

Meeting Minutes: Congleton Sustainability Group

Date: 3rd February 2026 **Time:** 6:30 pm **Location:** Congleton Town Hall

In attendance: Heather Pearce (Chair), Cathy Dean, Jackie Kay, Ruth Benson, Peter Aston, Linda Aston (virtual), Suzy Firkin, Sergy

Apologies: Margaret Gartside, Peter Hall, Heather Seddon, Kay Wesley, Patti Pinto.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 7th April 2026 at Town Hall, 6:30 pm

<p>1</p>	<p><u>Welcome</u></p> <p>Heather welcomed everyone to the meeting. Minutes from 1st July 2025 are accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.</p> <p>Actions from the last meeting:</p> <p>Action – Have a look at Cheshire Climate Alliance, Transition Wilmslow, and Macclesfield – could they come and speak? (CCA is made up of different groups, encouraged to sign up to National Emergency Briefing - https://www.nebriefing.org/. Nantwich Sustainability Groups are interested in meeting up (Suzy to follow up). Jackie encouraged us to look at Transition Wilmslow’s Nature Festival.</p> <p>Action – Patti is to bring in all receipts by October; some receipts have been received. (ongoing)</p> <p>Action – set up a meeting with interested parties and United Utilities to see what action, if anything, we can take. (Covered in the Agenda)</p> <p>Action – Linda added Cathy to the CSG bank account.</p>
<p>2</p>	<p><u>Financial Update</u></p> <p>The Repair Cafe is in the process of sorting out insurance and leaflets, so we will be spending some money soon.</p> <p>CEC Cost of Living Response grant has now been completed, so move £880.73 into general funds.</p> <p>Cheshire Grant for the befriending project move into the Partnership account to spend on the befriending project. Less of a contribution to the running costs of CSG of £100.</p>

	<p>are also a number of gardens around the Town that we could plant in. (Community Garden, Bee Garden, Elizabeth's Garden, etc)</p> <p>Actions – Cathy to talk to David regarding gaining permission.</p> <p>Voices of Change – Create a route of ecological work that has taken place around the town. A bicycle and a walking route. Points along the route where you can listen to real voices describing the project/area. Could have interactive moments/music/arts etc</p> <p>Jackie mentioned Sustainable travel is working with CEC to provide welcome packs to new residents moving into town, explaining walking and public transport routes, something to link into?</p> <p>The group is happy to support the museum in delivering both projects.</p>
4	<p><u>Water Quality Project</u></p> <p>Timbersbrook WI group regarding water quality in the river over a year ago. They have been involved in collecting samples from the River Dane for the Great UK WaterBlitz Spring Report 2025 - https://earthwatch.org.uk/report/great-uk-waterblitz-spring-report-2025</p> <p>Cheshire East Climate Alliance are working on stopping sewage overflows.</p> <p>Suzy has contacted United Utilities, who are making a significant investment to improve the water treatment plant and put in overflow storage tanks, which should eliminate some of the runoff issues. But we have to recognise that agricultural practices are causing a lot of the pollution in the river, which we aren't going to make a lot of impact on.</p> <p>Action – set up a meeting with interested parties and United Utilities to see what action, if anything, we can take.</p>
5	<p><u>Volunteer Events</u></p> <p>Planting at the Hospital 15th Feb 10-12 pm</p>
6	<p><u>A.O.B</u></p> <p>Next meet 7th April 2026, 6:30 pm Town Hall</p>

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 the AGM. Please send your membership form to our secretary, Cathy Dean, Cathy.Dean@congleton-tc.gov.uk.



CSG Membership
Application Form App