

## Meeting Minutes: Partnership Oversight Meeting

**Date:** 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026 **Time:** 11:30 am **Location:** Zoom/Town Hall

**In attendance:** Peter Aston (Chair), Cathy Dean (Secretary), Glen Williams, Abby Smith, Kate Fallon, Stewart Price (Left 12 pm), Kay Wesley (Arrived 12:05), David McGifford (Arrived 12:15).

**Apologies:** None received.

1.	<p><b><u>Welcome &amp; Introductions</u></b></p> <p>Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>
2.	<p><b><u>Outstanding Actions –</u></b></p> <p>Minutes dated 09.01.26 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.</p> <p><b>A.</b> Partnership website redesign to reflect changes, and discuss website development with Peter/Glen. <b>(Carry Forward)</b></p> <p><b>A.</b> Project Idea/Future Plans - It would be helpful to understand what the data tells us is needed in Congleton to help prioritise the project ideas. Kate to look into and bring back to the group so it can inform our discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need to decide democratically what ideas get taken forward?</li> <li>- Due diligence on projects, theme for the year?</li> <li>- How do people join the Partnership, what checks are in place etc</li> <li>- Kate to supply data along the lines discussed at the meeting (maybe useful to have a separate meeting to discuss results and how this influences the direction of projects).</li> </ul> <p><b>Kate has supplied STATS for Congleton Discuss Agenda Item</b></p> <p><b>A.</b> Cathy to share the water watch results, contact Suzy Firkin to see if we can arrange a visit to United Utilities with a proposal to arrange a meeting with all interested parties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Update Suzy and Peter have made contact with the respective parties and the intention is still to arrange a meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>A.</b> Amanda from Clonta would like to present at the next members' meeting. Vic/Cathy to arrange. <b>(Completed)</b></p>

<p>3.</p>	<p><b><u>Finance Update</u></b></p> <p>Full accounts sheet to be shared with the minutes.</p> <p>Two new grants received, thanks to:</p> <p><b>Total income:</b> £47,305</p> <p><b>Total spend 25/26:</b> £14,083.28</p> <p><b>Balance Remaining:</b> £33,221.72</p> <p><b>Unallocated:</b> £13,216.17 **Please note some of this funding will be assigned to events for 26/27.</p> <p>No change in figures from last month, CTC has reserved £3600 in the budget for Partnership Projects.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><b><u>Congleton Statistics</u></b></p> <p>Thank you to Kate for supplying the STATS on Congleton. Will need to be digested and some thought into how we use this data inform projects/direction.</p> <p>Data can only take you so far; you still need local evidence/local knowledge.</p> <p><b>Action</b> – Kate/Cathy to meet up to discuss using a survey at the Health and Wellbeing Fayre, what do people want?</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b><u>UK Town of Culture 2028</u></b></p> <p>The Department for Culture, Media &amp; Sport (DCMS) has launched a new competition to support towns wishing to bid for the title of UK Town of Culture 2028. Congleton Town Council, Community Projects and Congleton Partnership have met to discuss this opportunity and have agreed that Congleton should put itself forward.</p> <p>The expression of interest deadline is 31 March 2026, so timescales are tight, but the opportunity is significant. The winning town will receive £3 million to deliver a cultural programme of around six months in 2028. In addition, the two shortlisted finalist towns in each category will each receive £250,000 to deliver elements of their bid.</p> <p>This would be a truly town-wide project. Delivering a successful bid – and a lasting legacy – would involve residents, businesses, artists, community groups and partners working together to shape a programme of events and activity that benefits Congleton for years to come.</p> <p>At this stage, we are simply seeking an expression of interest to indicate that your organisation would support the bid and/or would like to explore being involved as it develops:</p> <p><a href="https://form.jotform.com/260324362570350">https://form.jotform.com/260324362570350</a></p>

	<p>As of today, we have had 38 submissions from interested parties.</p> <p>A meeting will be held towards the end of February with interested Parties.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><b><u>Community TV</u></b></p> <p>Request from Congleton TV to become one of 12 partners producing content. No capacity to commit time to filming regular content for external platforms. When content is created, it is shared via our existing channels, which currently have a greater reach than Community TV.</p> <p>When Congleton TV originally approached the Partnership, the understanding was that Community TV would be responsible for filming and producing the content. That would have addressed my main constraint, which is the time required to film and produce video content.</p> <p>All agreed to respectfully decline at this time.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><b><u>AOB</u></b></p> <p>MWMF is now open and closes on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Around 2K to give to local groups. Apply via the Partnership Website.</p> <p>Peter has been approached regarding a Pump Track in Congleton. This is one of the ideas suggested at the YC and is one of the repeated comments on the Youth Council TikTok Channel.</p> <p><b>Action</b> - Peter to forward the document. Kay/Cathy discuss at YC.</p> <p><b><u>Oversight Committee Meeting Dates 2026</u></b></p> <p>The usual meeting schedule is the First Friday of the month at 11:30 am via Zoom.</p> <p>Next meeting will be on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026, via Zoom, link on the calendar invite.</p>