

Sale of Half the site of the old Youth Centre

- Generated around £150K after legal and demolition costs.
- There are rules on how it can be spent – must go on Capital Projects – cannot be used to increase our annual budget or reduce the annual precept
- First decision - £50K donated towards cost of building the Scout Hut/Youth Centre
- PC needed to decide how to spend remainder
- projects should benefit whole community
- some money should be held over to spend on future projects
- Working Party set up by PC. It has canvassed for ideas, reviewed submissions & selected 6 projects
- 3 have been fully costed and approved by the PC and will happen in 2017/18
- 3 more are still being costed.

Proposed Capital Projects

- New 'Goostrey' road signs to be installed at the 6 entry points to village (not Parish)
- Village Hall Kitchen/Servery to be re-fitted
- Village Hall Stage to be resurfaced

Detailed Costings Being Developed

- Door to be installed between Main Hall and Kitchen in the Village Hall
- Main Hall & Lounge in Village Hall to be re-decorated
- New Stage Lighting for Village Hall to be installed

Other PC actions planned for 2017—2018

- PC will join CEC in opposing the Henderson Homes appeal against the refusal of application to build 6 houses on land adjacent to 51 Main Road – Public Inquiry in October
- The PC will transfer a plot of land to St Luke's Church to enable the extension of the existing Burial Ground – by about 50 graves or 10 years of burials at current rates
- The Parish Council will qualify for a Foundation Award under the Local Council Award Scheme

Review of Areas of Concern Raised with Cheshire East Council in 2016

Last year I ended by making a few critical remarks about Cheshire East our Unitary Authority. Parish Councils have a duty to develop effective partnerships with their Unitary Authorities. We took a decision at the start of this council year to work more closely with Cheshire East in the areas of Highways and Planning. This has been of some benefit in the case of Highways although progress has been slower than we would have liked.

In my view, effective partnerships are based on open communication and honesty and so I believe it is important to review progress made since last year;

We invited Cllr Rachel Bailey, the Leader of Cheshire East Council, to attend this meeting to address these points but she was on holiday. We intend to continue to build closer relationships with Cheshire East Highways and Planning and I sincerely hope that at next year's Annual Parish Meeting there will be further real progress to report on these areas of concern.

Local Plan

- Failure to deliver a Local Plan and to demonstrate a five-year housing land supply have both contributed to opening Goostrey up to unwanted attack from Developers
 - Plan still awaited but now with Inspector for a final decision
 - Five-year housing land supply still not proven but should be when Local Plan is adopted
 - + Planners giving more weight to JBO objections
 - + Developers deterred by Gladman decision
 - + Emerging Neighbourhood Plan also has weight in planning decisions

Goostrey as a Local Service Centre

- The classification of Goostrey as a Local Service Centre which has led to Goostrey being subject to unwanted attack from Developers. We have long been concerned that the Local Plan refers to a 'Goostrey Local Service

Centre' which is actually a loosely connected area containing 4 parishes (Goostrey, Cranage, Twemlow and Swettenham) all of which regard Holmes Chapel as their Local Service Centre not Goostrey.

- Goostrey is still classified as a Local Service Centre –despite strong pressure from GPC
- + here is greater recognition that Goostrey LSC does not equal Goostrey Parish

Roads and Pavements

- Road surfaces continue to degrade and pothole repairs appear wasteful and ineffective. Booth Bed Lane was raised at last year's meeting and is still the Parish Council's highest priority for highway maintenance work
 - + Booth Bed Lane has been resurfaced
 - + Some other remedial work done
 - Residents judge many roads and pavements to be below acceptable standard

Goostrey Railway Bridge

- The safety of Goostrey Railway Bridge remains a concern for the Parish Council and yet we cannot even engage with Highways about implementing their recommended solution.
 - + funding secured for traffic lights and alternating one-way traffic flows
 - + survey completed
 - + detailed design in progress
 - + plans available for public inspection soon

Broadband

- The failure of Connecting Cheshire to deliver superfast broadband to some areas of the Parish remains a major disappointment
 - + Lower Withington exchange is fibre enabled.
 - Some Goostrey premises connected to the Lower Withington exchange will be able to get fibre broadband in the next few months (but which ones and at what speed is not yet known)
 - Speeds likely to be better than now but well-short of superfast
 - + A Government Better Broadband Subsidy Scheme has been announced. This provides a subsidy to householders who currently have speeds less than 2Mbps to get wireless or satellite connection.

Village Playground

- Failure to obtain Section 106 money from Bloor Homes to spend on the Booth Bed Lane Play area.
 - + Proposals developed by Cheshire East are with Bloor's lawyers awaiting approval/amendment

Other Actions by CEC which benefit Goostrey

- A scheme to improve safety at the Booth Bed Ln/Hemitage Ln/Main Rd crossroads has been designed – awaiting funding
- Helped defeat the Gladman appeal by funding top planning QC
- Provided funds/assistance to our Neighbourhood Plan team
- Introduced 20 mph speed limit around Goostrey school
- Installed LED street lighting

In Conclusion

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Councillors for electing me as their Chairman and for their help, support and encouragement throughout the year. I particularly appreciate the heavy demands that Council work has made on many of you during what has been a very challenging year. I am sure all Councillors would all like to join with me in thanking the Parish Clerk, Sharon Jones, for the excellent support she has given to the Councillors and the Council over the last year.

That completes my Chairman's report. Thank you for your attention.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS for the YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

| RECEIPTS | | PAYMENTS | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Precept | £62,571.00 | VAT Paid | £6,900.42 |
| Council Tax Relief Payment | £1,624.00 | Administration | £6,137.35 |
| V Hall Lettings (incl.VAT) | £19,146.92 | Audit | £480.00 |
| VAT Refund | £7006.71 | Donations/Sponsorship | £2,269.79 |
| Bank Interest | £547.51 | Maintenance in Village | £4,891.00 |
| Senior Citizens Lunch | £588.00 | Misc. items | £1,605.52 |
| Wayleave | £1.19 | Parish Projects | £2,499.71 |
| DCLG Grant 3 | £6,085.00 | Salaries & Exp. – PC | £7,494.73 |
| DCLG Grant 4- | £2,475.00 | Neighbourhood Plan | £16,848.43 |
| Refund of legal fees | £594.00 | Village Hall Expenses | £1,818.50 |
| Proceeds from Sale of Building Plot | £170,000.00 | Salaries & Exp. –V Hall | £12,276.94 |
| Performing Rights Income | £236.28 | Spend from Cap Reserves | £50,000.00 |
| Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations Grant | £100.00 | Spend from Gen Reserves | £28,241.06 |
| Adjustment (balance accounts with bank) | £174.95 | | £141,453.45 |
| | £270,201.16 | | |
| Balance as at 1 st April 2016 | £75,611.32 | Current Account | £39,626.00 |
| Excess of Receipts over Payments | £128,747.71 | Deposit Accounts | £164,733.03 |
| Balance at 31 st March 2017 | £204,359.03 | | £204,359.03 |

FINANCE REPORT 2016-2017 (Cllr. Cath McCubbin)

It was agreed by the Parish Council in 2016 that we increase the precept by the amount of £20k to cover the cost of the Neighbourhood plan, thus allowing for any unforeseen expenditure that may arise.

We are happy to be able to reduce the Parish Council Precept by said £20K, for the financial year 2017/18 and have limited the precept increase to 2% in line with permitted increases.

The full cost of the neighbourhood plan, is still a somewhat unknown quantity, and grant funding has been available for some of the work. We have funding now earmarked in the reserve to finish the plan and we give our thanks to The Neighbourhood Planning Group for all their hard work and time given freely.

The Gladman Appeal Barrister Costs have been met from the general reserve and any remaining monies from the Neighbourhood Plan will "top up" our decreased reserve.

The base budget has seen no changes for this forthcoming financial year.

The sale of the building plot realised £170k before expenses. This is classed as a capital gain for the council and as such the monies may only be spent on tangible capital projects. Any interest earned may be spent as seen fit by the parish council. The monies have been split between several higher interest accounts, to ensure that it is safe guarded undercurrent banking regulations.

The parish council agreed to donate £50k to the New youth facility project that was then match funded by WREN.

As was seen on Saturday at its opening, this was a tremendous success and the we wish to again thank the scouts for taking on the project and for completing it with such efficiency and to a fantastic standard.

A working party has been set up to carry out further capital project explorations and the council has agreed to refurbish the village hall kitchen and the stage during this summer's holiday.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Cllr. Peter Godfrey | 533745 (Chairman) | Cllr. Cath McCubbin | 535139 (Vice Chairman) |
| Cllr. Roger Bennett | 532723 | Cllr. Ken Morris | 534622 |
| Cllr. David Craggs | 534314 | Cllr. Ian O'Donoghue | 537268 |
| Cllr. Graham Lenihan | 535180 | Cllr. Terence Rathbone | 537461 |
| Cllr Ian Macfarlane | 532777 | Cllr. Emma Williams | 533403 |

Sharon Jones 535825
Parish Clerk

also available at the Parish Office
Monday 9.30am – 12.30pm, Wednesday 1.00pm – 4.00pm,
Friday 1.00pm – 4.00pm



Goostrey Parish Council

Annual Report 2016/17

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2016-2017 (Cllr. Peter Godfrey)

Introduction

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and then began his speech.

This has been a very successful year for the Parish Council during which thanks to a lot of hard work, many of the plans we laid in previous years have come to fruition.

Main Parish Council Achievements in 2016-2017

New Scout Hut & Youth Facility

The new Scout Hut and Youth Centre was officially opened last Saturday. This has vindicated the Parish Council's decision that partnering with 1st Goostrey Scouts was the fastest and most likely to succeed option for providing the village with a Youth Centre.

Many thanks to The Scouts for the quality of the building and for the speed with which it has been built. Many thanks to the community for getting behind the project and for the individuals and village organisations whose donations have made it happen. The fund raising is not over there is still debt to be paid off!

Neighbourhood Plan

Goostrey Neighbourhood Plan has been written and Regulation 15 Consultation has been completed. I think you will all agree that it is an impressive document. Thanks to the Parish Council Committee and the wider Steering Group which included other villagers. Item 6 of tonight's agenda will include a full update on the Goostrey Neighbourhood Plan endorsed in January.

Gladman Appeal

The Gladman Appeal was refused following objections from Cheshire East Council and the Parish Council. Many thanks to Cllr Morris for taking the lead on this and for putting in a tremendous amount of work on behalf of Goostrey residents.

Precept

Last year, we approved a big hike in our precept and hence the size of the Parish Council element of your Council Tax. We have kept our commitment to make this a one-off event. Next year's Parish Council element of Council Tax is only 2% above that of 2015/16 to allow for inflation

Other PC Achievements in 2016-2017

- Our new goostrey.info website was launched
- Our new accounting system is in operation
- New speed gun was bought for the Speedwatch Team
- Hawthorns on Bogbean have been replaced
- A replacement for the Parish Council Notice Board (at end of Bank View) has been ordered – awaiting delivery&installation
- A new SDU for New Platt Lane has been ordered – awaiting delivery&installation - old unit to be re-located near the School