

Meeting : Congleton Sustainability Group.

Date : 9.1.17 **Time:** 10.00am **Location:- Old Saw Mill.**

In attendance: **P.Aston (Chair)**, P.Pinto, S.Foster, M.Smith, Dewi Jones, M.Taylor, M.Axford, S.Ackers Smith,G.Williams, P.Minshull

Guests:- John Cockell (Green Space Trust)

Item	Agenda Item / discussion	Action / comment
1	<u>Welcome and Introduction.</u> Peter welcome all to the meeting. Introductions and welcome to John Cockell (Green Space trust / Vale Allotments.	
2.	<u>Apologies.</u> P.Ranson ,B.Fox,P.Hall,M.Gartside,P.Hirst	
3.	<u>Minutes of the last meeting, matters arising (5.12.16)</u> No matters arising.	
4.	<u>Approval of the Agenda.</u> The agenda was taken as advised.	
5.	<u>Tour of Britain Legacy for Congleton – S Akers Smith</u> Suzie briefed the group on the latest developments. A handout was issued. 1. Held a meeting with Cllrs Brown and Williams. A Fisher CEBC head of planning also attended. CEBC keen to improve its cycling network and has agreed to help work out costs the works and also advise on the feasibility of the work planned. SAS issued a copy of the brochure used at the meeting to the members attending today's meeting. DB took copies along to CEBC for distribution to Cllrs and officers.	

	<p>2. Met with Fiona Bruce who both supported the plans and agreed to raise the issue of funding support across the board not just for deprived areas in Parliament.</p> <p>3. SAS attended a health and fitness meeting with Active Cheshire. They have access to a large funding pot and could help us develop our plans and also help us put a bid together. SAS has a meeting with their COO (Adam Norris) in the near future.</p> <p>4. Presenting to CTC on 2nd Feb which Active Cheshire will also attend. PA asked to attend the meeting on behalf of CSG. MS to pull together a resume of what The Partnership / CSG has done over the last few years to develop cycling.</p> <p>5. SAS looking to present to all Congleton Head Teachers at one of their CeCP meetings</p> <p>6. Have access to some DEFRA /Local Air Quality funding (£28K) ring fenced.</p> <p>7. SAS advised the group of a planned Triathlon being organised for Sunday 23rd April (subject to confirmation) more detail once available.</p>	<p>MS pull together a resume</p>
6.	<p><u>New Green Space – Mossley Water Tower.</u></p> <p>PP/MA have identified an area of approx. 20 x 10 mtrs near the Water Tower at Mossley which is owned by CEBC and maintained by Streetscape. It is felt that this could be a good site for a 2nd Community Orchard. Need to gauge local interest by leafleting and consultation (PP to action). Also need to contact United Utilities/CEBC for their reaction to such a project (PP) This is not currently being actively pursued as an In Bloom project. PP still to start the consultation to gauge local support / interest before any development takes place.</p>	<p>PP to arrange some consultation activity</p>
7.	<p>Community Walks – P.Aston</p> <p>First Community Walk for 2017 will take place on Friday 27th Janaury, Dewi Jones is work on PR / Eventbrite for the activity.</p>	<p>DJ working on PR for this activity.</p>
8.	<p><u>Congleton Cooperative OSM Project.</u></p> <p>Due to the resignation of S.Halliday the board of The Old Saw Mill has been restructured. This is now made up of:-</p>	

	<p>P.Aston , Anna Morrison & P.Ranson.</p> <p>Yvonne Phillips has been taken on for 10 hours per week on a paid basis.</p> <p>New facebook page “The Old Saw Mill”</p> <p>Dewi Jones to send copies of the newsletter to MS for wider circulation.</p> <p>SAS to work on helping OSM become a recognised cycling destination.</p> <p>MS contact Cathy Dean re a separate page for OSM on the Partnership website. Let Dewi have Cathy’s contact once agreement has been reached.</p>	<p>DJ newsletter to MS</p> <p>SAS work on cycling destination</p> <p>MS contact Cathy/website</p>
9.	<p><u>Dane Valley Community Energy.</u></p> <p>Land issue now agreed in principal, just price to be settled. Siemens have agreed to buy all the power produced. EBA also on board.</p> <p>Meeting arranged to work on loan application (£66K approx.) to DEFRA so that buying of the land, legals, permissions etc can commence. PA does not see this as an issue.</p> <p>Once underway we will need to work on a public PR event to gain financial support / set up a community share scheme.</p>	
10.	<p><u>Congleton Green Space Trust – Vale Allotments.</u></p> <p>John Cockell gave us an update of the development and short term plans for the Vale Allotments.</p> <p>The Green Space trust was set up on 27th Dec 2014, with its immediate aim being to save allotments but with a view of taking</p>	

	<p>on more green space projects in the future.</p> <p>John started by thanking CSG as a whole and Glen, Peter A and Peter R (now a GST member) in particular for help save the allotments for the people of Congleton.</p> <p>An interim allotment management group has been formed from GST members with Peter Wright as secretary. A full committee will be set up in the near future.</p> <p>There are currently 20 separate allotments on the site although if applications indicate a need for some may be let a half allotments.</p> <p>Currently 7 former allotment holders have applied to carry on, 2 allotments are currently laid down to orchards and will be retained, with a further 2 being allocated for community use. Application forms are going to be made available this week.</p> <p>It is planned that initially the general public will have access during open days when the can both view what is going on and hopefully pick up some gardening tips at the same time. JC to discuss with Chris Jones availability of benches that CTC may now longer have need of.</p> <p>Initial issues are around providing water, toilets, storage, paths and some raised beds (community plots) along with raising funds to pay back the loans that made purchasing the site possible.</p> <p>Fees will be payable from Oct 2017 once people have got up and running.</p> <p>Looking to set up a Vale Allotments Gardening Association where members could benefit from bulk buying trips, sharing expertise etc.</p> <p>Need to access funding to support some cover / storage.</p>	<p>JC discuss benches with C.Jones</p>
11.	<p><u>Neighbourhood Plan.</u></p> <p>Nothing to add, DJ to contact Andrew Thomson.</p> <p>MS follow up at the office.</p>	<p>DJ contact A.Thomson.</p> <p>MS emailed the group 10.1.17</p>

12.	<p><u>Fracking - B.Fox.</u></p> <p>BF's paper has been circulated and summary of impact around fracking being worked on for the next Partnership Executive Meeting (March) so that the Exec can state their stance on this subject.</p>	
13.	<p><u>Group Reports</u></p> <p><i>Treasurers Report.</i> Circulated to members prior to the meeting.</p> <p><i>Apple Juice.</i></p> <p>1400 bottles of Apple Juice produced by Dunham Massey) around 600 left in stock.</p> <p>2500 Litres of Cider laid down.</p> <p>Dunham Massey still have around 400 litres of Cider ready for sale.</p> <p><i>Eco Schools.</i></p> <p>9 schools with Green Flags in Congleton & District Eco cluster.</p> <p>Congratulations to MARLFIELDS (awarded 5th GF late Nov), also awarded £12000 from Tesco Bags to help; Black Firs (awarded 4th Green flag on 16 Nov), Scholar Green & The Quinta awaiting assessment (27 Jan); Mossley (applic in prep) Havannah, Astbury, . Bosley, Daven have lapsed to silver but working on GF topics now. W. Well, EBA, CHS on silver, all working towards GF.</p> <p>Working with Saint Mary's and their Apple Juice project.</p> <p>Congleton In Bloom/ Congleton Partnership/ CSG:</p> <p>1 Dec: Tree planting at AMCP</p>	

<p>3 Dec: CSG selling apple juice etc at Rode hall mrkt</p> <p>5 Dec: CSG meeting; WDT grant meeting</p> <p>6 Dec: Cong Partnership meeting</p> <p>9 Dec: In Bloom meeting</p> <p>19 Dec: Crocus planting in Congleton Park with Jo Money & vols from Saint Mary's</p> <p>New facebook page set up for The Old Saw Mill</p> <p>WDT Grant awarded to CSG towards making new front garden at the Old Saw Mill and orchard maintenance.</p> <p>Publicity:</p> <p>Photography & Press articles on eco-schools/In Bloom/CSG activities sent to & published by the Congleton Chronicle.</p> <p>PP continues to admin facebook pages [Congleton In Bloom, Congleton Food4free & CSG, Old Saw Mill & Saint Mary's Garden Club pages]</p> <p><i>Carbon Reduction Team.</i></p> <p>Assisting in selling Congleton Apple juice at December Rode Hall market = 5hrs</p> <p>December CSG meeting = 2hrs</p> <p>Total volunteer hours = 7hrs</p> <p>Still working on information regarding insulation installation for the Old Sawmill.</p> <p>Will look at setting up a SLIC activity at OSM (even if only a taster)</p>	
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	<p><i>Cycling Campaign.</i></p> <p>No formal report, long term project plans discussed earlier at the meeting.</p> <p><i>Commenting Team.</i></p> <p>No report this month, reading planning applications as submitted. Local plan appears to be progressing towards adoption.</p> <p><i>Food4Free.</i></p> <p>Report available for next meeting.</p>	
11.	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>SAS. To talk to CCC re holding their meetings at OSM once the rugby club move to a new site.</p> <p>PA. Working on new Congleton Cooperative Signage, one to be site on chip shop wall.</p> <p>YMCA Hanley. Have invited members to their opening events. Orchard opening 3.2.17 MA to attend – Juicing demonstration 18th Feb PA and PA to attend.</p> <p>Cheshire Energy Network – District Heating. GW advised of a new CEBC arms length company which is looking to develop solar Energy and create energy for areas (district energy). GW requested that we support CEBC in this venture, it is very much in its early days as a project.</p>	
	<p><u>Next Meeting:-</u></p> <p>Mon 6th February 2017 The Old Saw Mill ,10.00am</p>	