

Meeting : Congleton Sustainability Group.

Date : 3.7.17 **Time:** 10.00am **Location:- Old Saw Mill.**

In attendance: P.Aston (Chair), S.Foster, M.Smith, Dewi Jones, P.Minshull, P.Ranson,P.Hall,G.Williams & P.Pinto.

Guests:-

Item	Agenda Item / discussion	Action / comment
1	<u>Welcome and Introduction.</u> Peter Aston chaired the meeting.	
2.	<u>Apologies.</u> M.Taylor, B.Fox, M.Axford, P.Hirst	
3.	<u>Minutes of the last meeting, matters arising (5.6.17)</u> <i>Item 5. Geothermal Report.</i> Glen still to contact Dan Griffiths to attend CSG meeting(Sept) All other issues covered in the main agenda.	GW contact D Griffiths
4.	<u>Approval of the Agenda.</u> The agenda was taken as advised.	
5.	<u>BF Geothermal report.</u> Nothing to add this month.	
6.	<u>Dane Valley Community Energy.</u> All on track.	

	<p>Retired civil engineer has joined to group.</p> <p>Checking out tree preservation.</p> <p>Time line is still Feb 2018 Public/Share prospectus, May 2018 Commence Build, Autumn 2018 Open.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Neighbourhood Plan.</u></p> <p>All subgroup work finished, report is now with CEBC, This will have some amendments which will be returned to Subgroups for acceptance then returned to CEBC so that Reg 14 can be activated.</p>	
8.	<p><u>The Old Saw Mill (new official name).</u></p> <p>(a) 14 people attended the AGM (29th June) MS to circulate the management report presented at that meeting.</p> <p>4 Key areas for the future (see report)</p> <p>PA thanked all for their support, donations, volunteering etc</p> <p>Looking to take on apprentices from Macc College</p> <p>(b) Apple Juice / Cider. D.Jones to put an options paper out to group for their views.</p> <p>It was felt that OSM should acr like Dunham Massey (producer) and CSG would pay OSM for production.</p> <p>CSG to pay for AJ/C and sell both retail and wholesale. CSG to use profit for local projects.</p> <p>Aim for a target price of £3 retail for both products.</p>	<p>MS circulate report.</p> <p>DJ circulate paper</p>
9.	<p><u>Congleton Green Space Trust.</u></p> <p>No actual report this month.</p>	

	<p>The association is working well, building a relationship with Marlfields School. A shed is in the process of being purchased, joint ownership with allotment holders.</p> <p>Still an issue re the wall on Moody St side being repaired.</p> <p>Next CGST meeting is at OSM on 6th July.</p>	
10.	<p><u>Cycle Path Plans.</u></p> <p>PH updated us on project progress.</p> <p>(a) Still waiting for Sustrans report on network through town, will be presented to CEBC</p> <p>(b) SAS/P.Emms Working with Canal & Rivers Trust, they will report back.</p> <p>(c) MS to discuss with DMcG re his discussion with S.Orrell about links/routes between the various sites particularly on the north side of town. <i>Note:D.McG calling a meeting with P.Griffiths and G.Butler as a follow up</i></p> <p>(d) PMinshull do a paper on issues atc then forward to D.Brown/G.Williams (CEBC Highways Portfolio)</p>	<p>MS raise with DMcG P.Minshull paper for DB/GW</p>
11.	<p><u>Green space / In Bloom – P.Pinto.</u></p> <p>Judging day 20th July.</p> <p>Litter Pick 19th July – Town centre – 6 to 8pm.</p> <p>Bug Garden coming along well, 8 now completed.</p> <p>Short video being produced for the judges.</p> <p>PP creating a display board to be used in the town hall during the lunch break.</p>	
12.	<p><u>Group Reports.</u></p> <p><i>Eco Schools.</i></p> <p>Note: 14 GF schools in CE 12 GF schools in CW&C</p>	

9 schools with Green Flags in Congleton & District Eco cluster.

Marlfields (5GF), Saint Mary's (4), Smallwood (4), Blackfirs (4), Mossley (4), Quinta (3), Buglawton (3), Marton (2)

CONGRATULATIONS to: Mossley successfully renewed GF on 28 June, now has 4 GFs.

Marton due to renew by 1 Oct (for 3rd GF). Havannah, Astbury, Bosley, Daven have lapsed to silver, but working on GF topics, W. Well, EBA, CHS on silver.

1 & 12 June: Marlfields [Tesco bags of help grant awarded: for an allotment]: Vale allotments meeting with SI, MG, John Cockell, GW, AM (CGS Trustees).

Saint Mary's: Weekly Garden club, Healthy eating week & helping JROs (23/6).

Note JROS (joint winners in 2016) successful through to CE JRO Finals on 5 July 2017

Congleton In Bloom/ Congleton Partnership/ CSG:

2 June: Bug gardens workshops

3 June: Congleton tidy up at Bromley Farm

5 June: CSG meeting

10 June: harvesting willow at Saint Mary's for Jubilee Club project, DoE students

12 June: AMCP Community orchard tidied up with Rangers

12 June: WDT meeting

19 & 30 June In Bloom meetings

19 June: PP drove draft route with MG Alexandra Court Hotel (with MG)

June, Weds 1-3pm : Visyon (with MG) to help with their garden near Cong park

During June PP visited BHPG, Community Gardens, Jubilee Club allotment;

The Bug Gardens Back to back gardens project, 10 confirmed, community polytunnel working with groups to create backdrops (7/6 Brownies, 19/6 Cubs, 22/6 Saint Mary's),

23 June: Build gardens with new volunteer Roy & BE

26-30 June: Bug Gardens plant up supervision and helping groups with 8 small gardens

Publicity:

Photography & Press articles on eco-schools/In Bloom/CSG activities sent to & published by the Congleton Chronicle.

PP continues to admin facebook pages, adding articles, photos, events etc [Congleton In Bloom, Congleton Food4free & CSG, Old Saw Mill & Saint Mary's Garden Club pages]

Commenting Team.

1. Seddon Development off Canal Road

PM attended the CEBC Southern Planning Committee on 31st May when this development returned to the committee after earlier deferment (29th March). The letter that PM submitted prior to the meeting raising our concerns over the low number of bungalows on the site was brought to the attention of the committee; however officers could not support this for planning reasons. Nevertheless PM spoke asking for the number of bungalows to be increased, primarily as accommodation for the elderly, disabled and vulnerable as identified in the CEBC Local Plan evidence base. Unfortunately, the committee approved the development as presented.

Subsequently, PM has written to Cllr Ainsley Arnold raising issues about the low (or non-existence) of accommodation for the elderly, disabled and vulnerable within developments as a whole, citing this development as the example. The letter was sent on 22nd June and to date no reply (or acknowledgement) has been received.

	<p>2. Congleton Neighbourhood Plan – Transport Group</p> <p>Nothing to report</p> <p>Cycling report. All primary school have been issued with the new cycle map during their Bikeability days</p> <p>Apple Juice/ Cider</p> <p>Around 264 bottles of Apple Juice in stock and 54 bottles of Cider.</p> <p>A quantity of cider now ready for blending / bottling.</p> <p>Balance Sheet (April to 3rd July)</p> <p>Circulated prior to the meeting, no issues raised.</p> <p>Food4 Free</p> <p>No report issued</p> <p>Carbon Reduction Group</p> <p>No actual report (see below)</p>	
13.	<p><u>A.O.B</u></p> <p>Cheshire Wildlife Trust. Sub Group met on 20th June and worked up a programme of actions for CSG. PA will produce a map showing locations/area to be worked in.</p>	

	<p>The Sub group will next meet to look at 4 or 5 specific areas that in consultation with the public improvement can take place. <i>Sub Group Meeting Report (20.6.17)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The CWT report recommendations should form the basis of future work of this group</i> • <i>Whilst the majority of work would be within the Congleton parish boundary that more ‘natural’ boundaries would be more appropriate for this work and may thus be within adjoining parishes. Final area tbc</i> • <i>There are a range of ‘pressures’ on the local environment and thus different remedial actions would be required</i> • <i>There would need to be a mix of longer term strategies and more immediate proactive works</i> • <i>The linkages to other plans / proposals would be important, particularly those relating to transport infrastructure and recreation / heritage development</i> • <i>In the first instance the group should identify 5 – 6 sites / locations in the area where intervention would be advantageous and report back on these.</i> • <i>Consideration be given to the production of report / media to highlight issues & solutions</i> • <i>Pressure should be applied to planners, developers and politicians to ensure that the value of the natural environment be incorporated within the development of the town and its environs</i> 	
	<p><u>Next Meeting:-</u> Mon 7th August 2017 The Old Saw Mill ,10.00am (S.Foster to chair)</p>	