

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	27 June 2024 7pm	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Jackie MacArthur, Communities and Marketing Manager and Deputy Chief Officer		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	12 Summer Play Days		
Summary	<p>This paper is to inform councillors about the work that has been taking place to organise and host weekly play days in Congleton Town Centre during the 2024 Summer School Holidays.</p> <p>This is a new project for the Town Council if successful councillors may wish to include the project in the business planning as something that the Council would wish to fund in the future.</p>		
Background	<p>Congleton Town Council has worked with Congleton Community Projects over a number of years to put on a Play Day in the summer holidays. This is usually early in August and recognises National Play Day.</p> <p>The Play Day has been well received by traders in town, with many stating that it made the day feel like a Saturday for footfall and sales. Last year there was a request to increase the frequency of the play days to encourage more people into the town centre.</p> <p>In the application that Congleton Town Council submitted for E8 Communities and Place funding from Cheshire East Council – encouraging people to visit and explore the local area, one of the initiatives submitted for funding was 6 play days – one a week throughout the summer holidays. £4,200 from the UKSPF has been set aside for this project, which the Town Centre and Events Officer has taken a lead on organising.</p> <p>Rachel McCarthy is organising six play days, one on each Tuesday in the school summer holiday from 10.30 am – 2.30 pm in the pedestrian area. Each has a different theme and will include activities and music. This could be subject to change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tuesday 23 July – Drumming and Music Day• Tuesday 30 July – Junk Modelling Day• Tuesday 6 August - Olympic Games Day• Tuesday 13 August – Traditional Play Day (with Community Projects)• Tuesday 20 August – Photo Snappy Day• Tuesday 27 August – Comic Art and Flyaway Day <p>Promotion is starting to go out about the days. Note. Activities could be subject to change.</p>		

	More volunteers are required to help make the days even more fun. The activities will take place in the pedestrian area. We welcome other groups joining in if they can enhance the theme.
Financial Implications	In 2024 the financial costs are being met through the UKSPF fund and time to the project given by the Town Council Marketing and Events Team. If successful and the Town Council wanted to run a regular programme of summer fun days, then a budget would need to be found for future years.
Environmental Implications	The environmental impact of each day will be kept to a minimum with support from local groups and organisations and activities encouraging children to reuse and recycle where possible.
Equality and Diversity	Every effort will be made to make sure that activities are suitable or can be made suitable for all who wish to take part. Advice will be sought from the Equal Access Advisory Group.
Decision Requested	To note this report and add any comments, observations or actions.