

Meeting : Congleton Sustainability Group.

Date : 4.4.16 **Time:** 10.00am **Location:-** Astbury Mere Visitors Centre.

In attendance: M.Gartside, P.Pinto, S.Foster, B.Fox, M.Taylor, M.Smith, P.Minshull, S.Halliday, Dewi Jones, M.Axford.

Guests:-

Item	Agenda Item / discussion	Action / comment
1	<p><u>Welcome and Introduction.</u></p> <p>The meeting was chaired by S.Foster.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Apologies.</u></p> <p>P.Hirst , P.Aston , P.Ranson & G.Williams.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Minutes of the last meeting, matters arising (7.3.16)</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. PP to discuss Apple Fest / St Mary's.</i> Patti as still to action this.</p> <p><i>Item 3. School Orchard Survey</i> - PA / PP still to complete this piece of work.</p> <p><i>Both actions carried forward.</i></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.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Fracking – B.Fox.</u></p>	

	<p>Barry's paper on fracking was distributed prior to the meeting.</p> <p>After much debate around the subject it was felt that not only did we need to know more about the fracking and its implications to be able to form as of opinion but neither did the general public.</p> <p>PA and BF to put an article together for The Chronicle to help start some local debate around the subject.</p>	<p>PA & BF write article for The Chronicle.</p>
6.	<p><u>Congleton Community Co-operative - S.Halliday</u></p> <p>Please not the name change of this (stand alone) project.</p> <p>Verbally agreed heads of terms with previous owner of with the site in Back River Street, need to raise the issue of change of use with CEBC planning department. Has spoken to Anna Morrision for support and advice on this.</p> <p>Looking to engage LOL to go in and clear the site over the next 2 weeks.</p> <p>“Open Day” event over 16th & 17th April, press release put together to support this to be included in Bear Necessities / Congleton Chronicle.</p> <p>Setting up the business entity and revising the cash flow forecast.</p> <p>PP to check if there is still space at the Waste Not Want Not event next week at Trafford Hall.</p>	<p>PP check availability at Trafford Hall.</p>
7.	<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. As of last report</p>	
8.	<p><u>In Bloom- P.Pinto</u></p> <p>Next Clean for the Queen event Wednesday 6th April, 9.30am to 1.00pm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Litter Picking - Weeding, pruning etc 	

	<p>Bath House Physic Garden group awarded £10k by the Tesco Bags of Help Scheme.</p> <p>Patti has spent another day with an RHS judge to both walk the route and pick up tips.</p> <p>In Bloom launch. Town centre 16th April 10.00am to 1.00pm.</p> <p>Britain In Bloom judging day confirmed as Monday 8th August.</p> <p>Community Orchard – First edible hedgerow (currant bushes) planted, second one to be done next few days. 7th/8th May Apple Care to be carved, MS to discuss signage with CEBC (Genni Butler) then let Astbury Mere Trust know of proposed plans.</p>	<p>MS contact G.Butler (CEBC)</p>
9.	<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. If the report is positive then DVCE will need to look at financing for the project.</p>	
10.	<p><u>Neighbourhood Plan Teams.</u></p> <p><i>Town Centre – S.Foster</i></p> <p>5th revised draft is about ready. Have taken in consideration the possible increase of population of around 10,000 based on the planned house building in and around Congleton and the amount of land within the town centre boundary that could be ripe for development. A 3rd public consultation document on the draft policy is planned for May/June.</p> <p><i>Transport Group – P.Minshull.</i></p> <p>PM has finalised the brief for technical support for the proposed travel survey and also the survey questionnaire itself. Both were forwarded to David McGifford and he has now sent out the tender documents to four prospective tenderers. PM and D Jones attended the Steering Group meeting, which is working towards the third round consultation.</p>	

	<p>Sustainability & Environmental Gp – P.Aston</p> <p>Working on final draft document policies and evidence base.</p>	
11.	<p><u>Group Reports.</u></p> <p>Commenting Team – P.Minshull.</p> <p>1. Tall Ash Farm – 250 dwellings off Buxton Road</p> <p>PM has received a response from the National Planning Casework Unit at DCLG and unfortunately they are not going to ‘call in’ this application. This is disappointing and as a result there is nothing further that can be done on this matter.</p> <p>2. Eco-home at Noahs Ark Farm Smallwood</p> <p>We supported this planning application as it is an exemplar eco-building. Following the refusal of planning permission by CEBC the applicant has gone to appeal. PM has written to PINS supporting the development. Now going to a full public enquiry Tues 9th Aug, PM will be away at that time, so will ask PA to stand in, we could well be asked for input on that day (written or spoken)</p> <p>3. Cheshire East BC Local Plan</p> <p>Following the various additional works and amendments requested by the Inspector, CEBC has now published the latest version the Local Plan and it is out for consultation until 19th April. PM will prepare a response.</p> <p>4. Seddon homes (Lamberts Lane) PM has had feedback / acknowledgement of his letter from DCLG stating that nothing will change the overall decision on the development.</p> <p>Apple Juice – P.Aston</p> <p>Nothing new to report.</p>	<p>PM to ask PA to attend in his place</p>

CSG Balance Sheet.

The balance sheet was issued to members prior to the meeting, balance stands at £2112.84.

Food4Free.

Report not due, ongoing work around Capitol Walk and Fairground Car Park.

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:

Jan: **Saint Mary's & Smallwood (renewals in, assessments in April);**

Mar: **Buglawton (renewal in, awaiting assessment date);**

June: Scholar Green

July: Black Firs & The Quinta;

Nov: Marfields & Mossley

Astbury, Havannah, Bosley, Daven (GF lapsed but working on GF topics now);

March

Time 2 change finals at AHCC (JRO's from Saint Mary's)

<p>Clean for the Queen events, town centre, Buglawton primary, Saint Mary's primary</p> <p>JRO training at town hall</p> <p>Weekly garden club at Saint Mary's</p> <p>GF assessment of high school in Meir</p> <p>Fairtrade fortnight activities (29 Feb to 12 Mar)</p> <p>CPD - RHS school gardening at Wellacre Academy, Manchester</p> <p>Contact made to visit Quinta and Havannah in April re GF renewal advice</p> <p>Congleton In Bloom/ Congleton Partnership/ CSG:</p> <p>7 Mar: In Bloom meeting</p> <p>7 Mar: CSG monthly meeting</p> <p>8 Mar: NWIB 10-3 with judge David Bielowski, draft in bloom route prepared</p> <p>14 Mar: Site visit Community orchard (planted edible hedgerow: red, white & black currants, with cowslips)</p> <p>WRV volunteering at Grozone, Northwich</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> <p><i>Carbon Reduction – M.Taylor</i></p>	
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	<p>Nothing to report on group activity, looking for new audiences for their Sustainable Living Workshop.</p> <p>MS discuss with CEBC / CVS to see what/whom they can suggest. There had been a group at last Octobers Older Persons Day (NLC) see if there is any interest from them.</p> <p>BF to circulate a report on Electric Cars.</p> <p>SECCAG/CCC – P.Hall</p> <p>No report received.</p>	<p>MS contact CVS / CEBC</p> <p>BF circulate Electric Car Report</p>
12.	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>BF to circulate information on the Good Energy Company (Green Energy Supplier)</p>	<p>BF circulate info on Good Energy Co.</p>
	<p><u>Meeting closed at 12.03pm.</u></p> <p><i>Next Meeting:- Monday 9th May – Plus Dane Boardroom.</i></p>	