

Meeting : Congleton Partnership Executive.

Date : Tuesday 6th December 2016.

Time: 5.30pm.

Location: Grand Hall, Congleton Town Hall.

In attendance: S.Foster(Chair), M.Smith, D.Murphy, P.Aston, D.Daniel , G.Williams, J.Money, J.MacArthur, R.Edwards, J.Beardmore, M.Gartside, J.Crowther, P.Pinto, L.Alcock, J.Money & S Ackers Smith

Guests: Sara Rathbone (Dementia Action Alliance)

Item	Agenda Item / discussion	Action / comment
1	<p><u>Welcome, Introduction & Apologies:</u></p> <p><i>The meeting was chaired by S.Foster</i></p> <p>Steve opened the meeting by welcoming everyone including guest speaker Sara Rathbone (Dementia Action Alliance)</p>	<p>Apologies were received from : V.Cutcliffe,S.Halliday P.Houldsworth & D.Topping.</p>
2.	<p><u>Minutes From Previous meeting / actions arising.</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 18.10.16 were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the chair.</p> <p><i>Matters Arising:-</i></p> <p><i>Item 4. The Mills Development.</i> As requested at the last meeting a subgroup was set up as a result of which a letter outlining issues around the proposed development was sent to Kate Howe , Associate Director, Scarborough Group International. A copy of the letter was later circulated within the Executive, only one comment was received back as a result. Kate Howe duly replied indicating that our issues raised would be taken into consideration and that The Partnership would be included in future communications prior to submission of the Planning Application. The reply is on file. It is hoped that the Planning Application will be submitted late Jan / early Feb 2017. Sara Rathbone raised the issues of Dementia / Disability and that they be considered before planning goes in.</p>	

3.	<p><u>Dementia Action Alliance – Sara Rathbone</u></p> <p>Contacts:- sara-jane.rathbone@alzheimers.org.uk Mob 07753425255</p> <p>Sara explained to us her role, the structure that she works within and the breadth of residents covered.</p> <p>Sara has been in post since 28th April and is currently working on making more people / organisations dementia aware. These include the police, transport. National companies including Tesco, Virgin and Taxi firms to help them improve their offering and support to people who suffer from Dementia / Alzheimers etc.</p> <p>Sara is working on developing Dementia Friends and Champions, hourly sessions, will visit workplaces.</p> <p>D.Murphy felt there was value of Sara presenting to the Pub Watch Group and Ex-servicemen’s Club.</p>	D.Murphy contact Sara with dates.
4.	<p><u>Town Centre Report – J.MacArthur</u></p> <p>1. Occupancy Rate</p> <p>Removing Capitol Walk from the equation we are still at 91% occupancy. This is likely to fall slightly in the New Year. Boots Opticians have now pulled out from taking the former shoe zone shop, Maskery is back on the market and the handbag shop, Eduarodos, in the pedestrian area is planning to close. The three small shops in Mill Street have sold, but have not seen any plans for them.</p> <p>2. Big Data Small User Project</p> <p>Congleton Town Council has now started to get weekly sales, footfall and weather data through on the Big Data Small User project. So far I have only had three weeks headline figures, but as of next week I will be able to access the dashboard that lets me drill into the footfall data in more detail. There is also comparative collective data from all the other 400 plus areas being monitored by Springboard.</p> <p>14th- 20th November – 53,262</p>	

21st – 27th November - 56,568

28th – 4th December – 58,043

There is a confidentiality clause to protect the shops and businesses supplying their data, so I only receive this as a collective percentage change for food and drink businesses and other retail. The interesting information will come when we can start introducing some marketing activities to test the impact on sales and footfall.

The Public Realm £1 million funding

There hasn't been a Public Realm board meeting since the consultation in the summer – Fay Price as project manager has reported that the design team is busy developing up the more detailed designs – but at present nothing has been shared, so I have nothing to share with you.

Gas Works

Balfour Beattie, on behalf of National Grid, will start working in Congleton town centre from the 4th January. The pedestrian area will take approximately 7.5 weeks, and Swan Bank a further 6 weeks. In Swan Bank the key work is at either end where work was curtailed as it needs a road closure to work in the narrowest parts of the road. There are plans for road closures when this work is carried out. Businesses will all be consulted by Balfour Beattie.

The Mills Congleton – AKA Scarborough Development

Covered elsewhere on the agenda

Christmas

The Lights are on!! Congleton Community turned out in force again on the 25th November – the light switch on event went very well. It is organised by Congleton Community Projects and Congleton Town Council. We have a great number of volunteers – thank you to everyone from the partnership who helped or took part. Thank you to the Partnership for purchasing the LED 10 Watt rechargeable lights. These worked well on the night and will continue to be a community asset and help save money in the future.

They are stored in the Town Hall.

The Co-ordinating group has had its first debrief meeting, lots of positive comments but also areas to tighten up and improve.... We are looking for ideas for 2017 and contemplating positive changes. The

	<p>next meeting is Wednesday 21 December.</p> <p>Welcome MAP this is still happening. Contact has been re-established with all the main players and it's just pulling together the final bits.</p> <p>Bear Necessities The next edition will be distributed from the 16th January. Copy is being written at the moment.. If any partnership member has information for January, Feb or March please let Jackie know urgently.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Community Projects – Jo Money</u></p> <p><i>Xmas Light Switch On Event.</i> Jo commented on the success of the event, thanked all for their support and indicated that a wash up meeting was being held to look at various feedback / ideas for next year's event.</p> <p><i>MMW Memorial Activity.</i> Friday 18th we had both the unveiling of the piece of Art Work in the park and the naming of Margaret's Place (Antrobus St). These events were attended by members of Margaret's family, who also went onto the opening of The Old saw Mill that evening. Great afternoon had by all. A plaque for the Art Piece will be sited in the near future.</p> <p><i>Youth Forum.</i> CCP is working with the Youth Forum on a project for PB Funding around Mental Health and Drug Misuse with a view to involving young people in some form of drama/film on the subject.</p> <p><i>Food and Drink.</i> Already working on next year's event on Sunday 11th June.</p> <p><i>Theatre Day.</i> Late April involving students TBC</p> <p><i>Get Involved Booklet.</i> New update planned, still looking for funding.</p>	
6.	<p><u>Group Reports (Main issues)</u></p> <p><u>Youth Forum –G.Williams.</u></p> <p>This year's major issue has been around Mental Health and Drug Misuse, awareness and education. Currently</p>	

working on a project to involve young people, talking to other young people about the issues and offering support. Looking for PB funding bid to support this project.

CSG – P.Aston

OSM. Peter reported on the success of the Old Saw Mill opening event and its plans to provide an Xmas Lunch (Xmas Day) for up to 50 people. Detail has already gone out in the weekly OSM bulletin. Long term need to get to the point where they have paid staff into the project.

Apple Juice / Cider. Around 12 tonnes of apples will have be turned into juice or cider by the end of the production run, 1500 Apple Juice / 2500 Litre of Cider.

CGST Vale Allotments. CGST are now the owners of Vale Allotments, need now to raise funds to pay back loanees who helped buy the land. 6 volunteers have now started working there.

Hydro Scheme. Some slight land ownership issues around running the supply from the weir to EBA. Both EBA and Siemens on board. Need to approach DEFRA for funding.

Cycle Campaign/CSG. New project being put together by S.Ackers Smith around cycleways and footpaths.

Fracking. Need to start paying attention as plans will bring fracking within 4 km of Congleton. B.Fox is putting together a very good paper on the subject highlighting the sheer scale of the operation / impact it could have on the local environment.

Congleton Creative.

After another successful year with the Electric Picture House, Congleton Jazz and Blues and Congleton Community Projects bringing the Arts to Congleton in various guises we are all now ready to go into 2017 with even more ambitious plans for the New Year.

Preparations are already under way for Congleton Jazz and Blues and Congleton Food Festival for next year.

	<p>Along with the Electric Picture House's usual programme of events there will be an assortment of artistic endeavours to augment Congleton's cultural offer. We will continue to encourage involvement in The Arts by the local population and to position The Electric Picture House on an international and national stage. We are already known internationally and our resident artists have exhibited widely both nationally and internationally. Through our position as Congleton's Art Centre we already welcome collaboration with the schools, MMU, CRTA, local businesses and a large network of visual artists and artists cooperatives from around the country. 2017 will see us encourage more international participation and the cementing of existing links to ensure that our town becomes known as a Centre for The Arts.</p> <p>Congleton Creative will continue its partnership working, initially through all current members helping with each others projects and planning joint projects. We will also act as an informal information point for The Arts and help where we can.</p> <p><u>Senior Forum.</u></p> <p>This forum is developing nicely, with the number of members either meeting wise or E Mail recipients growing.</p> <p>Very successful Senior Health fayre held on 30th Sept with 30+ plus exhibitors and around 100 residents attending. Next years' Fayre planned for 29th September.</p> <p>IT & Chat clubs planned for 2017. Next Forum meeting 13th Dec 2016</p> <p>Projects & Finance. Next P&F Meeting is Monday 16th Jan 2017. MS to circulate latest project update sheet to all Exec Members.</p>	
7.	<p>A.O.B</p> <p><u>Funding requests.</u></p> <p>CLP / Congleton Job Club. Report on last year's achievements issued to members prior to the meeting. 40 residents involved resulting in qualifications gained, full time employment and in some cases business set ups.</p>	£2000 agreed.

	<p>Funding support awarded for 2017 of £2000. MS contact CLP for invoice.</p> <p>Mini Bus. We are about to receive a new 15 seater mini bus which is government supplied but does not come with funding support as the earlier one did. Request for £2500 to be transferred from The Partnership accounts to that of Congleton Community Transport Partnership for start up costs of Tax, Insurance, Branding. We are currently looking at widening the scope of users and building up a list of potential usage. Funding support of £2500 agreed.</p> <p>Active Cheshire Health and Wellbeing Project. 5 Towns Partnership are currently looking at some research work on inactivity being carried out by Active Cheshire at a cost of £3000 for each Partnership. We felt that we were quite a way down this route and that now at a point of developing programmes to combat this issue. We voted not to support this activity.</p> <p>PB Funding. MS to send out dates / regular PB Funding updates.</p> <p>SF Wished everyone a VERY MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR</p>	<p>£2500 agreed</p> <p>SF to advise D.Flint</p> <p>MS issue updates.</p>
8.	<p>Meeting Closed:- 7.30pm</p> <p>Next Meeting is :- Tuesday 7th March 2017, Bridestone Suite, 5.30pm.</p> <p>Signed :- Chair.</p>	