

Meeting: Congleton Sustainability Group

Date: 01.03.2022 **Time:** 6:30 pm **Location:** Zoom

In attendance: Heather Seddon, Cathy Dean, Jackie MacArthur, Glen Williams, Linda Aston, Kay Wesley, Barry Fox, Jackie Kay, Peter Aston, Patti Pinto, Dawn Washington, Olga Whitmore.

Item	Agenda Item / discussion	Action / comment
1	<p><u>Welcome and Introduction.</u> Heather chaired the meeting; new attendees welcomed to the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Apologies</u> Sharon Joynson, Valerie & Alec Scaresbrook</p>	
3.	<p><u>Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising</u></p> <p>The draft CSG constitution is still available for comment (attached to the minutes). An AGM can be called later in the year where the constitution can be formally adopted. Please see attached the CSG Constitution v0.5 which is the most current draft.</p> <p>The CSG membership form was accepted, see attached; can all members please fill out this form and return it to Cathy (cathy.dean@congleton-tc.gov.uk).</p> <p>A slight amendment has been made to not use a bold typeface on the membership form. Thanks to the 12 we have received back.</p>	<p>ALL</p>

4.	<p>Approval of the Agenda. Yes</p>	
5.	<p>Finance</p> <p>The current balance of CSG funds is £745.86, treasurer report is attached to the minutes.</p>	
6.	<p>CSG Facebook / Promotion</p> <p>CSG has a Facebook business page and Facebook Group. Make Cathy & Heather admins of the group.</p> <p>Cathy has set up a marketing calendar so we can plan the various awareness days/weeks we can join and promote. (Send link to Heather & Patti)</p> <p>Cathy to liaise with Jackie M as the Green Group has a marketing plan in place. CSG should take the local angle on National problems/issues.</p> <p>We need a new photo of the group for Facebook.</p> <p>CSG needs to have a focus, what does the group what to focus on? And in turn, each subgroup, what is their big campaign?</p>	<p>Patti/Olga</p> <p>Cathy</p> <p>Heather</p>
7.	<p><u>Communications</u></p> <p>Heather to design a standard group report template, to include social media links & volunteer hours. Volunteer hours to be recorded to demonstrate the value/impact it has.</p>	<p>Cathy/ Heather</p>

	<p>Actions from the last meeting to be an agenda item. Each sub-group should get the chance to be the 'spotlight' of a meeting when required.</p>	
8.	<p><u>Spotlight on Plastic Free Congleton</u></p> <p>Heather gave a short overview of the Plastic Free Congleton sub-group. The group have completed 93% of the scheme, so not far to go until Congleton becomes a 'Plastic Free Community'! The group are actively looking for more 'community allies' to sign up to the scheme, these can be community groups, or community spaces eg, Church Hall's, sports clubs, scout huts etc.</p> <p>To become a community ally the appropriate person needs to sign the pledge (attached) – but the 3 parts of the pledge can be flexible, so if a group doesn't use single-use plastic for example, they can still sign up! The pledge has 3 parts, removing/replacing 3 pieces of single-use plastic (if used), communicating the plastic-free message, and supporting Plastic Free initiatives in the town.</p> <p>Around 10 more community allies are required to sign up. If any member of CSG is a member of a community group who could help us, please do let Heather know.</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/PlasticFreeCongleton/</p> <p>https://plasticfree.org.uk/</p>	<p>ALL</p>

	<p>AOB.</p> <p>Barry asked should the group become more political and lobby on certain issues. The East Cheshire Climate alliance is the link to the local authority of which Jackie Kay, Barry & Olga attend. It was agreed CSG should regularly write to Fiona Bruce as our MP to raise the CSG profile. Heather to write regarding Plastic Free.</p> <p>Electricity/Gas– conserving energy/heating homes. Obviously, a hot topic at the moment with the rise of wholesale electric and gas prices. CSG can take the lead on this in the community. Mark Thompson on Facebook has put out a post with regards to heat imaging on houses, cheaper price if houses can be bound together.</p> <p>At the next meeting, the Spotlight will be Trees for Congleton.</p> <p>Send out calendar invites to the meeting.</p> <p>Next Meeting Tue 5th April 2022, 6:30 pm at the Old Saw Mill</p>	<p>Heather</p> <p>Heather</p>
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Group Reports:


Please support:

Congleton Repair Café

****Congleton's Repair Café will be at The Old Saw Mill on Saturday 26th Mar 22, from 10 am to 2 pm****

- We are Congleton Repair Cafe - a volunteer ran, monthly, FREE event held at The Old Sawmill on Back River St.
- Bring us your broken toasters, lamps, jeans, picture frames, chairs, teacake stands and the rest, our volunteers will repair your possessions and teach you in the process!
- Our expertise is in:
 - Simple electrical appliances
 - Furniture
 - Bicycles
 - Clothing and materials
 - Clocks
- ONE ITEM PER-PERSON.
- All repairs will take place on the first floor, excluding bicycles - items therefore must be carriable up a flight of stairs.
- IMPORTANT: Unfortunately, we will not be accepting complicated electronic equipment, such as smart phones, laptops or televisions, and do not advise bringing fragile antiques for restoration.
- Please send us a message in advance if you are unsure whether your item fits the above categories, or you would like to bring more than one item. Please include an image of the item and what the issue is.
- If we cannot repair your item on the day, advice will be given as to how best to fix it in the future, or where to take it. Arrangements may also be available for out of hours repair and collection on a case-by-case basis.
- Though this is a free service - donations are welcome! Feel free to "pay as you feel", as all donations will go back into improving our events.
- Thank you, we hope to see you there!

Rep: Ben Casey, [Congleton Repair Café | Facebook](#)

Sub-Group	Plastic Free Congleton		
<u>Time period of Report</u> (Month, Year)	Jan – Mar 2022	Name:	Heather Seddon
Description/ Aims of Group	Plastic Free Congleton is a small group of volunteers who are working towards Congleton becoming a ‘Plastic Free Community’. Not all plastic is ‘bad’ but the aim of the group is to highlight the use of single-use plastics and reduce them in the town. Businesses, Community Spaces and Schools etc are encouraged to sign up to the scheme. The scheme adopted is run by the marine conservation charity Surfers Against Sewage.		
Details of Next Meeting	Plastic Action Group Meeting: Wed 16 April, 7:30 pm via zoom		
Volunteering Opportunities/ Up-coming events	Please come and join us at our next Plastic Action Group meeting!		
Successes/Information	<p>The group has now completed 93% of the scheme, so very close to completion. We are actively looking for community groups and community spaces to sign up as a ‘community ally’ to the group. This could be things like sports groups, church halls, scout groups etc. The community group is required to sign a pledge (attached) which involves spreading the word about plastic use and ideally removing 3 pieces of single-use plastic, but even if the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">  Adobe Acrobat Document </p> <p>group doesn’t use single-use plastic (or has already removed them) that still counts!</p>		

No. Volunteer Hours from Group	
Contact Details (e-mail address)	heather.seddon2@btinternet.com
Facebook Link	https://www.facebook.com/PlasticFreeCongleton

Trees For Congleton

The next volunteering dates are as follows:

Contact Ruth Benson treesforcongleton@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/Trees-for-Congleton-102719481683789>

TREES FOR CONGLETON PROGRAMME MARCH 2022 (3rd update 7/3/22)

Day/days	Time	Place?	Activities for volunteers
Daily till completed?	9 am-4.30 pm	Smithy Lane, Bosley postcode SK11 0NZ (gateway just over bridge up track opposite Bosley Reservoir dam but don't follow sat nav up to Stiles Meadow)	Tree planting that can count towards our target of 30,000 trees - see mention on Trees for Congleton Facebook page of ongoing planting of 8000 trees. TFC has provided 350 oaks. Contact Sam Alston 07768 176306 (best contact) or email samjalston@gmail.com for further information.
Mon 7 Mar	2-4 pm	Back Lane-Hawthorne Close, West Heath, CW12 4ZQ	Hedge planting and mulching (Queen's Jubilee cherry also being planted at Astbury School)
Wed 9 Mar	2-4 pm	Back Lane-Hawthorne Close, West Heath, , CW12 4ZQ	Alternative date for hedge planting. (QJ cherries also being planted at Marfields and Daven Schools)
Thur 10 Mar	2-4 pm	Thirlmere Court, West Heath, CW12 4FD	Complete hedge planting and mulching
Fri 11 Mar	10-12 am	Back Lane- Hawthorne Close, West Heath, , CW12 4ZQ	Plant Queen's Jubilee cherries (QJ cherries also being planted in schools or at War Memorial Hospital)
Sat 12 Mar	1.30-3.30 pm	Hankinson's Field, Park Road, CW12 1DR	Plant Queen's Jubilee cherries, finish hedge and plant black poplar whips
Sun 13 Mar	10-12 am	St John's Rec, Buglawton. Meet at the gate on Havannah Street, opposite the Pharmacy. CW12 2AT	Plant native black poplars in floodplain area (and fruit trees?)
Mon 14 Mar	10-3 pm	St John's Rec, Buglawton. Meet at the gate on Havannah Street, opposite the Pharmacy. CW12 2AT	Plant trees and shrubs with Cheshire Wildlife Trust. Register at https://www.cheshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/events/2022-03-14-community-tree-planting-day
Tues 15 Mar	10-12 am	TBC - see FB page or Whatsapp messages	Plant Queen's Jubilee cherries, or black poplar trees, or finish other sites
Thur 17 Mar	1.30-3.30 pm	TBC - as above	As above
Fri 18 Mar	10-12 pm	TBC - as above	As above
Sat 19 Mar	10-12 am	Burns Close, Bromley Farm CW12 3EF	Plant hedge funded by the Tree Council under their Branching Out scheme. Young people needed!
Sun 20 Mar	10-12 am	St John's Rec, Buglawton or Bowness Court/Padgbury Lane	Finish planting trees and shrubs and native black poplars if needed, or do replacement planting at Bowness Court and Padgbury Lane, also mulching at Padgbury Lane.
Thur 24 Mar	10-12 am	Back Lane-Hawthorne Close, CW12 4QA (TBC)	Plant additional hedge and/or trees and shrubs (dependent on consultation feedback)
Sat 26 Mar	10-12 am	Burns Close, Bromley Farm CW12 3EF	Finish planting hedge funded by the Tree Council under their Branching Out scheme. Young people needed.
Sun 27 Mar	TBC	Havannah Mill open space, Havannah	Plant trees and shrubs and native black poplars (note - dependent on landowner agreement)
28-30 Mar	TBC	TBC	Plant Queen's Jubilee cherries, or black poplar trees or complete other sites

Notes: Dates and venues subject to change. Email Trees for Congleton to let them know you'd like to join their Whatsapp group for latest info (mobile phone number needed), or see Trees for Congleton Facebook page.

Further information: Contact Trees for Congleton via email treesforcongleton@gmail.com or

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Trees-for-Congleton-102719481683789>

07/03/22 RB

Congleton Climate Action Group

The next Congleton Climate Action Group meeting is scheduled for **Tues 22nd March, 6:30pm – 8:30 pm** at Congleton United Reformed Church, Antrobus Street, Congleton.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/314489803782805/314489823782803/>

Rep: Jackie Kay, [Congleton Climate Action Group | Facebook](#)

The Old Saw Mill

Please support The Old Saw Mill, Back River Street, Congleton – this community space serve lovely hot meals and have a fantastic selection of cakes, etc., as well as being the home of Congleton's own apple juice, cider etc.

Rep: Peter Aston, see The Old Saw Mill Facebook page [The Old Saw Mill | Facebook](#)
