

Meeting : Congleton Sustainability Group.

Date : 5.9.16 (Part 1) **Time:** 10.00am **Location:-** Old Saw Mill.

In attendance: P.Aston (Chair), M.Gartside, P.Pinto, S.Foster, M.Smith, P.Minshull, S.Halliday, Dewi Jones, G.Williams, P.Ranson ,B.Fox, M.Taylor, O.Whitmore, P.Hirst.

Guests:-

Item	Agenda Item / discussion	Action / comment
1	<p><u>Welcome and Introduction.</u></p> <p>Peter welcome all to the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Apologies.</u></p> <p>P.Hall, M.Axford</p>	
3.	<p><u>Minutes of the last meeting, matters arising (1.8.16)</u></p> <p>The notes from the last meeting were circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p><u>Matters arising were as follows:-</u></p> <p><i>Item 3. Apple Fest and School Orchard survey</i> .Still to be completed. PP/PA/SH to action.</p> <p><i>Item 3. Fracking.</i> Article for Chronicle still to be finalised.</p> <p><i>Item5. Marlfield School.</i> PA still to write to Sandie Isherwood</p>	<p>PP/PA/SH</p> <p>PA/BF</p> <p>PA.</p>
4.	<p><u>Approval of the Agenda.</u></p> <p>The agenda was taken as advised.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Congleton Co-Operative</u></p>	

	<p>Weekly newsletter continues to be sent out to a wide readership.</p> <p>Stewart issued a callout for a plumber a.s.a.p</p> <p>A lot of progress made since the last meeting, the commercial kitchen (ex Airbags) should go in during the next couple of weeks.</p> <p>Bank account still an issue but should be sorted this week.</p> <p>Rent (£400 per month) kicks in November.</p> <p>Are planning to sell breakfast baps on T O B Day</p>	
6.	<p><u>Congleton In Bloom</u></p> <p>Patti reported that the Bloom judges were very complimentary about Congleton and its community offering in general. Good interaction between them and the volunteers that they met. Results of both competitions will be announced mid to late October.</p> <p>Winter Tub planting (with the children) October</p> <p>Congleton park achieved its 9th Green Flag</p> <p>Secret garden progressing well at the Old Saw Mill</p> <p>Global Gardens – 2 weekends left for you to visit (Sat/Sun 2 to 4.00pm)</p>	
7.	<p><u>Dane Valley Community Energy – Havannah Hydro</u></p> <p>Nothing new to add, work being progressed on stage 2 application</p>	

	<p>Archimedes Screw preferred system.</p> <p>Energy to be sold to Siemens. Siemens to work with EBA on an energy / engineering project.</p> <p>PA to discuss the project with Cheshire East energy company (Cheshire Energy Network Ltd), GW to provide contact information</p> <p>PA discussing with EBA regarding a communications / PR project to hopefully encourage the public to want to invest in the scheme.</p>	<p>GW contact details to PA</p> <p>PA</p>
8.	<p><u>Neighbourhood Plan Draft</u></p> <p>Some frustration that the plan is taking longer than hoped for. There is a full day meeting planned for 6th October which will helpfully serve to speed things up.</p>	
9.	<p><u>Fracking</u></p> <p>Nothing new to report. PA/BF still to take this forward re Chronicle article. Waiting for a trigger of a planning application.</p>	PA / BF
10.	<p><u>Group Reports</u></p> <p><i>Treasurers Report.</i> Issued to members balance available to spend £3152.25</p> <p><i>Apple Juice.</i> Apples starting to come in, adverts posters / social media started. PP to put together a press release which will also advise residents what any profits are being spent on.</p> <p>First batch of apples will be processed at Dunham Massey, but labelled at the OSM. We should be processing ourselves by end of September.</p> <p><i>Eco Schools.</i></p> <p>9 schools with Green Flags in Congleton & District Eco cluster.</p>	PP apple press release

Astbury, Bosley, Daven & Havannah have lapsed to silver but working on GF topics now. W. Well, EBA, CHS on silver, all working towards GF. 12 Schools due to apply or renew their Green Flag status in 2016. Saint Mary's & Smallwood, awarded 4th Green Flags (April), Buglawton awarded 2nd GF on 6 July; Autumn: Scholar Green, Black Firs, The Quinta, Havannah, Astbury, Marlfields & Mossley.

August Eco

Updating eco schools via facebook, arranging world's largest lesson with Saint Mary's week com 18 September. PP to contact all local schools and encourage them to get involved in some way.

Cycling campaign report.

The Congleton Cycling Campaign are having a stall at the Congleton Cycling Club's Cheshire Sportive ride on Sunday 4th September, mid morning, from Congleton High School to promote everyday cycling. This stall will also be replicated at the start of Stage 3 of Tour of Britain in Congleton Town Centre on Tuesday 6th September from 08.00. We hope that many people will come to the start of the ToB and see many of the world's top cyclists in our little town. Bradley Wiggins and Mark Cavendish are among the riders. Let's make this a memorable day!

In advance of the ToB Congleton Town Council will be running a BikeRun event from Astbury Mere Country Park to the town centre on Saturday 3rd September to highlight the National Cycle Network in Congleton and how it can be used to cross town without resorting to your car. This starts at 11.00 at the Astbury Mere Visitor Centre.

Carbon reduction.

A new Green Living course will run for 8 weeks, starting on 6th October 2016 in U3A at St Johns Ambulance Station

8 people have signed up to date , Barry Fox and Mike Taylor are eager to resume the challenge to educate local people about climate change. They have workbooks, practical kit and other items to support the program.

It was felt that following a report from an earlier course member on their savings success we should contact others who had participated in the courses and see if we could get an average savings report together.

11.	<p>Commenting Team.</p> <p>1. Noah’s Ark eco-home</p> <p>The appeal into the refusal by CEBC for an eco-home at Smallwood was held this month. DJ represented us at the hearings and submitted the statement prepared by PM. In essence the appeal was about development in the Green Belt rather than the lack of innovation in the proposals (which was also one of the grounds for refusal). We will have to wait for the outcome of the appeal, usually about 2-3 months.</p> <p>2. Cheshire East BC Local Plan</p> <p>PM attend the Procedural Meeting on 23rd August. A detail programme has now been issued and CSG has been invited to attend 6 sessions, including a session on Congleton. PM will attend most of these but is unable to attend the session on Congleton – SF has volunteered to attend this session on our behalf.</p> <p>It is important to recognise that the hearings will only be dealing with the proposed changes to the Local Plan and will not be revisiting any other parts of the plan. Anyone wishing to attended have a discussion with PM first he can advise on the best days.</p> <p>3. Congleton Neighbourhood Plan – Transport Group</p> <p>PM has uploaded evidence and other general documents, which may become evidence, to the NP file sharing website (Box).</p> <p>PM and DJ have reviewed the draft NP issued last month in readiness for the next Steering Group meeting on 1st September.</p> <p>PM has reviewed and commented on the draft request from Timbersbrook for various interventions to address transport and travel issues in the area. In essence this has been drafted as a Community Request to CEBC – it is not clear at this stage how much of the evidence and how many of the interventions will be included in the NP.</p>	
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	<p>P.Hirst – Congleton Carnival. Peter suggested that CSG should look to have a float in the next Congleton Carnival (2018) This idea will be discussed nearer the time.</p> <p>PP. Apple Day - planned / agreed for Sunday 2nd October to be held at St Mary's School.</p>	
	<p><u>Next Meeting:-</u></p> <p>Mon 3rd October The Old Saw Mill ,10.00am</p>	