

## Meeting Minutes: Congleton Sustainability Group


**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023     **Time:** 6:30 pm     **Location:** Old Saw Mill

**In attendance:** Heather Seddon (Chair), Margaret Gartside, Kay Wesley, Peter Aston, Patti Pinto, Cathy Dean (Secretary).

**Apologies:** Anne & Simon Fallis, Jenny Drew, Jackie MacArthur, Linda Aston, John Sherwood, Barry Fox, Ruth Benson, Peter Hall, Linda Aston.

**Next meeting: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 via Zoom, 6:30 pm**

**Spotlight topic: Park Weir and Solar Panels Project**

1.	<p><b><u>Welcome</u></b></p> <p>Heather welcomed everyone to the group.</p> <p>Minutes were approved from the last meeting 06.12.22.</p> <p>Actions from the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jenny / Linda to chase the outstanding invoice for Repair Cafe. <b>Carry Forward</b></li> <li>• Cathy to contact Jenny / Ben to support social media activity – <b>Meeting arranged 9<sup>th</sup> Feb.</b></li> <li>• Heather is to send a letter to Chronicle promoting Congleton Repair Café - <b>Actioned.</b></li> </ul>
2.	<p><b><u>Financial Update</u></b></p> <p>Thanks to Linda for sending in the accounts prior to the meeting.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>I E CSG Feb 2023 - Reports.pdf</p> </div> <p>A very successful Repair Café was held. As a note tablets &amp; mobile phones cannot be repaired at the café. Heather does know someone who does repair mobile devices but will be for a fee. We could sign-post but not recommend. (<a href="#">IT Support - Computer Repair Services Congleton   The Tech Division</a>)</p> <p>£800 for Elizabeth's garden new customised fence &amp; behind the wall project.</p> <p>The fence &amp; new signs will let the public know that it is Elizabeth's Garden</p> <p>However, we are awaiting additional funding (C Partnership) before buying &amp; installing the fence, hopefully during March, but not ready for 8 March.</p> <p>£500 was awarded by WDT for Fairground garden.</p>

<p>3.</p>	<p><b><u>Future Plans / Big Ideas</u></b></p> <p>The group had a discussion regarding the future project ideas for CSG. Two ideas were decided to take forward:</p> <p><b>Energy / Cost of Living – Reducing energy wastage.</b></p> <p>Saving energy saves people money so anything we can do to educate people on how to save energy would be well received in today's cost of living crisis.</p> <p>Mark Thompson who did some talks for us during the Green Fayres has done a lot of work in this arena, website is: <a href="https://www.getenergysavvy.info/">https://www.getenergysavvy.info/</a></p> <p>Climate Action Group has been conducting energy-saving assessments in people's homes, but there is a clear lack of education and understanding.</p> <p>Could we do an event in the town hall? CP has lots of requests for cooking tips, Love food – hate waste campaign. We could combine with energy-saving cooking i.e. air fryers. Could this form part of the green fayre?</p> <p><b>Schools and Traffic – Encourage walking to school.</b></p> <p>A major problem at all schools, poor car parking and blocking driveways, air quality etc. Very difficult to encourage during Winter but a summer campaign might work.</p> <p>Walking buses could start with High Schools. Local children could be encouraged to walk in. Would need an eco-coordinator. More likely to be PTA driven.</p> <p>Margaret is happy to lead this project, already in contact with schools.</p> <p>We would need a baseline:</p> <p>Survey children: how did they get to school? How many walked? What were the weather conditions? We could make the campaign into a competition.</p>
<p>A</p>	<p>Margaret to lead and discuss the idea with the schools.</p> <p>Kay is happy to lead the energy project.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><b><u>Volunteer Events</u></b></p> <p>Please see the tree planting dates posted on: <a href="https://www.congletonpartnership.co.uk/project/trees-for-congleton-22-23-season/">https://www.congletonpartnership.co.uk/project/trees-for-congleton-22-23-season/</a></p> <p>Congleton Repair Café – 25<sup>th</sup> February 10 am – 2 pm Old Saw Mill</p> <p>United Reform Church – Cleaning up rubbish in the garden. Contact Jackie Kay for dates.</p>
<p>5.</p> <p>A</p>	<p><b><u>Communications</u></b></p> <p>No Action</p>

6. **A.O.B**

Trees for Business – Any contacts with Businesses looking to plant trees or have ideas on how businesses can get involved please forward them to Ruth B. Trees for Business is working with Rotary on 4 collaborations, the first one is Gymetc which will be used as a case study.

CTC Green Marketing – a joined-up approach between the green groups in 2023 would be great to see. A meeting was on the 18th of January, a green calendar has been created:



Congleton Green  
Calendar 2023 Feb-M

Jackie Kay has a large selection on seeds to give away which were donated via Astbury Garden Centre. Seeds for vegetables, fruit, salad and many different annual and perennial flowers including butterfly and bee-friendly ones. Please contact [cw12climateaction@gmail.com](mailto:cw12climateaction@gmail.com)

Actions:

- Margaret to contact schools re walking to school project.

**CSG Subgroups:**

CSG Members		Subgroup	Facebook Page
Peter Aston	<a href="mailto:peterjaston@gmail.com">peterjaston@gmail.com</a>	The Old Saw Mill, Dane Valley Community Energy	<a href="#">Congleton Hydro</a>
Heather Seddon	<a href="mailto:heather.seddon2@btinternet.com">heather.seddon2@btinternet.com</a>	Plastic Free Congleton	<a href="#">Plastic Free Congleton</a>
Patti Pinto	<a href="mailto:Pattipinto1@gmail.com">Pattipinto1@gmail.com</a>	In Bloom, eco-schools, Trees for Congleton, Cong Food4free	<a href="#">In Bloom</a>
Margaret Gartside	<a href="mailto:cllrmargaret.gartside@congleton-tc.gov.uk">cllrmargaret.gartside@congleton-tc.gov.uk</a>	In Bloom, Trees For Congleton	
Barry Fox	<a href="mailto:gbarryfox@gmail.com">gbarryfox@gmail.com</a>	Green Living Course	<a href="#">Green Living Course</a>
Alec / Val Scaresbrook	<a href="mailto:cycling@cheshirecycleway.co.uk">cycling@cheshirecycleway.co.uk</a>	Congleton Food4Free	<a href="#">Congleton Food4Free</a>
Ruth Benson	<a href="mailto:benson1ruth@gmail.com">benson1ruth@gmail.com</a>	Trees For Congleton	<a href="#">Trees For Congleton</a>
Peter Ranson	<a href="mailto:peterjranson@btinternet.com">peterjranson@btinternet.com</a>	Old Saw Mill	<a href="#">Old Saw Mill</a>

**Useful Groups:**

CSG Members		Group	Facebook Page
Jackie Kay	<a href="mailto:Jackiekay28@hotmail.co.uk">Jackiekay28@hotmail.co.uk</a>	Climate Action Group	<a href="#">Climate Action</a>

Adam Linnet	<a href="mailto:alinet@cheshirewt.org.uk">alinet@cheshirewt.org.uk</a>	Cheshire Wildlife Trust	<a href="#">Cheshire Wildlife Trust</a>
Matt Axford	<a href="mailto:ASTBURY@cheshireeast.gov.uk">ASTBURY@cheshireeast.gov.uk</a>	Countryside Ranger (Astbury Mere)	<a href="#">Astbury Mere</a>

## New members

There is a short membership form for new members, to be completed once. Members receive e-mails from the Group and having voting rights at CSGs annual AGM. Please send your membership form to our secretary, Cathy Dean, [Cathy.Dean@congleton-tc.gov.uk](mailto:Cathy.Dean@congleton-tc.gov.uk).



CSG Membership  
Application Form App

## Important Dates

**Next meeting 7 March 2023 via Zoom 6:30 pm**  
**Spotlight topic: Park Weir and Solar Panel Projects**

**Join Zoom Meeting link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87819696244?pwd=a09OQUF5bmc2Z1RiL0t5ZUVQWTBBdz09>

CSG Meetings are typically scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month.

The CSG AGM will be held in June 2023.