

**Meeting : Congleton Sustainability Group.**

**Date :** 8.5.17      **Time:** 10.00am      **Location:- Old Saw Mill.**

**In attendance: P.Aston (Chair), M.Gartside, S.Foster, M.Smith, Dewi Jones, P.Minshull, B.Fox & P.Hall**

Guests:-

Item	Agenda Item / discussion	Action / comment
1	<p><b><u>Welcome and Introduction.</u></b></p> <p>Peter Aston chaired the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p><b><u>Apologies.</u></b></p> <p>G.Williams, M.Taylor &amp; P.Pinto</p>	
3.	<p><b><u>Minutes of the last meeting, matters arising (3.4.17)</u></b></p> <p><i>Item 1. OSM Page on Partnership Website.</i> MS contacted Cathy Dean requesting that a separate page be set up for OSM.</p> <p><i>Item 1. Signage.</i> MS confirmed that 2 new signs have been ordered and should be delivered in the next 2 weeks.</p> <p>(a) New Blue sign “The Old Saw Mill” for lamppost No.2</p> <p>(b) Finger post opposite Weatherspoons double with OSM / Electric Picture House.</p> <p><i>Item 1. Cycle rack.</i> PH has contacted Belmont, still to negotiate a price. PH to follow up.</p> <p><i>Item 8 Cycle Path / Plans.</i> CEBC cycling strategy leave a little to be desired as far as SCCAG are concerned. A meeting has been arranged for 15<sup>th</sup> May with D.Brown, a team from Cheshire East Council and cyclists from across the whole of Cheshire East</p>	<p><b>MS</b></p> <p><b>PH</b></p>
4.	<p><b><u>Approval of the Agenda.</u></b></p>	

	The agenda was taken as advised.	
5.	<p><b><u>BF Fracking paper update.</u></b></p> <p>A precis of Barry's Fracking article appeared in The Chronicle 13.4.17. This has drawn little response in general terms</p> <p>Following the discussions held at the last Partnership executive meeting PA wrote to D.Brown and various members of CEBC, as of yet no reply has been received either on fracking or thermal energy development.</p> <p>MS add to the next [partnership Exec Agenda (6<sup>th</sup> June) to find out the state/update on Fracking Licences across Cheshire East.</p> <p>Barry to now move onto a " Clear Air Project"</p>	<p><b>MS action</b></p> <p><b>BF Clear air project</b></p>
6.	<p><b><u>Dane Valley Community Energy.</u></b></p> <p>Public meeting being held at Eaton Bank Academy, Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 6.30pm.River bank purchase agreed with Eaton Fly Fishers. Planning permission meeting this week.</p> <p>Feedback indicates a lot of interest being shown.</p>	
7.	<p><b><u>Neighbourhood Plan.</u></b></p> <p>Dewi Jones meeting with A Thompson 8.5.17</p> <p>Steering group meeting planned for Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May.</p>	
8.	<p><b><u>Congleton Cooperative OSM Project.</u></b></p> <p>Break in last week resulted in the loss of close on £250</p>	

	<p>Latest challenge, PA has applied for a premises licence, a number of objectors have contacted Cheshire East.</p> <p>Peter sent a paper into the licence committee as requested.</p>	
9.	<p><b><u>Congleton Green Space Trust.</u></b></p> <p>No actual report this month.</p> <p>Work going on to turn it into a charitable trust.</p> <p>Any donations / investment still showing in CSG accounts.</p>	
10.	<p><b><u>Cycle Path Plans.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Cycling Issues SAS May 2017</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The cycling legacy ideas continues to grow in support not only from Congleton Town Council but also from Cheshire East Council.</li> <li>2. SAS recently met with both Cllr Rachael Bailey and David Brown who have both agreed that even though we have a cycling strategy in place, we do not have any cycling policies in place. This is something they are going to look into with the different cycling groups.</li> <li>3. SAS recently presented the cycling legacy ideas at the Town Meeting and received questions. Nearly 70 people attended the meeting and there were a number of questions.</li> <li>4. SAS has produced a questionnaire to find out what the appetite from the public is in support of cycling. Questionnaire attached, please feel free to forward and ask people to return them to the TIC.</li> <li>5. Cllr David Brown has bought a bike, helmet, cycling shorts, track pump, gloves is now cycling on a regular basis. This support from a Cllr with such responsibility for highways is adding a lot of weight to developing the cycling strategy in Congleton and CE as much as possible. We need to maximise on this because he may not still be in this position after the 2019 election.</li> <li>6. We had a meeting with the Canals and Rivers Trust to see if they are in support of the portion of the Congleton</li> </ol>	

	<p>Circumnavigation that could utilise the tow path. There is to be a follow up meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> May to walk along the canal to see how this section could become a cycle way.</p> <p>7. The Town Council Health and Well Being Group are going to meet to look at how cycling can help improve the activity of Congleton residents and the sustainability of the Town.</p> <p>8. There is continued support for the Cycling and Walking Country Park with a view to where this could be located. This is something that once we have ear marked the land we can then apply for funding and with British Triathlon supporting such projects, if they agree to support it, they will match funds any monies that we raise.</p> <p>Concern that developers are promising one thing and delivering another in respect to planning applications and actual build. PH gave a couple of examples where this had happened. PM to work with PH to tackle the problem, raise with the enforcement officer appropriate in the first instance before escalating to Shaun Hannaby.</p> <p>PA to raise the issue at the next Partnership Exec Meeting 6.6.17.</p> <p>PH to discuss with SECCAG 9.5.17</p>	<p><b>PM to work with PH on this issue</b></p> <p><b>PA raise at Partnership Exc</b></p>
11.	<p><b><u>Green space / Mossley.</u></b></p> <p>Carry over</p>	
12.	<p><b><u>Community Walks</u></b></p> <p>Carry over</p>	
13.	<p><b><u>Group Reports</u></b></p> <p><b><i>Treasurers Report.</i></b></p> <p>Circulated to members prior to the meeting.</p>	

***Apple Juice.***

552 bottles AJ in stock

36 bottles / 40L cider in stock

2500L cider laid down at OSM

***Eco Schools.***

**Note: 14 GF schools in CE** 12 GF schools in CW&C

**9 schools with Green Flags in Congleton & District Eco cluster.**

For the rest of 2017: Mossley (assessment on 24 May for 4<sup>th</sup> GF), Marton due to renew by 1 Oct (for 3<sup>rd</sup> GF). Havannah, Astbury, Bosley, Daven have lapsed to silver, but working on GF topics, W. Well, EBA, CHS on silver, all working towards GF.

Marfields Tesco bags of help grant awarded: for an allotment: in contact with Vale Allotments & Marfields; visited Vale allotments with MG & John Cockell.

Weekly Garden club at Saint Mary's

**Congleton In Bloom/ Congleton Partnership/ CSG:**

3 Apr: CSG meeting;

11 Apr: CIB stall at Easter treats

26 Apr: In Bloom meeting

27 Apr: WDT meeting

Apr, Wed 1-3pm : Visyon (with MG)to help with their garden near Cong park

For In Bloom NWIB, PP visited BHPG (re open day on 13 May) & Jubilee Club, allotment;

Orchard maintenance: Margaret's place & AMCP Community orchard

Back to back gardens project, theme for 2017: The Bug Gardens, 10 confirmed, community polytunnel assessed for spacing etc of small gardens

**Publicity:**

Photography & Press articles on eco-schools/In Bloom/CSG activities sent to & published by the Congleton Chronicle.

PP continues to admin facebook pages, adding articles, photos, events etc [Congleton In Bloom, Congleton Food4free & CSG, Old Saw Mill & Saint Mary's Garden Club pages]

***Cycling Campaign.***

Report earlier in these minutes.

***Commenting Team.***

1. Seddon Development off Canal Road

PM represented and spoke on behalf of CSG at the CEBC Southern Planning Committee 29<sup>th</sup> March. The committee raised a number of issues they had with the application including our concern of insufficient bungalows (contrary to the Local Plan and emerging Congleton Neighbourhood Plan) they asked that a decision be deferred to allow the applicant to address these concerns. The application did not return to the April meeting of the committee so it is now expected to be considered at the May meeting. PM will review any revisions to the application and if necessary speak on behalf of CSG at the meeting

2. Development west of Manchester Road

PM submitted a response on behalf of CSG to the application for development west of Manchester Road. While the principle of development is OK as it is included in the CEBC Local Plan there are issues with access, particularly regarding sustainable travel and road safety.

	<p>3. Bellway development off Waggs Road</p> <p>PM attended the site visit and subsequently spoke on behalf of CSG at the CEBC Strategic Planning Board on 19<sup>th</sup> April. The application was refused on the grounds of road safety and impact on open countryside. We will have to wait and see if the applicant will appeal.</p> <p>4. Congleton Neighbourhood Plan – Transport Group</p> <p>No progress this month but the NP steering group are due to meet on 11<sup>th</sup> May to review the draft NP in advance of going to Regulation 14 consultation.</p> <p><b>Food4Free.</b> Report not due.</p> <p><b>Carbon Reduction.</b> No report this month. BF to discuss with MT re running a SLIC course at OSM.</p>	
14.	<p><b><u>AOB</u></b></p> <p><b>Cheshire Wild Life Trust Report.</b> PA suggests that we read pages 23 -25, recommendations to protect a habitat.</p> <p>There are a series of actions that begs an action plan from CSG.</p> <p>PA suggest that we spend time over the next 3 to4 meetings to draw up an action plan on tackling some of these. PA to discuss with M.Axford and J.Swann.</p> <p><b>Transition NW.</b> Have a regional workshop on Sat 13<sup>th</sup> May, Hatton Mill, Lancaster for anyone wishing to go along.</p> <p><b>Electric Car Charging Points.</b> Congleton looks likely to lose its 2 EV points to Macclesfield because of the planned Mill Development. MS to write to CEBC (Phil Mason) expressing our disappointment, and asking for a further review</p>	<p><b>PA discuss with MA / J.Swann</b></p> <p><b>MS write to P.Mason (CEBC)</b></p>

	<p>of the situation.</p> <p><b>Litter Pick Teams.</b>– 2<sup>nd</sup> town litter pick held over the weekend (New Life Church area), next one planned for Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 10 to 12.00, Bromley farm play area.</p> <p><b>Fiona Dixon.</b> Fiona a post graduate at Leeds University is completing a piece of work on “How community based organisations that promote sustainable practices persist over time” To help in her research she would like to interview some of our members. The interviews would last around an hour.</p> <p>PA to suggest Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May to her.</p>	<p><b>Litter pick 3.6.17</b></p> <p><b>PA write to Fiona, re 18<sup>th</sup> May.</b></p>
	<p><b><u>Next Meeting:-</u></b></p> <p><b>Mon 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017 The Old Saw Mill ,10.00am</b></p>	