

Meeting Minutes: Congleton Sustainability Group

Date: 7th March 2023 **Time:** 6:30 pm **Location:** Zoom

In attendance: Heather Seddon (Chair), Patti Pinto, Cathy Dean (Secretary), Jackie Kay.

Apologies: Jenny Drew, Ruth Benson, Peter Hall, Peter & Linda Aston, Margaret Gartside, Kay Wesley, Lisa Hargreaves.

Next meeting: Tuesday 4th April 2023 at The Old Saw Mill, 6:30 pm

Spotlight topic: Biodiversity Plans (TBC)

1.	<p><u>Welcome</u></p> <p>Heather welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>Minutes were approved from the last meeting 07.02.23.</p> <p>Actions from the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margaret to contact schools about the walking to school project. Communication was sent to all Primary schools on 16.03.23
2.	<p><u>Financial Update</u></p> <p>Thanks to Linda for sending in the accounts prior to the meeting.</p> <div data-bbox="252 1160 316 1220" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Copy of I E CSG March 2023.pdf</p>
3.	<p><u>Spotlight Report – Congleton Hydro</u></p> <p>The latest newsletter from Congleton Hydro was shared, please read here:</p> <p>https://mailchi.mp/d434d15ee6f8/congleton-hydro-update-16852389</p> <p>The new project which consists of a weir in Congleton Park and a Solar panel project is underway. The Solar panel project is going well, there have been several expressions of interest. The Congleton Park Weir is stalled due to land ownership issues which are hoped can be resolved.</p> <p>More info:</p> <p>https://www.congletonhydro.co.uk/park-weir-and-solar/</p> <p>Any questions can be sent directly to admin@congletonhydro.co.uk</p>
A	<p>Patti asked regarding size of the roof for solar panels – Cathy to check.</p>

4. **Volunteer Events**

Please see the tree planting dates posted on: <https://www.congletonpartnership.co.uk/project/trees-for-congleton-22-23-season/>

Congleton Repair Café – 25th March 10 am – 2 pm Old Saw Mill

Community Health and Wellbeing Fayre – 28th March 10 am – until 3 pm, its free to attend, drop in anytime at Congleton Town Hall.

Workshops are listed below.

- ✓ 10:30 am - Join Personal Trainer and Group Exercise instructor Beks to hear why it's important to keep moving, stay active and eat well in later life; an informal and informative chat to inspire and provide ideas for a happy and healthy routine that you can incorporate into your daily life.
- ✓ 11 am - Resuscitation training and the use of a defibrillator workshop.
- ✓ 12:15 pm - Fraud Awareness Workshop – just 20 minutes to protect yourself from scams and fraud - Last year in Cheshire, 5,281 people reported being scammed, costing them over £20 million. The best way to protect yourself is to attend our Community Health and Wellbeing Fayre fraud awareness session.
- ✓ 1 pm - Resuscitation training and the use of a defibrillator workshop.

The Big Clothes movement is also joining us and will be bringing along a selection of Women's and Men's clothes which will be free to take away.

6th April – **Launching the Bio-diversity plan.** Congleton Town Council commissioned work to improve the biodiversity of 30 green spaces in Congleton. The biodiversity improvement project will be launched at Stirling Close at 11 am until 1 pm on 6 April. Staff will be available to explain more about the sites and for those willing to get more involved there will be a chance to learn about hedge planting, tree planting and maintaining green spaces. All the plans can be seen on the biodiversity pages at www.congleton-tc.gov.uk - The sites in bold are the priority sites where work is starting first. The plan is that over time each site will have its own 'friends' group.

Volunteering with Bromley Farm Community Hub – weekly drop-in sessions starting from 14th March looking for volunteers.

5. **Communications**

A Trees report – round up all the planting done this season.

6.	<p><u>A.O.B</u></p> <p>Congleton Climate Action Group – Congratulations to Jackie and the team on completing the big garden tidy-up at United Reform Church. They are looking at developing a wildlife pond. At the next CAG meeting on the 13th of March at the Railway Inn they will be launching the Sustainable Travel project. All welcome.</p> <p>Patti is redoing the Fairground Garden, there will be a ‘mini allotment’ and wildflowers at the back.</p>
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CSG Subgroups:

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

Useful Groups:

CSG Members		Group	Facebook Page
Jackie Kay	Jackiekay28@hotmail.co.uk	Climate Action Group	Climate Action
Adam Linnet	alinet@cheshirewt.org.uk	Cheshire Wildlife Trust	Cheshire Wildlife Trust
Matt Axford	ASTBURY@cheshireeast.gov.uk	Countryside Ranger (Astbury Mere)	Astbury Mere

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.



CSG Membership
Application Form App

Important Dates

Next meeting 4th April 2023 at The Old Saw Mill 6:30 pm
Spotlight topic: Biodiversity Plans

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

The CSG AGM will be held in June 2023.