

Meeting : Congleton Sustainability Group.

Date : 7.3.16 Time: 10.00am Location:- Plus Dane Boardroom.

In attendance: M.Gartside, P.Pinto, S.Foster, B.Fox, M.Taylor, M.Smith, P.Minshull, S.Halliday, P.Hall, Dewi Jones, G.Williams, P.Ranson & P.Aston.

Guests:-

Item	Agenda Item / discussion	Action / comment
1	<p><u>Welcome and Introduction.</u></p> <p>The meeting was chaired by P.Aston a warm welcome was given to Dewi Jones (Dewi is currently supporting P.Minshull's N H Plan Transport team)</p>	
2.	<p><u>Apologies.</u></p> <p>O.Whitmore, M.Axford ,M.Taylor and P.Hirst.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Minutes of the last meeting, matters arising (2.2.16)</u></p> <p>The notes from the last meeting (2.2.16) were circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising were as follows:-</u></p> <p><i>Item 3. DVCE- PA and GW to discuss supplying energy to EBA.</i> Actioned follow up meeting once we know the scheme's viability.</p> <p><i>Item 3. PM to write to CEBC re Congleton representation on strategic planning board.</i> Not actioned as yet. The meeting decided not to carry this forward.</p> <p><i>Item 5. PP to discuss Apple Fest / St Mary's.</i> Patti as still to action this.</p> <p><i>Item 7. School Orchard Survey</i> - PA / PP still to complete this piece of work.</p>	<p>PP contact St Mary's re Apple Fest</p> <p>PA/ PP school orchard survey</p>

4.	<p><u>Approval of the Agenda.</u></p> <p>The agenda was taken as circulated. 2 items had been added to AOB. Fracking and Food & Drink.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Congleton Community Co-operative - S.Halliday</u></p> <p>Please not the name change of this (stand alone) project.</p> <p>A potential site/premises has been identified in Back River Street raising the issue of change of use with CEBC planning department.</p> <p>The project splits down into 7 phases, and initial cash flow projection indicates an annual turnover forecast of £70k a year.</p> <p>Looking to engage LOL and U3A in the process.</p> <p>Hoping to hold an “open day” event over 17th & 18th April, press release put together to support this to be included in Bear Necessities / Congleton Chronicle.</p>	
6.	<p><u>Congleton Green Space Trust (Stand Alone Enterprise).</u></p> <p>No real change from last meeting. A.Martin is doing some sterling work in contacting site owners and we should have a better view of how to progress by the next CSG meeting.</p>	
7.	<p><u>In Bloom.</u></p> <p>A lot of new items underway, small group set up to look at the Heritage element.</p> <p>New In Bloom member – Bath House Group/ Physic Gardens</p> <p>Community Orchard (behind Emmerdale Drive) is progressing. New Steps are built, 2 beds are ready for fruit bush / hedge planting, the Sycamore tree is in situ and ready ofr carving into an Apple Core (Apr/May), new destination signage to be developed.</p>	

	<p>Clean for the Queen .Friday 4th – 8 people in town, full school at Buglawton, 1 x class St Marys' and Canal & Rivers Trust all kicked off this year's C4Q campaign in style.</p> <p>PM commented on the litter that was laying around in The new Cemetery.</p>	
8.	<p><u>Dane Valley Community Energy-Havannah Hydro.</u></p> <p>Feasibility study continues, should know results this month. PA / GW met with EBA who were keen to be involved in any way they could. Siemens also indicated interest around supporting the capital equipment requirement as they as a company manufacture these items.</p>	
9.	<p><u>Neighbourhood Plan Teams.</u></p> <p>Congleton Neighbourhood Plan – Transport Group</p> <p>PM has prepared a second draft of the brief for technical support for the proposed travel survey. This and the draft transport policies and transport responses from the second round consultation were considered by the Transport Group when they met at the end of the month. Andrew Thompson also attended and provided useful guidance and advice. The meeting agreed that the travel survey must progress as quickly as possible; to this end PM has forwarded the second draft of the brief to David McGifford.</p>	
10.	<p><u>Neighbourhood Plan – Sustainability & Environmental Gp.</u></p> <p>Not met recently so nothing new to report. Meeting planned for the next couple of weeks.</p>	
	<p><u>Group Reports.</u></p> <p><i>Commenting Team – P.Minshull</i></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.</p>	

	<p>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 has received a response to his Stage 2 complaint with Cheshire East Council on the way this application was dealt with. Unfortunately the response is unsatisfactory and PM is considering escalating the complaint to the Ombudsman.</p> <p>2. Seddon Homes development – 230 dwellings off Canal Road</p> <p>PM has received responses to the letter he sent to Brandon Lewis MP, the Minister of State for Planning, regard the very serious issues raised by the Inspector's decision. Responses have been received from the Planning Inspectorate (not the Minister) and from Caroline Simpson at Cheshire East Council. Again neither response is satisfactory. PM together with Anna Morrison met with Fiona Bruce to discuss these responses and planning/development in Congleton in general. Mrs Bruce considered that a meeting with the Minister would only illicit the same response and it was reluctantly agreed that there is nothing further that can be done on this matter.</p> <p>3. <i>N.H Plan report in N.H.Plan Transport section above.</i></p> <p><i>Discussed at the meeting.</i></p> <p>PM reported that the Eco Home planning application in Smallwood is going to appeal. The group ask PM to write to the inspector in support of the application.</p> <p>Russell Homes Planning Application 16/0514c Back Lane. PA/PM to put a note together re employment land allocation in that area and forward to D.McGifford and D.Watson.</p> <p>CEBC Local Plan information issued. MS send out a copy of what he has received.</p> <p><u>Apple Juice.</u></p> <p>Selling well, some held in reserve for Food & Drink. Cider selling well through Old Kings Arms. 2016 will depend on the Congleton Community Co-op development which is featured earlier in these minutes.</p>	<p>PM write to inspector re Eco Home Smallwood</p> <p>PA/PM write to DMcG /DW re employment land.</p> <p>Sent out 7.3.16</p>
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Food4Free.

Next full report will be midyear.

Cycling Campaign / SECCAG.

SECCAG have drafted a map showing a network of 'aspirational' cycle routes as part of a CE wide Cycling Strategy initiative.

We are advised that by having a 'wish list' of routes and facilities CE can demonstrate to funding bodies the grassroots support for cycling and thereby attract money to CE. To be frank, there are so many things on the wish list that if only 10% get done it will be a coup!

Tour of Britain comes to Congleton! The third stage of the 2016 Tour of Britain will start in Congleton on Tuesday September 6th. No more detail yet but some of the Campaign will be at a Cycling Club meeting on 3 March and we may be able to give more to the meeting on Monday.

Look at www.tourofbritain.co.uk

And follow the links to 'stages' for an overview of where the stage will go. More detail to follow.

Treasurers Report.

To be sent out under separate cover. Funds available £2053.90

Eco Schools – P.Pinto

We have **9 schools with Green Flags in Congleton & District Eco cluster.** Astbury, Bosley, Daven & Havannah have lapsed to silver.

W. Well, EBA, CHS on silver, all working towards GF.

- 12 Schools due to renew their Green Flag status in 2016 are:

	<p>Jan: Saint Mary's & Smallwood (renewal in, awaiting assessment date);</p> <p>Mar: Buglawton (renewal in);</p> <p>June: Scholar Green</p> <p>July: Black Firs & The Quinta;</p> <p>Nov: Marlfields & Mossley</p> <p>Astbury, Havannah, Bosley, Daven (GF lapsed but working on GF topics now);</p> <p>Feb</p> <p>Helped Buglawton with GF renewal application.</p> <p>Birdwatching contd, garden club started at Saint Mary's</p> <p>GF assessment of primary in Calveley</p> <p>Prep for Fairtrade fortnight (29 Feb to 12 Mar)</p> <p>23 Feb Eco cluster meeting at Buglawton</p> <p>Congleton In Bloom/ Congleton Partnership/ CSG:</p> <p>1 Feb: CSG monthly meeting</p> <p>15 Feb: In Bloom meeting (plus meeting with Bath House & physic garden group)</p> <p>16 Feb Site visit Community orchard (steps under construction)</p> <p>24 Feb: NWIB 10-3 with judge David Bielowski</p> <p>Clean for the Queen prep</p>	
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	<p>WRV training</p> <p>Publicity</p> <p>Photography & Press articles on eco-schools/In Bloom activities sent to & published by the Congleton Chronicle</p> <p>PP continues to admin facebook pages [Congleton In Bloom, Congleton Food4free & CSG pages]</p>	
11.	<p><u>A.O.B</u></p> <p><i>BF – Fracking.</i></p> <p>Currently the 14th round of onshore fracking blocks have been issued. The 10km2 blocks 75 to 78 lay just to the west of Congleton (Sandbach /Homes Chapel) The block that Congleton sits in has not been allocated at this time.</p> <p>Barry talked us through a pros and cons discussion around the subject, comments were passed that whilst this round precludes Congleton the next round could or the exploration of gas in the above blocks if it does eventually happen may still have quite an impact on us.</p> <p>The question of CSG having a view on Fracking as a process was raised and it was felt that we should make our case (the consensus was that we were against Fracking as a group) and a couple of actions were decided on:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PA/BF to write an article for The Chronicle to start discussion among residents / raise the issue up the agenda generally. 2. Need to find out how the planning process evolves. <p><i>Food & Drink.</i> PA to discuss with Jo our requirements for the day.</p> <p><i>Seed Swap Day.</i> PP to suggest a date in May that does not clash with Astbury May Day celebrations.</p>	<p>PA/BF write a fracking article for The Chronicle.</p> <p>PA discuss F&D with Jo Money.</p> <p>PP come up with a date in May.</p>
	<p><u>Meeting closed at 12.10pm.</u></p> <p><i>Next Meeting:- Monday 4th April – Astbury Mere Visitor Centre</i></p>	