

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 2nd February 2017

PRESENT: Councillors

Mrs S Akers Smith
Mrs A L Armitt
L D Barker
P Bates
C H Booth (Deputy Mayor and Vice Chairman)
G R Edwards (Ex-Officio)
G P Hayes
Mrs S A Holland (Chairman)
Mrs A Martin
Mrs J D Parry
G S Williams

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs A E Morrison.
Apologies were also received from Cllr D T Brown (ex-officio member) and non-Committee member Cllr Mrs D S Allen.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

CES/39/1617 Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to declare both “pecuniary” and “non-pecuniary” interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

Cllrs P Bates, G P Hayes and G.S Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in any matters related to Cheshire East Council.

4. Outstanding Actions

There were no outstanding actions.

5. Cheshire Police

To receive and consider a verbal report from a representative of Cheshire Police.
The report covered:

Speeding Biddulph Road – Community Speedwatch has been out supported by speed enforcement by the Community Beat Team. 7 x verbal warnings issued. Generally positive from residents and on social media.

SID device on Canal Road in area has captured data that shows majority of drivers are sticking to limit. Further work and discussions being held with Cheshire East Council's Traffic Manager

Rural crime – joint operation with Staffordshire Police targeting border areas of Congleton/Macclesfield and Staffordshire deterring travelling criminals who are looking to steal plant machinery and farm equipment. It was a successful operation, no offences. Positive feedback from residents, a lot of reassurance visits and contact. Social media campaign to promote rural watch, horse watch and Cheshire alerts.

Rise in suspicious incidents being reported - Pleased that residents are calling 101 and reading Cheshire alerts. Common issue around criminals trying car door handles and in gardens, on-going enquiries and some forensics work to be progressed. Urge residents to keep calling and letting the Police know what is happening.

Anti-Social Behaviour down but still some issues at Princess Street, work ongoing with partner agencies.

Burglaries, vehicle crime and burglary in outbuildings are at a low level. A number of prolific offenders in custody may be the reason.

Overall a positive Christmas period – operation targeting retail premises and criminals worked well. Dedicated officers working on high visibility patrols in town.

6. Cycling Legacy for Congleton

To receive a presentation on ideas for a Congleton Tour of Britain Cycling Legacy from:

CES/40/1617 Resolved to receive the presentation from Cllr S Akers Smith which outlined proposals for improving the connections of the current cycle network, creating a circular cycling route around Congleton and the development of a walking, cycling country park.

7. Floral Arrangement Working Group

To receive the minutes of the Floral Arrangement Working Group held on 9th November 2016.

CES/41/1617 Resolved to receive the minutes of the Floral Arrangement Working Group dated 9th November 2016.

8. Public Realm Improvements

To receive an update from the Town Centre and Marketing Manager on the agreed specification for the Public Realm Improvements.

CES/42/1617 Resolved to receive the verbal update from the Town Centre and Marketing Manager, who stated that agreement on materials and furnishings had been agreed with the Public Realm Steering Group and work was due to commence hopefully in the spring following completion of the gasworks.

9. Treo Memorial

To receive a report from the Town Centre and Marketing Manager on the proposed memorial for Treo.

CES/43/1617 Resolved to inform Steve Ashton that Congleton Town Council would be delighted to accept the gift of the statue on behalf of Congleton with the aim of locating the statue to the cenotaph side of the Community Garden.

ACTION: Town Centre and Marketing Manager to carry out further research on the suitability of the site and the Rowan Tree before, if appropriate, submitting a planning application.

10. St Peter's Churchyard Improvements

To receive a report from the Streetscape Supervisor with regards to improvements to St Peter's Churchyard.

CES/44/1617 Resolved to receive the report from the Streetscape Supervisor.

11. Congleton Paddling Pool Improvements

To receive a report from the Facilities & Developments Manager with regards to improvements to Congleton Paddling Pool.

CES/45/1617 Resolved to receive the report from Facilities and Developments Manager and approve the recommendation to replace the surface surrounding the pool, subject to financial approval.

12. Completion of Public Toilets

To receive a report from the Chief Officer on the completion of the refurbishment of Market Street Public toilets.

CES/46/1617 Resolved to receive the report from the Chief Officer on the completion of the Market Street Public Toilets.

13. Connection of Greenfield and Radnor Park Industrial Estates

To approve the proposed investigation from Cllr Mrs A M Martin into the linking of Greenfield and Radnor Park Industrial Estates.

CES/47/1617 Resolved to receive the report from Cllr A Martin and the proposal to formally request Cheshire East Council to outline their plans in restricting heavy goods vehicles using the residential part of Back Lane.

14. Big Data Small User

To receive a report from the Town Centre and Marketing Manager on the progress of the Big Data Small User Project.

CES/48/1617 Resolved to receive the report from the Town Centre and Marketing Manager.

**Cllr Mrs S A Holland
(Chairman)**