



Congleton Town Council

Historic Market Town

Chief Officer: **David McGifford CiLCA**

17TH January 2025

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Environment Committee to be held at Congleton Town Hall on **Thursday 6th February 2025 at 7.00 pm.**

- **The Public and Press are welcome to attend the meeting, please note** - There will be 15 minutes at each meeting to receive any questions from Members of the Public, either verbally or at the meeting, including those which have been received in writing 7 days prior to the meeting.
- There may be confidential items towards the end of the meeting which the law requires the Council to make a resolution to exclude the public and press in accordance with Section 100 (B) (2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Please note this committee meeting is as a Paperless Council unless otherwise requested.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David McGifford', with a flourish at the end.

David McGifford

CHIEF OFFICER

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

Members are reminded of the necessity to give apologies in advance of the meeting and to give reasons for absence.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings (Enclosed)

To approve and [sign the minutes of the Environment Committee held on 28th November 2024 as a correct record.](#)

3. Declarations of Interest

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

4. Outstanding Actions (Enclosed)

To review any outstanding actions from previous meetings.

Date of Meeting	Item Number	Details of Action	By who	Latest Update	Progress
11.07.24	Item 4	In Bloom to actively promote in Bear Necessities and on social media, the reduction in costs and numbers of plants planted for Congleton in Bloom	RB/DM		In Progress
11.07.24	Item 12	Biodiversity Update - Look into signage for the rivers and canals as well as our biodiversity signage on our open spaces, signage to have Congleton Town Council and logo on the signs.	RB		In Progress
26.9.24	Item 5	CEC replanting Scheme when trees are felled	RB	Email sent and policy being looked into ANSA do not	In Progress

				have a policy led by CEC	
26.9.24	ENV/12/2425	Contact the local MP and PPC on further closure of Household Waste and Recycling Centres and the current affect this has with the increase of fly-tipping, letter to completed by CTC Officers and sent to Cllrs for comment.			Not Started
28.11.24	ENV/21/2425	Green Working Group to look into further farm land opportunities	Green WG	via trees for congleton groups and green WG	In Progress
28.11.24	ENV/22/2425	Laise with Housing associations within Congleton on there fly tipping figures and possibility of skip clearance days in hot spots sites	RB		In Progress
28.11.24	ENV/24/2425	A budget line proposal to go forward in the business plan on Biodiversity infrastructure	DMcG		Not Started
28.11.24	ENV/22/2426	request funding support from CEC in lieu of 'pop up waste facility'			Not Started

5. Questions from Members of the Public

There will be 15 minutes at each meeting to receive any questions from Members of the Public, either verbally at the meeting, including those which have been received in writing 7 days prior to the meeting.

6. Urgent Items

Members may raise urgent items related to this Committee, but no discussion or decisions may be taken at the meeting.

7. Congleton In Bloom Working Group (Enclosed)

To receive the notes from the Congleton in Bloom Working Group held on 6th December 2024.

8. Green Working Group (Enclosed)

To receive the notes of the Green Working Group held on 5th December 2024.

9. Streetscape Trading Account (Enclosed)

To receive the Streetscape Trading account report.

10. Streetscape Update (Enclosed)

To receive the report relating to the Streetscape Services.

11. Carbon Footprint Summary (Enclosed)

To receive updates and comments regarding the Town Council Carbon Footprint.

12. Community Skip Day.

To receive a report on the potential of having community skip days within Congleton.

13. Green Fayre Update

To receive updates and comments regarding the Congleton Green Fayre being held on 27th September 2025.

14. Paperless Council Next Steps

To receive updates and comments regarding the next steps for a Paperless Council.

15. Community Polly Tunnel

To receive a report on the potential change of use for the Community Polly Tunnel.

16. Cheshire East Report (verbal update)

To receive a verbal update on items of interest from the Cheshire East Environment and Communities Committee from the Ward Councillor.

To: Members of the Community Committee

Cllrs: Suzy Firkin (Chair), Heather Pearce (Vice Chair)
Suzie Akers Smith, Charles Booth, Dave Brown, Sally Ann Holland, Amanda Martin, Susan Mead, Heather Seddon, Glen Williams.

Ex Officio: Cllr Kay Wesley (Mayor) Robert Brittain (Deputy Mayor)
Other members of the Council for Information, Police, Honorary Burgess (5), Press (3), Congleton Library, Congleton Information Centre.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on
Thursday 28th November 2024**

Please Note – These are draft minutes and will not be ratified until the next meeting of this Committee

For the papers discussed at the meeting, please see the **Agenda & Papers – 28th November**

In attendance:

Committee members: **Cllrs**

Suzy Firkin (Chair)
Amanda Martin
Susan Mead
Heather Seddon
Glen Williams

Non-Committee Members: **Cllrs**

Robert Brittain
Kay Wesley

Congleton Town Council Officers:

- David McGifford – Chief Officer
- Ruth Burgess – Streetscape Development Manager

Members of the public: None

Speaker: United Utilities Representatives x 2

Minutes

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for the absence were received from:

Cllrs: Heather Pearce (Vice Chair), Charles Booth, Sally Ann Holland

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

ENV/17/2425 Resolved to approve and sign the minutes of the Environment Committee held on 26 September 2024 as a correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were received from Cllr Heather Seddon on matters related to Cheshire East Borough Council, and Cllr Glen Williams related to agenda item 11. Allotments.

4. Outstanding Actions

Appendix A – Actions updated

5. Questions from Members of the Public

None received.

6. Urgent Items

Urgent items received at the meeting:

Cllr K Wesley – Concern over CEBC change over to three weekly refuse collection

Cllr A Martin – Concern over planning policy and tree replacement.

7. Congleton Waste Water Treatment

Presentation received from United Utilities representative on the following matters:

- Update River Dane Project 2020-2025
- Current Congleton UU Projects
- Storm Overflows and future investments
- River Rangers and Future Events

8. Congleton in Bloom Working Group

ENV/18/2425 resolved to receive an update from Congleton in Bloom Working Group

A vote of thanks to all the CTC Staff and volunteers who work all year to achieve the high standards and awards.

9. Green Working Group

ENV/19/2425 resolved To receive the notes of the Green Working Group held on 3rd October

10. Streetscape Trading Account

ENV/20/2425 resolved to receive the Streetscape Trading account report.

11. Allotments

ENV/21/2425 resolved to receive the report

Action – Green Working Group to look into further farmland opportunities

Action – Capture further allotment figures across Congleton including community sites.

12. Streetscape Report

ENV/22/2425 resolved To receive the report relating to the Streetscape Services.

Action – Liaise with Housing associations within Congleton on their fly tipping figures and the possibility of skip clearance days in hot spot sites

Action – request funding support from CEC in lieu of ‘pop up waste facility’

13. Carbon Footprint

ENV/23/2425 resolved to receive updates and comments regarding the Town Council Carbon Footprint.

14. Biodiversity Infrastructure

ENV/24/2425 resolved to note the costs of the site-specific biodiversity plan and the next steps.

Action – A budget line proposal to go forward in the business plan on Biodiversity infrastructure

Action – Proposals to emphasise the need for resident consultation on each site

15. Cheshire East Report (verbal update)

Received a verbal update from Cllr Heather Seddon on matters relating to Cheshire East Borough Council :

- New bin strategy will be in place in April 2026
 - o Weekly Food Waste collection
 - o Black Bin Household waste 3 weekly collection
 - o New team of waste educators and enforces

Cllr Suzy Firkin
(Chair)

Appendix A

Date of Meeting	Item Number	Details of Action	By who	By When?	Latest Update	Progress
13.7.23	ENV/02/2324	Amendments to Congleton In Bloom Working Group Terms of Reference to allow further invited guests and members onto the In Bloom working group as this group is a lot more volunteer-led. Green Working Terms of Reference change the wording to allow for exploring the requirement for inseting and offsetting A Chair for both working groups is to be elected by the group and must be a Town Councillor.	RB/DM	14.7.23	Amendments made and resent out - now published on website	Complete
13.7.23	ENV/09/2324	send map of the 30 biodiversity sites to all councillors	RB	14.7.23	sent 13.9.23	Complete
21.9.23	ENV/17/2324	Congleton In Bloom - To review the timings of the meeting with the Working Group members, as well as the option of a Vice Chair	RB/DB	2.11.23	all agreed	Complete
21.9.23	ENV/18/2324	Minutes from Green Working Group brought to next meeting to approve	RB/HP	2.11.23		Complete
2.11.23	ENV/53/2324	To arrange a meeting with all councillors to discuss further and approve the green spaces consultation CEC	RB/DM	24.11.23		Complete
28.03.24	ENV/68/2324	Congleton in Bloom Working Group - Thank all the volunteers who helped in 2023 and already helping in 2024.	RB			Complete
28.03.24	ENV/71/2324	10a - Circulate details of fly-tipping by areas and circulate to Councillors	RB		emailed to all cllrs 3.5.24	Complete
		10b - Circulate lists of Streetscape staff training to Councillors	RB			Complete

		10c - Thank Streetscape staff for all the support and extra work they carry out	RB			Complete
28.03.24	ENV/22/2425	Publicise to Councillors the new arrangement with regard to committee papers and carry out a survey to establish IT hardware requirements.	RB			Complete
11.07.24	Item 4	In Bloom to actively promote in Bear Necessities and on social media, the reduction in costs and numbers of plants planted for Congleton in Bloom	RB/DM			In Progress
11.07.24	Item 8	Streetscape Accounts - As well as the colour code system, add Bold text for overspending to allow readers with visual impairments to follow the document correctly.	RB			In Progress
11.07.24	Item 9	Send a full breakdown % of the areas where fly-tipping occurs to all councillors.	RB			In Progress
11.07.24	Item 12	Biodiversity Update - Look into signage for the rivers and canals as well as our biodiversity signage on our open spaces, signage to have Congleton Town Council and logo on the signs.	RB			In Progress
26.9.24	Item 5	Air Quality, CEC sequence of traffic lights at Mountbatten Way Turning right into Market Square	RB		Contacted CEC Highways who have looked into the sequence	Complete
26.9.24	Item 5	CEC replanting Scheme when trees are felled	RB		Email sent and policy being looked into ANSA do not have a policy led by CEC	In Progress

26.9.24	ENV/12/2425	ENV/12/2425 resolved the report relating to the Streetscape Services and approved Graph option C to be used for further meetings, splitting out the former Congleton LAP Area,.	RB			Complete
26.9.24	ENV/12/2425	Contact the local MP and PPC on further closure of Household Waste and Recycling Centres and the current affect this has with the increase of fly-tipping, letter to completed by CTC Officers and sent to Cllrs for comment.				Not Started
26.9.24	ENV/13/2425	Email all Cllrs the four headings under our Carbon Footprint Summary and what each area covers, (Town Hall, Streetscape, Paddling Pool and Public Realm)	RB		emailed 7.10.24	Complete
28.11.24	ENV/21/2425	Green Working Group to look into further farm land opportunities	Green WG			Not Started
28.11.24	ENV/21/2425	Capture further allotment figures across Congleton including community sites.	RB			Not Started
28.11.24	ENV/22/2425	Laise with Housing associations within Congleton on there fly tipping figures and possibility of skip clearance days in hot spots sites	RB			Not Started
28.11.24	ENV/24/2425	A budget line proposal to go forward in the business plan on Biodiversity infrastructure	DMcG			Not Started
28.11.24	ENV/22/2426	request funding support from CEC in lieu of 'pop up waste facility'				Not Started
28.11.24	ENV/24/2427	Proposals to emphasise need for resident consultation on each site				Not Started

Congleton In Bloom- Working Group
6th December 2024

ATTENDEES: Ruth Burgess (OFFICER), Adrian Bullock (Eco Operative) David Brown (CLLR), Glen Williams (CLLR), Russell Chadwick (CLLR), Heather Seddon (CLLR) Patti Pinto (VOL)

Notes :

A meeting to discuss how the North West in Bloom Judging two days went on 14th and 15th August 2024

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.
 - ii. Bob Edwards (Vol) Sue Conway (Vol) Margaret Gartside (Vol) Susan Mead (CLLR)

1. **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, Congleton Park FoCP, FoCG
Glen Williams- Bromley Farm, Congleton Partnership, Congleton Park FoCP
Heather Seddon- Cheshire East Borough Council,
Russell Chadwick - Cheshire East Borough Council,

2. Judges Report/feedback

The working group are very pleased with the feedback for all our IYN reports, Congleton Park and Congleton Large Town. With the main category of Large Town being put forward for the National Britain in Bloom in 2025

Judges comments :

It was a delight for our judges to visit Congleton for two days to undertake the judging of the 2024 Large Town entry and the ever-increasing number of community Gardening Its Your Neighbourhood groups. It was brilliant to meet the mayor, the local MP, representatives from the Council, the Rotary, local groups, pre-school, Guides and many more. Congleton in Bloom is no doubt a jewel in the RHS North West in Bloom crown. This ardent group continue to surpass the previous year's achievements. The partnership with the Streetscape Team and the wonderful groups and community volunteers is amazing. This is exemplar and the results for the town are outstanding. On behalf of RHS North West in Bloom can we thank you all for your support for all things Bloom. Your list of achievements in your excellent portfolio is a wonderful testimony to all your work. As you continue to grow, ensure you have resources in place to manage your further success. Well done to everyone.

3. Summer Bedding 2025

Decisions were made around the choice and colour of the planting scheme for Congleton Town Centre hanging baskets, planters, roundabout parks and gardens. With an emphasis around sustainability planting.

Minutes – CONGLETON GREEN

Thursday 5th December 2024 @ 1pm-2.30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3169828607?omn=83684020027>

Meeting ID: 316 982 8607

Attendees: Councillors :Chair Cllr Heather P, Cllr Heather S, Cllr Suzy F, Cllr K Wesley,

Volunteers : J Kay, M Gartside

Officers, Ruth Burgess

1. Apologies for Absence

Members are reminded of the necessity to give apologies in advance of the meeting and to give reasons for absence.

- Cllr G Williams, and Cllr A Martin

2. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were received from Cllrs Heather Seddon, on any matters relating to Cheshire East Council.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

Approved minutes of the previous Green Working Group as a correct record (August 2024)

4. Action Log

See separate Appendix of Action Log

5. United Utilities- Water quality presentation

Feedback from the presentation at the Environment committee on 28.11.24 by Unites Utilities focused around the following headings :

- Update River Dane Project 2020-2025
- Current Congleton UU Projects
- Storm Overflows and future investments
- River Rangers and Future Events

6. Allotments update paper to Environment Committee

Update received following the environment committee on 28.12.24 to the working group on current situation of allotments in congleton and the legal background.

7. Further funding to drive the decarbonisation plans – paper to environment committee

All WG members to seek funding opportunities as well as the council seeking support via S106 monies through the Environment committee.

AOB

Green Fayre Feedback

The working group received the feedback received regarding the Green Fayre 2024, see action log for actions relating to Green Fayre 2025

Next Meeting dates :

7.2.25

3.4.25

Appendix A

New and current Actions from Meeting

Date of Meeting	Item Number	Details of Action	By who	By When?	Latest Update	Progress
26.10.23	4.00	Chris Hilliard has offered a use of a Ecargo Bike (SF)	Cllr S Firkin & H Pearce		1.2.24 Loan for a trial bike Cllr Pearce to chase up	Suspended
26.10.23	6.00	Margaret Gartside has an action speak to all the local Parish Council how they can help and join in with tree planting and help bring more land opportunities for planting, (SF) would like to help contact the PC if needed	Cllr S Firkin / Trees 4 Congleton		1.2.24 Mg has already contact many Parish councils that attach to our boundary Cllr Firkin to have follow up at their next PC meetings , Trees 4 congleton update speaking to farmers and parish council	Suspended
26.10.23	8.00	Green Fayre 2024 - HP to look into the talks for next years	Cllr H Pearce		pass info and details to Cathy for 2025	In Progress
1.2.24	9.00	Eco - Schools Ongoing action to be added, various liaison needed with the local primary and high schools by Cllr Firkin and Margaret Gartside.	Cllr S Firkin & Margaret Gartside		email school to find out what their scope is, MG to speak to PP feedback and how can add value to eco schools	In Progress
1.8.24	6.00	grant funding opportunities	Heather P		ongoing	In Progress
1.8.24	9.00	carbon offsetting - start looking into Financial costs as well as pros and cons of peatland patch project working with CWT	Suzy F		ongoing speaking to local contacts	In Progress
03.10.24	5.00	HS to liaise with KW on supporting the Tree group on marketing and updating their website etc. to attract more volunteers and prmoting their work	Heather P and Kay W		Date - Update Details	In Progress
03.10.24	8.00	what questions do we want to ask UU Action SF to sum up questions ready for 28.11.24 Environment Meeting	Suzy F	28.11.24	presented to Environment committee 28.11.24	Complete

03.10.24	7.00	Bio fuel - RB to look into closest stockist and possibility of storage within Congleton .	Ruth B		stockist - crown oil can deliver, , no close stockist to fill up straight into a vehicle, , we currently have a tank at the depot but could look at options at the polly tunnels depending on how you want to work the polly tunnels with the community	In Progress
03.10.24	10.00	Mossley biodiversity launch event - RB to liaise with KW regarding the event	Ruth B / KW		next steps - consult residents on Blackshaw close in Jan 25 invite them to a meeting at the Town Hall Open Meeting on biodiversity plans , questionnaire for residents aswell	Suspended
03.10.24	9.00	allotments - RB to speak to DMcG regarding a letter to all local Parish Councils regarding possibility of land within their parish to help support the shortage of allotments.	Ruth B		report went to environment committee 28.11.24	In Progress
03.10.24	AOB	To look into dates for balsalm bashing within congleton and setting up a working party. Needs to be done before the seed drop.	Heather P		Date - Update Details	Not Started
03.10.24	AOB	Land ownership the Moss - liaise with the interested parties	Ruth B		aim to co-ordinate all parties CEC, CWT Dane Moss, Ruth Benson	In Progress
5.12.24	AOB	GREEN FAYRE - Arrange a meeting for early Jan for the talks on Green Fayre 25	Ruth B		16th January 2025 12.30-1.30 Bridestones	Complete
5.12.24	action log	update trees 4 congleton webpage	Heather P		Date - Update Details	Not Started

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	6 th February 2025 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Serena Van Schepdael – Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	9 Streetscape Services Trading Account		
Background	Variance analysis of the Trading Account for the year 2024-2025 for the month ending 30 th November 2024, month 8, see Appendix 1.		
Updates	<p>This trading account is information for 8 months of 2024/25, which equates to 66% of the budget, <u>the below figures are based on full annual budgets.</u></p> <p>Please refer to the summary for notes/comments.</p> <p>Income 74%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cheshire East Council Income at 75% as 2 quarters have been paid.• External Income (Private Works) 92%.• Other Income (Miscellaneous, non-works income) 70%.• Other Income (Contract) 0% (See notes on appendix 1.) <p>Expenditure 68% based on budgeted lines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Includes £24,637 in other non-budgeted expenses:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ £10,550 Roundabout works○ £14,087 Polytunnel repairs. (£11,387 covered by EMR)• Steet Cleansing includes £1,758 for Fly tipping costs.• Vehicle leasing will be overspent by the end of the financial year, due to replacing 2 vans due to staff requirements, overspend has been approved by Council.• Horticultural Supplies will be overspent by the end of the financial year, this budget was reduced from previous years, overspend has been approved by Council.		
Decision Requested	To receive the Streetscape Trading Account for Month 8 to 30 th November 2024.		

Congleton Town Council
 Management Accounts 2024-25
 STREETScape
 Nov-24



Month 8
 Percentage 66.5%

STREETScape

ANNUAL BUDGET	BUDGET TO M8	ACTUAL SPEND TO M8	£ VARIANCE OF M8 BUDGETS	% SPENT AGAINST M8 BUDGETS	% SPENT OF ANNUAL BUDGET	% VARIANCE AGAINST M8 EXPECTED
4000 Staff Costs	577,073	384,715	370,878	13,837	96.4%	-2.23%
4004 Temp/Casual Staff	0	0	5,036	-5,036		
4008 Training	3,200	2,133	1,337	796	62.7%	-24.72%
4009 Protective Clothing/H & Safety	5,900	3,933	4,430	-497	112.6%	8.58%
4013 Office rent	2,000	1,333	1,333	0	100.0%	0.15%
4016 Cleaning Materials	8,000	5,333	2,632	2,701	49.4%	-33.60%
4021 Telephone	1,175	783	406	377	51.8%	-31.95%
4025 Insurance	9,150	6,100	9,846	-3,746	161.4%	41.11%
4041 Property maintenance	1,500	1,000	1,037	-37	103.7%	2.63%
4043 Horticultural etc Supplies	14,000	9,333	17,377	-8,044	186.2%	57.62%
4047 Vehicle maintenance/Serv etc	12,800	8,533	4,691	3,842	55.0%	-29.85%
4048 Vehicle fuel and oil	16,285	10,857	10,141	716	93.4%	-4.23%
4049 Vehicle rental charges	77,880	51,920	54,544	-2,624	105.1%	3.54%
4050 Street Cleansing	8,000	5,333	4,916	417	92.2%	-5.05%
4162 General expenditure	5,300	3,533	3,336	197	94.4%	-3.56%
4168 Other expenditure	0	0	24,637	-24,637		-66.50%
4951 Tf from EMR			11,387			
6000 Central Overheads Reallocated	44,832	29,888	31,243	-1,355	104.5%	3.19%
Streetscape Expenditure	787,095	524,730	536,433	-23,090	102.2%	68.2%
3030 Purchases for recharging	0	0	7,715	-7,715		0.00%
1165 CEC - Income	-419,256	-279,504	-314,442	34,938	112.5%	179.00%
1167 External work income	-15,000	-10,000	-13,799	3,799	138.0%	204.49%
1184 Other income	-12,000	-8,000	0	-8,000	0.0%	66.50%
1199 Miscellaneous	-900	-600	-632	32	105.3%	171.83%
1040 Recharges	0	0	-36	36	0.0%	66.50%
Streetscape Income	-447,156	-298,104	-328,909	30,805	110.3%	73.6%
Net Expenditure over Income	339,939	226,626	215,239	-0	95.0%	-28.48%

Expenditure Variance 0-100% Green 101-115% Amber 115% over Red

No budget

Paid at start of the year.

Overspent. Noted by Council CTC/63/2425

Will be overspent due replacement vans overspend approved by Council. CTC/63/2425

Roundabout works, grant due in.
 Polytunnel repairs CTC/36/2425. transfer from Capital EMR reserve

No budget

Income Variance 100% Green. 75% to 99% Amber. 0%-75% Red
 Three of four payments received

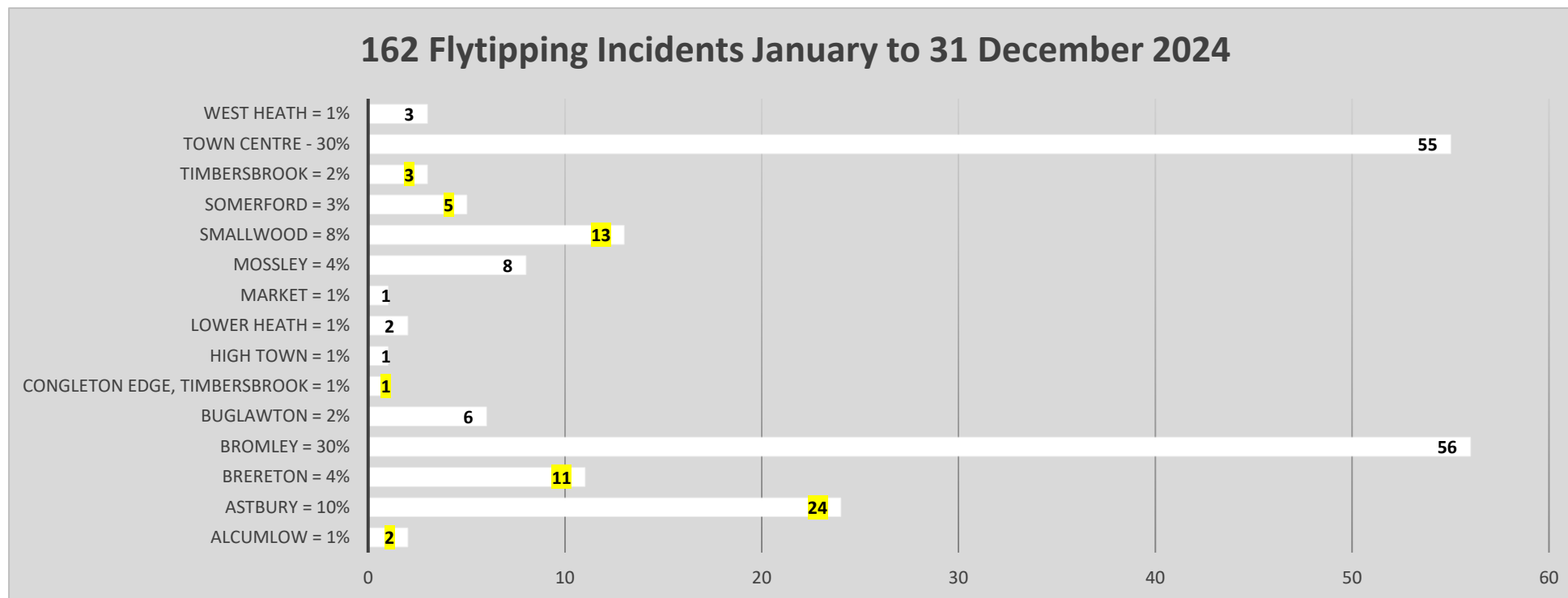
Contract did not go ahead

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee																																																																																																																									
MEETING DATE AND TIME	6 th February 2025 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Town Hall																																																																																																																							
REPORT FROM	Streetscape Development Manager – Ruth Burgess																																																																																																																									
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	10 Streetscape Services																																																																																																																									
Update	<p><u>Fly Tipping</u> As well as noting the quantity of fly tips per month and annually we are now calculating the cost for each specific fly tip over the course of a year. Below you will note the number of fly tips we have dealt with over the last year (2024), in comparison to previous years:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2019</th> <th>2020</th> <th>2021</th> <th>2022</th> <th>2023</th> <th>2024</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Jan</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>16</td><td>30</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>Feb</td><td>10</td><td>2</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>25</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>Mar</td><td>4</td><td>0</td><td>32</td><td>24</td><td>14</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>Apr</td><td>10</td><td>12</td><td>19</td><td>10</td><td>19</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>May</td><td>5</td><td>40</td><td>22</td><td>11</td><td>11</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>June</td><td>4</td><td>22</td><td>2</td><td>8</td><td>26</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>July</td><td>8</td><td>21</td><td>0</td><td>13</td><td>9</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>Aug</td><td>5</td><td>18</td><td>10</td><td>26</td><td>19</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>Sept</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>14</td><td>23</td><td>13</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>Oct</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>10</td><td>8</td><td>21</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>Nov</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>17</td><td>25</td><td>4</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>Dec</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>10</td><td>30</td><td>15</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Total</td><td>70</td><td>136</td><td>150</td><td>205</td><td>206</td><td>194</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Total Cost</td><td>£2324.16</td><td>£5380.52</td><td>£2481.45</td><td>£12,300.87</td><td>£ 15,360.76</td><td>£ 13,077.18</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>See Appendix A for percentage graphs as per each parish area.</p> <p><u>Staffing</u></p> <p>We currently have all members of the Streetscape team in work.</p>				2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Jan	4	4	4	16	30	20	Feb	10	2	10	11	25	7	Mar	4	0	32	24	14	8	Apr	10	12	19	10	19	24	May	5	40	22	11	11	24	June	4	22	2	8	26	20	July	8	21	0	13	9	19	Aug	5	18	10	26	19	18	Sept	6	6	14	23	13	9	Oct	5	3	10	8	21	17	Nov	4	4	17	25	4	6	Dec	5	4	10	30	15	22								Total	70	136	150	205	206	194								Total Cost	£2324.16	£5380.52	£2481.45	£12,300.87	£ 15,360.76	£ 13,077.18
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Equality Considerations	None.																																																																																																																									
Decision Requested	To receive the report.																																																																																																																									

Appendix A – Fly Tipping Graphs



Key

Areas in **YELLOW** are outside of the Congleton LAP

This equates to 59 incidents (29%)

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

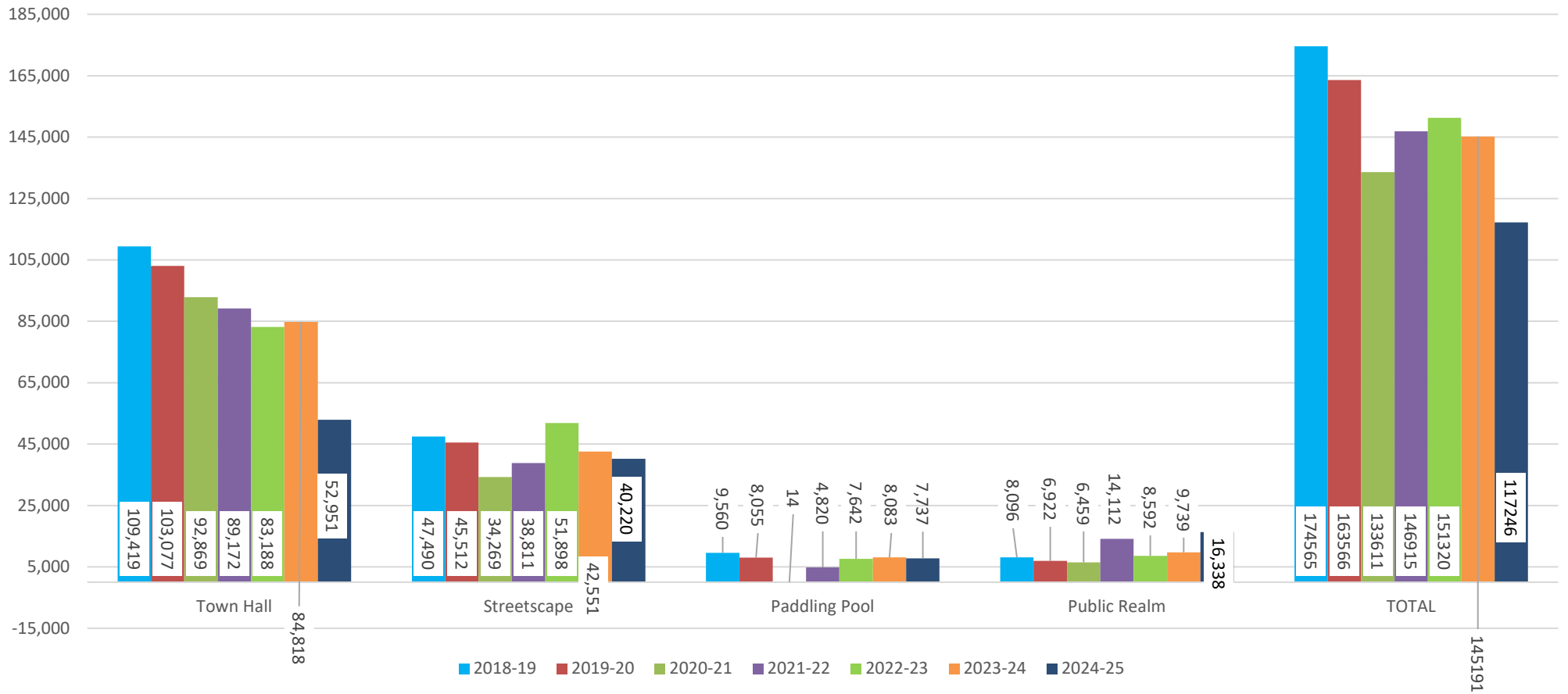
COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee																																																														
MEETING DATE AND TIME	6th February 2025 7.00 pm	LOCATION				Town Hall																																																									
REPORT FROM	Ruth Burgess – Streetscape Development Manager																																																														
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	11 Carbon Footprint Update																																																														
Update	<p>Up-to-date graphs and figures on the Town Council's Carbon Footprint which is based on the updated methodology, we have attached Appendix A which shows the current carbon figures for the Town Council, which is split under the 4 main headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Hall • Streetscape • Paddling Pool • Public Realm <p>Spike in Public Realm Figures - Public realm include plant purchase for In Bloom (Hanging Baskets, Troughs, and Planters etc), plants costs this year are £11,635 last year they were £6,909 after the final sheets were looked through.</p> <p>Latest Figures shown in graph Appendix A</p> <p>PLEASE NOTE: The figures in column 2024-25 are only showing to Month 6 NOT a full year</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>TO MONTH 6</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Area</th> <th>2018-19</th> <th>2019-20</th> <th>2020-21</th> <th>2021-22</th> <th>2022-23</th> <th>2023-24</th> <th>2024-25</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Town Hall</td> <td>109,419</td> <td>103,077</td> <td>92,869</td> <td>89,172</td> <td>83,188</td> <td>84,818</td> <td>52,951</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Streetscape</td> <td>47,490</td> <td>45,512</td> <td>34,269</td> <td>38,811</td> <td>51,898</td> <td>42,551</td> <td>40,220</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paddling Pool</td> <td>9,560</td> <td>8,055</td> <td>14</td> <td>4,820</td> <td>7,642</td> <td>8,083</td> <td>7,737</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public Realm</td> <td>8,096</td> <td>6,922</td> <td>6,459</td> <td>14,112</td> <td>8,592</td> <td>9,739</td> <td>16,338</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>174565</td> <td>163566</td> <td>133611</td> <td>146915</td> <td>151320</td> <td>145191</td> <td>117246</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>														TO MONTH 6	Area	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Town Hall	109,419	103,077	92,869	89,172	83,188	84,818	52,951	Streetscape	47,490	45,512	34,269	38,811	51,898	42,551	40,220	Paddling Pool	9,560	8,055	14	4,820	7,642	8,083	7,737	Public Realm	8,096	6,922	6,459	14,112	8,592	9,739	16,338	TOTAL	174565	163566	133611	146915	151320	145191	117246
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Environmental	Reducing carbon is key to the Council’s response to the Climate Emergency and its responsible Environmental Management approach.																																																														
Equality	The impact of Climate Change is predicted to affect the most vulnerable in society and those already living in poverty. The town council must show leadership in addressing climate change and decarbonising our assets and services where possible.																																																														
Financial	Driving down our carbon footprint will also have the benefit of reducing fuel and energy consumption which will in turn save the council money in the long term. However, in some cases investment in equipment and infrastructure may increase short-term costs and the balance of these two opposing trends must be carefully assessed.																																																														
Decision Requested	To receive updated carbon footprint figures																																																														

Appendix A

Congleton Town Council
 Carbon Footprint
 Kg CO2
 Per Cost Centre
 Per Year
 Current year updated to Month 6
 Baseline 2018-2019

PLEASE NOTE:

The figures in column 2024-25 are only showing to Month 6 NOT a full year



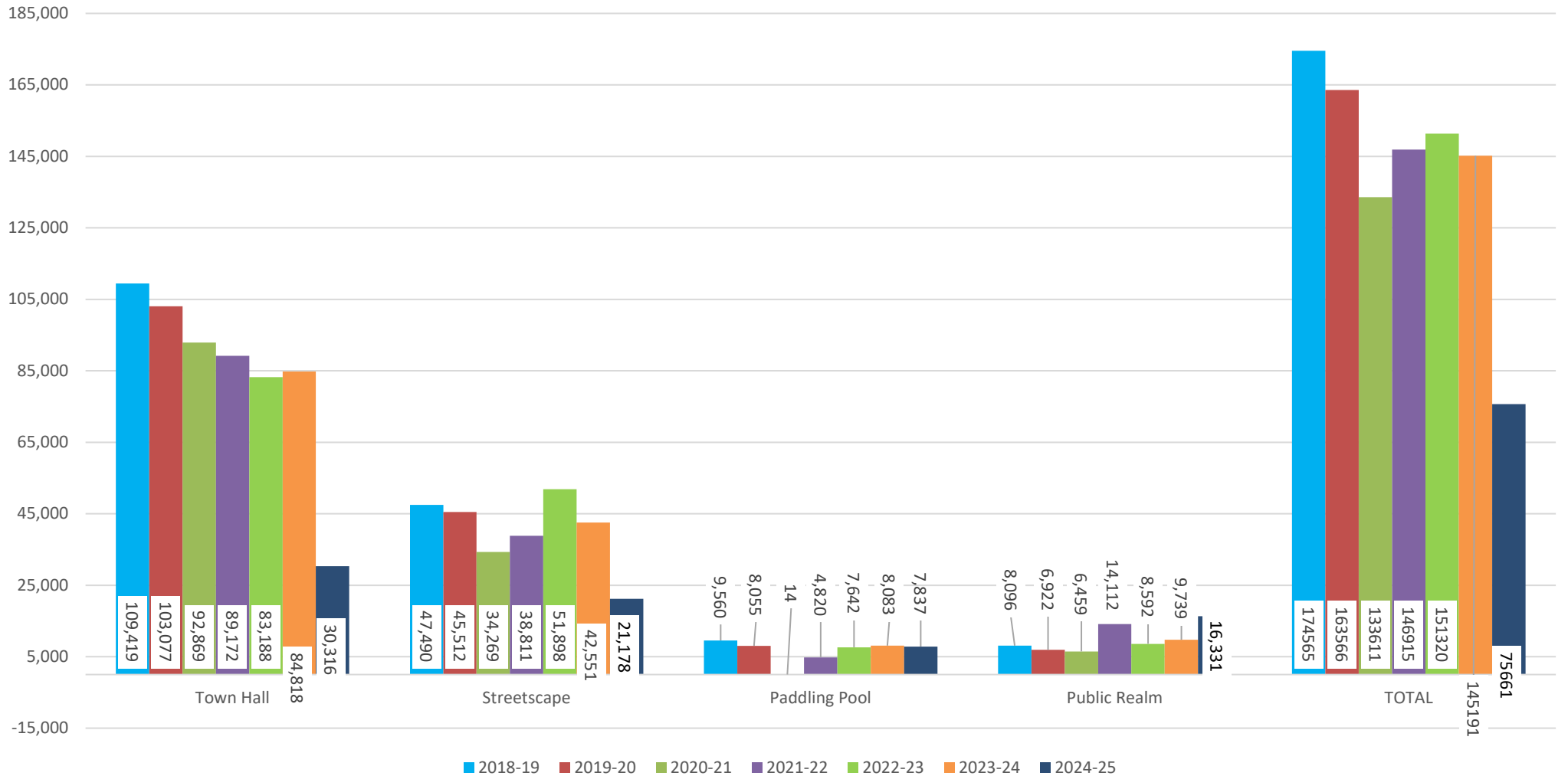
CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	6th February 2025 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Ruth Burgess – Streetscape Development Manager		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	12 Community Skip Days		
Background	<p>As you are aware with the closure of the Cheshire East Household waste and recycling site, we have had an increase in fly tipping across Congleton and the neighbouring parishes. It is thought that the introduction of a Community Skip Day in key spots across the Town will support residents in disposing of troublesome large items and provide a more convenient option than transporting waste to Macclesfield or other Waste Disposal sites.</p> <p>We are seeking input from the Committee to ‘design’ the service.</p> <p>About the community skip service</p> <p>For those residents who haven’t used the service before, you can get rid of up to 3 large unwanted household items every 3 months for free using the community skip service. The service may be provided using vehicles rather than skips, where this is more efficient.</p> <p>Suggested Community skip location and service dates – (This would roll out gradually – starting with one or two sites.)</p> <p>Community skips are available across the borough.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bromley Farm Estate Bromley Farm Play Area Car Park - Buglawton Estate – St Johns Road Scout Hut Car Park - West Heath Estate - Back Lane Playing Fields Car Park - Lower Heath - River Dane Road <p>Suggested Hours of use</p> <p>Bring your items to the community skip from 8.30am to 3pm on your skip service day. We will treat any items left outside these times as flytipping and you could get fined.</p> <p>How to use the community skip service</p> <p>Proof of residency in Congleton</p> <p>You'll need to prove that you live in Congleton. Take your Council Tax or utility bill with you on your skip service day.</p> <p>Number of items you can bring</p> <p>Each household can bring up to 3 items on each Community Day.</p> <p>Suggested Eligibility Checks</p> <p>On arrival you'll need to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. queue up on entry 		

	<p>2. show proof of your address to a member of Congleton Town Council staff</p> <p>3. place your non electrical items in the skip or hand them to the site staff to load onto the vehicle</p> <p>Items you can take to the community skip –</p> <p>We would be taking all items you can take to a household waste site - NOT hazardous materials.</p> <p>Any other potentially hazardous materials</p> <p>We won't accept waste that you can get rid of through other services.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • waste accepted through household recycling and waste collections, for example bags of waste. Use your household refuse collections. • waste from commercial properties or businesses.
Environmental	Providing additional services to encourage responsible waste disposal and recycling in the light of the increased travel distance to a recycling centre will help to minimise residents carbon footprint.
Equality	The closure of the HWRC has put many residents without transport or with mobility restrictions at a disadvantage with regard to visiting a waste and recycling centre. Having a locally based service which is more easily accessed by a short journey, on foot or public transport provides options for the all members of the community.
Financial	Should the proposed scheme be considered practical, a fully priced proposal will be created. It may be possible to get financial support for the programme in some areas (e.g. Plus Dane).It may also be the case that some fly tipping is avoided which may save money.
Decision Requested	To approve the request to work on a fully priced proposal for a trial Community Skip programme with in the Town.

Appendix A

Congleton Town Council
Carbon Footprint
Kg CO2
Per Cost Centre
Per Year
Current year updated to Month 6
Baseline 2018-2019



CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	6th February 2025 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Ruth Burgess – Streetscape Development Manager		
AGENDA ITEM	13		
REPORT TITLE	Green Fayre 27th September 2025		
Update	<p>Green Fayre</p> <p>Working together for a greener future</p> <p>Congleton Town Council and Congleton Partnership host an annual Green Fayre and Climate Festival. The 6th annual Green Fayre is due to be held on the 27th September 2025.</p> <p>The Green Fayre is a chance to explore green issues and local solutions.</p> <p>Visit the Congleton Partnership website for the latest news as they organise the event: Congleton Climate Festival – Congleton Partnership</p> <p>Who takes part in Congleton’s Green Fayre?</p> <p>Around 30 stallholders take part on the day, a good mixture of local businesses, groups and organisations.</p> <p>There is no charge for a stall, but ask for commitment on the day to have volunteers at the stall from 10am -4pm. As the Green Fayre coincides with the Makers Market it is always a busy day. The Makers Market is on the Bridge Street area and the Green Fayre on the closed High Street and Town Hall.</p> <p>Inside the Town Hall, there will be a bumper edition of Congleton’s Repair Café and Cheshire Kids Clothes Swap. (Big Clothes Movement). Plus Facepainting and Book Swap.</p> <p><u>Latest Update</u></p> <p>New Stall suggestions –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic Farm • Modern Milkman / Beartown Dairies • Florist • Wildflower seed / turf • Composting Demo <p>Entertainment – The Hedgeman and My Art Space junk modelling</p> <p>Small talks and demonstrations inside Blueys Café – on the following subjects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar • Air Source Heat Pumps • Saving energy <p>Electric Bike:</p> <p>Large space in between Makers Market and Green fayre to be filled with electric bikes</p> <p>Children’s Competition :</p> <p>Flower pot men project out of recycled plant pot and other materials, organised by Congleton Climate Action Group who will also provide prizes.</p>		

Environmental	The Green Fayre is one of the key ways that the Council engages with residents to provide information on the how we are trying to reduce our carbon footprint and also to empower and encourage residents to get advice on lifestyle and home improvements that will make the town a more sustainable place to live. The Fayre itself will reuse and recycle as many materials as possible in hosting stall holders and advertising the event. We will also look to encourage sustainable travel to the event by foot, cycle and public transport.
Equality	The impact of Climate Change is predicted to affect the most vulnerable in society and those already living in poverty. The Fayre seeks to provide advice that is relevant to all sectors of society via an event that is easy to access and engage with.
Financial	The Fayre is jointly funded by the Congleton Partnership and the Town Council. The cost of holding the green fayre will be supported by grant applications and sponsorship/donations from commercial organisations which in turn will enable us to continue offering free stalls to community groups.
Decision Requested	To receive updated Green Fayre information within Congleton.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	6th February 2025 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Ruth Burgess – Streetscape Development Manager		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	14 Update - Paperless Council Meetings		
Background	<p>In July 2024 at the Environment Committee Meeting it was approved that the committee would be paperless, following the successful trial of paperless meetings of this committee we would now like too seek the necessary commitment from full Council to achieve paperless meetings for the following committee meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Hall and Assets Committee • Planning Committee <p>And similarly to any Congleton Town Council Working Groups by embracing the current technology available to councillors, volunteers and officers in order to meet our environmental commitments .</p>		
Update	<p>Why does this report require a council decision?</p> <p>The changes to the way in which councillors receive committee papers affects all Members of the Council.</p> <p>In common with other councils, Congleton faces a number of significant challenges over the next few years particularly in respect of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting our corporate responsibilities in addressing the climate emergency and the Council’s commitment to be carbon neutral, - finding sufficient resources to continue to provide services that meet the needs of our residents <p>Reducing paper consumption will mitigate (reduce) the impacts of climate change by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - lowering the greenhouse gas emissions generated by processing pulp into paper. - using less paper individually will reduce the amount of paper being transported overall, thereby reducing carbon emissions. - reducing the amount of waste lessening the amount of material sent to landfills. - <p>Why is this being recommended?</p> <p>To deliver on the Council’s commitments to secure ongoing savings in its revenue budget and to assist in achieving the Council’s corporate aspirations to reduce its carbon footprint, whilst still complying with legislation requiring the provision of copy agendas for inspection by the public.</p>		

	<p>Options considered:</p> <p>Option 1</p> <p>To adopt a paperless approach to further committee meetings and working groups involving both councillors and officers. As part of this, officers will continue to support councillors in the understanding and operation of any electronic devices provided. We will continue to comply with statutory requirements to make available a reasonable number of copies of an agenda at any meeting to which the public are entitled to attend.</p> <p>Option 2</p> <p>To make no change to our current arrangements for other committees.</p> <p>Conclusion.</p> <p>In conclusion, a number of councils have completed a transition to paperless meetings over the past three or four years and there is a clear direction of travel in this regard, such that over the course of the next few years it is expected to become standard practice in local government. This Council is now at the point at which it can begin a transformation to radically reduce our reliance on, and use of, paper. This will not only save the Council a considerable amount of money each year, but also assist in reducing our carbon footprint and set an example to others.</p>
Proposal	To seek approval for further committees and working groups to undertake 'paperless' meetings.
Environmental	Removal of paper documents will reduce the Council's carbon footprint.
Equality	<p>Tablets or laptop should improve accessibility for many, due to the ease of zooming in on particular text relative to paper documents. Use of a screen-reader software should be possible on any equipment we select so that those with significant visual impairment can access the content.</p> <p>Spare tablets/laptops should be available so that public attendees can access the content. The tablets must be sufficiently easy to use that training is not required and even those with limited digital confidence or tablet experience can easily access the content.</p> <p>Another project is developing a new website for CTC and this must also meet the latest accessibility standards to enable this work to succeed.</p>
Financial	None.
Decision Requested	Option 1 Option 2

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	6th February 2025 7.00 pm	LOCATION	Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Ruth Burgess – Streetscape Development Manager		
AGENDA ITEM	15		
REPORT TITLE	Community Poly Tunnel		
Background	<p>Congleton Town Council, has been communicating with Cheshire East Borough Council on granting us permission to have the full lease of the area within Congleton Park where all the Poly Tunnels and Green Houses are currently situated. Within this site there is a Community Poly Tunnel which historically has been used for Congleton In Bloom and storage for shrubs and trees. It is suggested that the space could also be used to provide a space for individuals and groups to come and learn about environmental or horticultural topics. Initial ideas include subjects like composting, propagating and organic pest control.</p> <p>Gardening is understood to be beneficial for mental and physical well-being and Congleton Town Council would like to open this specific Poly Tunnel to local individuals and groups, not only seasoned gardeners, but also those who want to learn in a supportive workshop which enhance our Town through healthy living, biodiversity loss and sustainability. With many volunteers who already have a plentiful amount of experience they wanted to make sure their skills and qualifications are passed on.</p> <p>We feel there is so much more scope for what and when we can grow on this site. We can grow early in the year and really be ahead of the season. It also gives us indoor space to work when the weather is wet.</p> <p>With an online booking system where groups would be able to book the Poly Tunnel to carry out their workshops, Our Streetscape Manager and Operatives will be taking the lead of the Site and will ensure before each workshop the Poly tunnel is ready and has been cleared from the previous groups as well as ensuring all health and safety procedure are followed.</p> <p>An exciting project that not only brings the community together but also has a positive impact on the environment.</p>		
Environmental	Activities in the poly tunnel will support our sustainability aims and biodiversity action plan by engaging with more groups and residents on these topics.		
Equality	Accessibility at the poly tunnel will be reviewed to ensure that the site is suitable for use by those with restricted or reduced mobility or visual impairment.		
Financial	The Town Council will soon have full financial responsibility for the Poly Tunnels and it is therefore important that we make the most of this facility. Whilst initial workshops are likely to be FOC there is the opportunity for rental of the space or paid workshops in the future.		
Decision Requested	To approve the request to look into putting together trial environmental workshops with an online booking system.		