



Goostrey Parish Council

The Village Hall
Goostrey
Cheshire
CW4 8PE

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON TUESDAY, 14th APRIL 2015 at 8.15pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL LOUNGE

Present: Cllrs. Godfrey (Chairman)(PG), McCubbin (CMcC), Caulkin (CC), Collins (SC), Craggs (DC), Lenihan (GL), and Rathbone (TR)

In attendance: Cheshire East Cllr. L Gilbert
Sharon Jones, Clerk to the Council
10 Members of the Public

04.15.1. Declaration of Interests – Cllr Craggs declared an interest in a Planning Application for Swallowdale Farm.

04.15.2. Apologies for absence- Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Fagan and Leake.

04.15.3. Minutes: To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting of 10th March 2015.

Resolved: The minutes of the meetings of 10th March 2015 were approved unanimously.

04.15.4. Cheshire East Council

Cllr Gilbert (LG) indicated that he did not have much to report as with the election coming up on 7th May. He commented that Goostrey is a shining example of a well run Parish Council in Cheshire East, being able to fill the hall at the Annual Parish Meeting (scheduled on 31st March which had to be abandoned due to a power outage) when Holmes Chapel (HC) Parish Council only managed to attract a few people at their APM. HC had, however, attracted 70 volunteers to assist in their Neighbourhood Plan.

He went on to mention that Brereton has released a draft of their neighbourhood plan and that the CEC Local Plan could have been in place if CEC had caved in to pressure for 42,000 houses which residents did not want. The number of houses outlined in the Local Plan is now 27,000. The Local Plan process should resume in July and CEC will be looking to get it in place by end of year. LG encouraged Goostrey to press ahead with the Neighbourhood Plan.

LG said that the HQ for leading the **Square Kilometre Array** (SKA) is currently up for grabs. The UK bid is being made by Jodrell Bank (JB) but there is international competition for the position. CEC will sponsor JB for £1 million in their bid to retain the position of HQ for the SKA.

04.15.5. Committee Matters

Finance Committee Meeting: 7th April 2015 - CMcC reported that a number of items had been deferred from the meeting in March and had been reviewed under matters arising from the Finance Meeting on 3rd March 2015. These included:

- a. **Asset Register** – The Clerk had added the new purchases since 1st April 2014 and had updated the rate of depreciation for all items to 33.33% from 1st April 2014. The committee agreed to split the land for the former youth centre into two and to give each a value of £12,500. The portion transferred to the Scouts is to be noted as a disposal for the year 2014/15.
- b. **Risk Management** – The committee reviewed the Risk Management document and agreed that this needed to be reviewed in more detail by the Finance Committee after the election. Items in particular were a possible change to the internal auditor.

- c. **Reserves** The reserves were reviewed and it was agreed that the term reserve should only be applied to the general funds, any specific or ear marked funds would be accruals, to be spent as soon as possible or returned to the general reserve if not spent.
- d. **Arrangements for Informal/Management and Internal Audits** – The Clerk would update the accounts and provide the information to the Chair of the Finance Committee to check. The Clerk would then prepare the annual audit form arrange for the Internal Auditor to check the accounts and paperwork. The audit form needs to be signed off by the Chairman at the meeting of the Parish Council in June to be returned by the end of June to the External Auditor.

Draft Accounts for 2014/15 - The Committee accepted the amended accounts. The accounts will remain in draft until the result of the external audit.

Financial Position vs budget to date - The financial position was within budget for the year 2014/15 (just ended).

Amenities – There Amenities meeting was not quorate, hence there were no minutes or actions from that meeting, however, SC confirmed the arrangements for the Churchill Oak Memorial Ceremony on 19th April at 12 noon on the Bogbean. She mentioned that there had been a request for a donation of funds to buy maps for Goostrey residents who volunteer in the Cheshire Lowland Rescue team. The Chair requested this was held over until the next Amenities Meeting. The Clerk asked about arrangements for the PC stand on Rose Day. **Action:** Clerk to inform Rose Day Committee that the PC will use their gazebo and will require 3 tables on Rose Day.

VHMC Meeting – CMcC reported that the Floor Scrubber had now been purchased and that Rose Day would be hiring mobile toilets for use during the day and evening of Rose Day. The Village Hall Toilets would not be open to people attending the Rose Day event after their booking finishes at 6pm.

04.15.6. Planning Matters: Meeting of 28th March 2015 – DC reminded the PC of his declaration in the application for Swallowdale Farm. He then recapped on the applications discussed at this meeting.

The Planning Committee had no objections to applications; 15/1017C, 15/0093C, 15/1057C, 15/1063C, 15/1154M, 15/1204C, 15/1151C, 15/1284C.

For application 15/1147C, the Planning Committee would like to see the dwelling linked to the agricultural business. If this was done the Planning Committee had no objections to the application.

Cheshire East Highways had posted a notice indicating that they planned to instate a no waiting area near St Luke's Church, incorporating part of Main Road and Church Bank. The Planning Committee asked if Highways could find an alternative to 'yellow lines ' as these would be the start of urbanisation.

DC reported that he had checked the variations to the application for Orchard Farm, Boots Green and they were a change to the facade's to which the Planning Committee had no objections.

Gladman Developments Application– The date of the committee Meeting is now 3rd June - PG will attend on behalf of PC, however it is possible that it may be called in by Eric Pickles. **Action:** PG to draft and circulate a letter in support of Holmes Chapel PC regarding overdevelopment of the area, and a lack of school places to be sent to the local press. HC Comprehensive School is also supporting this campaign.

04.15.7. Financial Payments

Resolved: *The PC resolved unanimously to approve the payments in Schedule 04/15.*

Cllrs Lenihan and McCubbin signed the Payment Schedule 04/15 and the list of the electronic payments to be made from the GPC bank account on 16th April. CMcC also checked and authorised the payments made from GPC bank account on 12th March 2015.

04.15.8. Clerk's Report

Actions from the last meeting

- a. Clerk to check to see if Jodrell Bank has been consulted on the Westwood Application. Clerk also to send comments to CW&C indicating that the PC is concerned about the recent increase in housing numbers in that area of Allostock which is effectively in Goostrey. **Completed**
- b. DC to check the drawings to see if size it is much bigger than the previous application.
- c. Clerk to check as it is possible Bloor Homes is proceeding without adhering to the conditions – The CEC discharge of conditions have not been agreed. It appears that Bloor have gone out to tender, action group will talk to planning enforcement at CEC. **Ongoing**
- d. ML to ask Highways about installing repeaters on New Platt Lane and possibly Station Road (lower priority).
- e. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk will sign the contract for the transfer of the land forming part of the site of the old youth centre to the 1st Goostrey Scouts – **Completed**
- f. Clerk to chase up the Fly tipping in the layby near the station – this appears to be much tidier now but needs to be checked on a regular basis.
- g. Clerk to ask Fiona Bruce for a copy of the letter she has sent to the Leader of CEC so that a letter of support for the Twemlow PC complaint about the bus service can be sent to CEC by Goostrey Parish Council – **Completed**

Additional Correspondence

- a. Telephone call from a resident complaining that there are large pot holes on Bomish lane.
- b. Acknowledgement of mail regarding the Bus Service from M Suarez at CEC.

04.15.9. Highways & Speedwatch- Action: ML to check to with Highways to see when Booth Bed Lane pot holes will be repaired as the patching on Booth Bed lane took less than an hour (near Trading Post) and there are a lot more further down the road that need repairing. **Action:** ML to inspect Bomish Lane potholes to see if they are a greater priority than Booth Bed Lane.

04.15.10. Local Policing – TR indicated there was nothing to report this month.

04.15.11 Youth Facility Working Party: CMcC mentioned that a resident had expressed an interest in obtaining the wooden floor in the old youth centre prior to demolition. **Action:** Clerk to talk to the Scouts regarding the removal of games tables and floor at demolition.

04.15.12 Friends of Goostrey Station – CC commented that a lot of gardening had been carried out at the action day on Sunday, however, the water supply is still not connected. CC has received an e-mail to say the connection is imminent. The white edging on steps on Manchester side has been repainted. 1500 plus hours have been carried out by FOGS volunteers and CC has been getting good feedback. PG commented that the hawthorn hedge is looking really nice.

04.15.13. Goostrey Archive Group - GL reported that the next meeting is Monday 20th in the Crown at 1pm.

04.15.14. Community Resilience Plan – TR has consulted with all people mentioned in the report and they are all happy to take on the roles allocated to them. However, this is still waiting for response from Ruth Stevens. **Action:** Clerk to put the draft plan on the web site.

04.15.15. Neighbourhood Plan (NP) – The last meeting of the committee was on 13th April. There was a recommendation that the vision statement be provided to the council to consider. TR circulated the vision statement to the councillors present which reads:

“To maintain Goostrey as a desirable and attractive village in which to live, supporting a high quality of life for all residents and businesses. Any future changes or developments shall be determined for the long term benefit of the whole community.”

Action: TR to find out from CEC if the area is now defined as the consultation has finished on 5th April and CEC have 6 weeks to respond.

PG asked for “rural” to be added between “attractive” and “village” in the first sentence. After some discussion, TR proposed that the amended vision statement be approved by the PC. GL seconded the proposal.

Resolved: *The PC resolved to approve the Vision Statement, 6 votes for and one abstention.*

04.15.16. Councillor Liaison Roles

PG suggested that standing orders were updated to include a section on Councillor Liaison Roles as follows.

2. Ordinary Council meetings

In an election year, Councillors should execute Declaration of Acceptance of Office, in each others presence or in the presence of a proper officer previously authorised by the Council to take such declaration, before the annual meeting commences.

At each Annual Meeting the first business shall be:-

- i. To approve Standing Orders
 - ii. To elect a Chairman
 - iii. To receive the Chairman’s Declaration of Acceptance of Office, or if not then received, to decide when it shall be received.
 - iv. To decide when any declarations of acceptance of office which have not been received as provided by law shall be received.
 - v. To elect a Vice Chairman
 - vi. To appoint Committees
 - vii. To appoint Councillors to the Councillor Liaison Roles as agreed at the preceding Parish Council Meeting
 - viii. To consider the payment of any subscriptions falling to be paid annually.
 - ix. To appoint cheque signatories
- o At its April Parish Council meeting, the Parish Council will review the effectiveness of the Councillor Liaison Roles over the previous year and amend them by adding, removing or changing portfolios as necessary.

PG proposed the PC approve the change to standing orders and CC seconded.

Resolved: *The PC resolved unanimously to approve the changes to Standing Orders as detailed (above).*

04.15.17. Minor Items & Items for the Next Agenda

PG suggested that the date of the next PC Surgery be changed to the 16th May which is after the the first PC meeting following the elections on 7th May. **Action:** PG & GL to attend the surgery on 16th May.

04.15.18. Date of Next Meeting: The next PC Meeting will be held on 12th May 2015.

04.15.19. Closure of Meeting – the meeting closed at 9.25pm

Public Session

A resident commented that the floor in the Old Youth Centre may be worth a considerable amount of money, and suggested that the PC get it valued. **Action:** CMcC to talk to someone re valuation and speak to the Scouts.

These minutes will be submitted for approval at the next meeting. Until then they are draft minutes.