

## Congleton In Bloom Working Group

### 27<sup>th</sup> January @ 9.30am Meeting, Minutes

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Members are respectfully reminded of the necessity to submit any apology for absence in advance and to give a reason for non- attendance.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** Members are requested to declare both “pecuniary” and “non-pecuniary” interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

David Brown- Cheshire East Borough Council

Patti Pinto- William Dean Trust, Congleton Partnership, Friends of Congleton Park, Friends of Community Garden

Glen Williams- Bromley Farm, Congleton Partnership, Friends of Congleton Park

Margaret Gartside- Congleton Partnership, Friends of Community Garden, Astbury Mere Trust

Bob Edwards- Congleton Partnership, Friends of Congleton Park Friends of Community Garden, Astbury Mere Trust

Sue Conway – Friends of Community Garden, Friends of Community Garden

Heather Seddon- Cheshire East Borough Council

3. **Apologies** – Cllr Russell Chadwick,

4. **In Bloom Budget as of 1 April 2025 –**

- Update on Budget decision for 2025/26 from CTC,
- Statement out on budget update on social media and Chronicle,
- Reminder to all budget are tight and costs are going up each year with inflation

5. **volunteer sites going forward**

- Reminder for insurance purposes that the Town Council need to know when and where any volunteers will be working before hand.
- Volunteer Expenses

6. **Britain In Bloom Judging requirements and info sent out**

- RHS Britain in Bloom Finalists’ Seminar. This optional event will take place online on Zoom on **Wednesday 5 March (morning)**.
- judging period will run from **28 July - 15 August 2025**
- **Press announcement:** This year, we are asking finalists to hold off making announcements until **Friday 24 January ( press release and social media posts send out by DC)**
- **Award Ceremony** – The award ceremony this year will take place in October and will be a daytime event

7. AOB

- PP – Start of a Calendar ( send to DC to turn into Social Media )
- Email out to RHS the Hotel options and preferred dates for BiB Judging
- Arrange a meeting to go through draft route with North West Judges Alan and Theresa
- Quad Bike Sponsorship
- Wildflower area opportunities,
  - long wall at the side of the fire station
  - St Peters Church
- Theme for this year People and Plant for mental health

- Arrange for shop front competition, incorporating either VE Day or mental health people and plant
- Love your street campaign
- Report going to environment committee on 6.2.25 regarding use of community polly tunnel for further community groups and work shops