

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – REGENERATION WORKING GROUP

3rd June 2024 10am – 11am

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

1. PRESENT:

Committee members

- **Cllr Russell Chadwick (Chair)**
- Cllr Kay Wesley
- Cllr Amanda Martin
- Cllr Susan Mead (via Zoom call)

Non-Committee Members: Bob Edwards

Officers: David McGifford, Jackie MacArthur and Rachel McCarthy

• APOLOGIES:

Cllr Robert Douglas, Suzy Firkin, David Brown

1. Draft agenda approved

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting held 1st March 2024

Approved.

3. Appoint a new chair – Russell Chadwick was nominated and approved

4. Town Centre Repairs List

A list of potential works has been compiled. A value needs to be put against the works, this will be taken to business planning and then Council.

Ideally, look at this list and identify which areas may be Streetscape, report for meeting. CEC has no budget to clean signage, parishes are doing this themselves. Ideally would like a formal agreement with CEC that CTC will take responsibility for this and the street furniture such as benches on the pedestrian area.

What as a town council do we take responsibility for, all needs documenting

ACTION CEC - (WE WILL PICK THIS UP)

CEC assets are not on our asset register, but we maintain things like street furniture, that need transferring so that we can repair them.

Highways, we need to write to them regarding road surface signage, CEC are not fixing the street signs.

ACTION DMcG – Value costs of repairs then take to business planning.

5. Totally Locally

Few concerns over CMQ piggybacking on our the Town's four main events in the year, rather than creating new events. Noted that the Independent Street monthly market has now stopped.

Prickly Peach have been commissioned to produce a video for Totally Locally, promoting independent businesses. There is also a website and Facebook page, its free marketing, Debbie will push and share Totally Locally posts.

ACTION DMcG – Speak to Nick Hynes regarding lease on the market area .

Quarterbridge have been appointed by CEC regarding the market area. Aware of some anti-social behaviour in the market area. Action to find out if CEC temporary CCTV can be used in this area (Action Jackie).

ACTION RACHEL – push Totally Locally next two weeks, get more people signed and push out point of sale.

6. Town Centre Health Check Report

The group briefly discussed a Town Centre Health Check produced by People and Places. This report is based on ground floor units, not population size and as well as checking a number of key performance indicators for Congleton, also compares this with other towns. It was funded via Levelling Up Funds.

It shows trends, concerns, parking, crime etc

ACTION JMACA – distribute to all councillors and Bob, link into business planning. Highlight key aspects of the report that could be used in funding applications or to support improvements for the town.

7. Toilets

Ongoing issue for Congleton. Raised by 63% of people in the Health Check of Congleton. Looking into three key areas

1. Library - can we gain CEC permission to signpost to the toilets in the library or can anything be done to open up the toilets in the basement?
2. Toilets in Capital Walk – getting the legal position made clear.
3. Toilets in the Market area

We now have more evidence from the health check report to support the need for toilets.

ACTION DMCG – Ask CEC to sort out the library toilets, can we take over the lease from CEC for the bus station toilets

8. A.O.B

Ideas for next agenda, email to Rachel

Next agenda send to everyone as a draft so that everyone can add to agenda if required.

Electric boxes are mentioned again, how can we make these look better in town?

Next meeting 19th August 10 am