

**In attendance:** M.Gartside, P.Pinto, S.Foster, B.Fox, M.Taylor, M.Axford, M.Smith, P.Minshull, S.Halliday, M.Axford & P.Aston.

Guests:-

Item	Agenda Item / discussion	Action / comment
1	<p><b><u>Welcome and Introduction.</u></b></p> <p>The meeting was chaired by P.Aston</p>	
2.	<p><b><u>Apologies.</u></b></p> <p>P.Hall, P.Ranson .G.Williams,</p>	
3.	<p><b><u>Minutes of the last meeting, matters arising (11.1.16)</u></b></p> <p>The notes from the last meeting (11.1.16) were circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Matters Arising were as follows:-</u></b></p> <p><b><i>Item 5. Lifetime Neighbourhood Document.</i></b> PM forwarded to D.McG as agreed.</p> <p><b><i>Item 8. Allotments.</i></b> Land search Hillfields steps area carried out, fuller report in these minutes</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Land off Swan Street – No further action to be taken for now.</p> <p><b><i>Item 9. DVCE.</i></b> PA to meet with EBA re supplying them with energy. Meeting set up for 4.2.16</p> <p><b><i>Item 12. PM to write to CEBC</i></b> re planning meetings / talk time / Congleton representation. PM still to action this</p>	<p><b>PA/GW 4.2.16</b></p> <p><b>PM still to action.</b></p>

4.	<p><b><u>Approval of the Agenda.</u></b></p> <p>The agenda was taken as circulated.</p>	
5.	<p><b><u>Congleton Co-operative - S.Halliday</u></b></p> <p>Stuart reported that the Co-operative were still looking for premises. Cuttleford Farm could not currently offer what we required so the search goes on for alternatives. Suggestions for sites to be pursued were raised at the meeting, they included units in Mill St, West St and land at the back of Back park St Carpark. Any ideas pass them onto Stuart.</p> <p>Difficult to put a financial report together to make a meaningful business plan.</p> <p>Started to apply for funding (C4C), CSG may look to put an amount into the pot.</p> <p>Project plan being put together around Apple Juice production.</p> <p>Apple Juice / Cider Festival. Not practical in its present format at Astbury Mere, PP to approach St Mary's as an alternative. May be able to link in with their desire to put on an event around their orchard and apple juice project.</p>	<p><b>Any ideas on site pass to Stuart.</b></p> <p><b>PP discuss Festival Project with St Mary's</b></p>
6.	<p>Congleton Green Space Trust.</p> <p>PA is discussing a couple of plots around Hillfield Steps area with the owner/ solicitor in regards to creating some ½ size allotments. A.Martin following up with residents regarding the 3<sup>rd</sup> plot on the site. If all land was available we could have between 6 to 12 allotment plots.</p> <p>Green Space Trust looking at both allotment and orchard options.</p>	<p><b>A.Martin talking to residents re 3<sup>rd</sup> plot.</b></p>

7.	<p><b><u>In Bloom.</u></b></p> <p>PP and J.Mac went to a Britain In Bloom briefing event in Birmingham at the end of January. Theme for next year built around “Gardening for Health &amp; Wellbeing”. PP looking at how we develop this theme.</p> <p>PA suggested we could do something involving “all” residents and the spare black plant pots we all seem to accumulate.</p> <p>Stuart and PP looking at U3A involvement.</p> <p>Boat / RNLI / Mountbatten Way Aldi to Traffic Lights (Stuart may be able to help here)</p> <p>A smaller Bear on A54 Roundabout (Brook St end) Approach Congleton Laser Eaton Bank re 2 dimensional figure.</p> <p>Poly tunnels will be available for the schools project again this year.</p> <p><b><i>Clean for the Queen.</i></b> This activity whilst featured from Mar 3 to 6, will run until mid June. J.Mac has written to the schools to see if they would want to get involved with this project, she can source litter pickers for around £2.80 each. See what response we get before committing funding. May look at proving pickers to be sited at Astbury Mere and Park for use by local youth organisations / clubs.</p> <p>PA / PP to carry out survey of school orchards.</p> <p>Community Orchard. Matt reported work in progress on this project.</p>	<p>PA / PP school orchard survey.</p>
8.	<p><b><u>Dane Valley Community Energy-Havannah Hydro.</u></b></p> <p>Feasibility study continues.</p> <p>PA meeting with EBA 4.2.16.</p> <p>Government reduction on FITs may make this all academic.</p>	
9.	<p><b><u>Neighbourhood Plan Teams.</u></b></p>	

	<p>All awaiting the findings following the second more detailed questionnaire. PM still to develop a traffic survey for the transport section. Elsewhere it is about taking the findings , building them into the reports then translating them into a policy document.</p> <p>MS suggested reading the inspectors report on Sandbach and using it as a template / check list for measuring our own plan. Cheshire East Website ,Neighbourhood Plans.</p>	
10.	<p><b><u>Group Report.</u></b></p> <p><b><i>Commenting Team for January 2016</i></b></p> <p>1. Tall Ash Farm – 250 dwellings off Buxton Road</p> <p>This application is still being considered by the National Planning Casework Unit at DCLG with a view to it being ‘called in’, i.e. going to appeal (despite being approved by CEBC). There is no certainty what the outcome of the review will be; we will just have to wait.</p> <p>PM and Anna Morrison are still waiting for the responses to their Stage 2 complaints with Cheshire East Council on the way this application was dealt with.</p> <p>2. Seddon Homes development – 230 dwellings off Canal Road</p> <p>PM has written to Brandon Lewis MP, the Minister of State for planning, regard the very serious issues raised by the Inspector’s decision on this appeal; the letter was copied to Fiona Bruce (who has acknowledged) and Caroline Simpson at Cheshire East Council (who has not). PM has asked for a meeting with the Minister to discuss these issues; we will have wait and see if this request is taken up.</p> <p>3. Congleton Neighbourhood Plan – Transport Group</p> <p>PM has prepared a first draft of a brief for technical support for the proposed travel survey and this has been forwarded to David McGifford for review as the contract would be with Congleton TC. PM attended the Steering Group meeting. The</p>	



	<p>Contact with Bosley and Havannah re GF work</p> <p>GF assessment of primary in Middlewich</p> <p><b>Congleton In Bloom/ Congleton Partnership/ CSG:</b></p> <p>11 Jan: CSG monthly meeting</p> <p>18 Jan: MW memorial meeting</p> <p>21 Jan: In Bloom meeting (plus prep for meeting)</p> <p>28 Jan: Britain In Bloom finalists seminar, Birmingham</p> <p><b>Publicity</b></p> <p>Photography &amp; Press articles on eco-schools/In Bloom activities sent to &amp; published by the Congleton Chronicle</p> <p>PP continues to admin facebook pages [Congleton In Bloom, Congleton Food4free &amp; CSG pages]</p> <p><b><i>Carbon Reduction.</i></b> No report for Jan.</p> <p><b><i>Cycle Groups.</i></b></p> <p>CCC and SECCAG have been involved with Cheshire East in the preparation of a Cycle Strategy.</p> <p>The initial Strategy document has been deemed to be too verbose and not fit for purpose.</p> <p>A revised Strategy is due to be published soon after consultation with stakeholders.</p> <p>Part of the Strategy is the production of a Network Map covering the whole CE. CE's idea is to create a cycle network that links all the towns in CE.</p>	
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	<p>It was pointed out that if people do not feel safe cycling in each of the towns, there is no point trying to link the towns together.</p> <p>Each campaign group is plotting their 'wish list' and will present to CE in March. SECCAG have their meeting to agree their proposals on Thursday 4 Feb.</p> <p>Any suggestions please let PH or Matt Axford know.</p>	
	<p><b><u>News / AOB.</u></b></p> <p><b>MT.</b> Commented how impressed he was with the new signage to the River Dane Walkway from West St.</p> <p><b>BF.</b> Commented on the rise in gross average temperature for the last 2 years (consecutive)</p>	
	<p><b><u>Meeting closed at 11.43pm.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Next Meeting:-</u></b></p> <p><b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March, Plus Dane Boardroom.</b></p>	