



Goostrey Parish Council

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the MEETING on MONDAY 18th FEBRUARY 2019

at 7.00 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL, COMMITTEE ROOM

Present: Cllrs Godfrey (PG)(Chairman), Morgan (PM)(Vice Chairman), Beckham (NB) and Williams (EW)

In Attendance: S Jones, Clerk to the Parish Council

- 1. Declarations of Interest** - There were no declarations of interest.
- 2. Apologies for Absence** - Apologies were received from Cllr Lord.
- 3. Minutes of the meeting of 17th January 2019.** - The Minutes of the Meeting of 17th January 2019 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.
- 4. Planters and Planting for 2019/20 – Updated quote for new planting** - EW & Clerk

The Clerk reported that she had received a quote from Hassell Free Gardens for the Planting that EW had specified for the existing planters in the Village (see quote attached).

The new planting was intended to be, as far as possible, sustainable (ie grown in the UK) and bee friendly. The large planter at the junction of Bank View and Main Road would be planted entirely with Munstead Lavender, and the planter at the Village Hall would be planted with rosemary and other herbs. The remainder of the concrete planters (5 in number) would be planted with a 30cm diameter box hedge ball and the compost topped with pea gravel. This planting does not need to be renewed twice a year and needs little ongoing maintenance other than being trimmed or cut back, and watered in dry periods.

The last part of the plan for the planters specified by EW will be to move the two concrete Planters from outside the Post Office and to put them either side of the bench on the Bog Bean (Main Road). The planter at the Old Paddock and the one outside the news agents will be relocated to the site of the bench which was opposite the end of Forest Avenue (before it was removed). The last planter which is currently at the junction of Booth Bed Lane and Main Road will remain in that area but may be moved to a more suitable position. Michele Hassall confirmed that the moving of the planters would be done free of charge as a gesture of goodwill.

To give the lavender and herbs the best start this year it was agreed that the Amenities Committee would seek approve from the Finance Committee and the Parish Council to pay for the plants and planting to be paid for in this year's budget so they can be planted in March.

Action: Clerk to request at the Finance Committee Meeting on 19th February, that the cost of the of the lavender and herbs and the planting thereof (approx. £210) be paid out of this years Amenities Budget.

5. **Village Entrances Project** – EW and the Clerk are still working on the proposal for the Village Entrances Project. This should be available for the next meeting on 8th April 2019.
6. **Crossing Guard Update** - The Clerk reported that there had been no further interest in the position.
7. **Trees on the Bog Bean – WI Tree Update** – The Clerk reported that CEC Highways had only one designated site for Tree Work in this area and the Bog Bean is not included in the area. PG suggested that quotes were obtained for the felling of the tree as it was too near the road and services to be removed by in experienced persons. Action: Clerk to obtain quotes as soon as possible to fell the tree.
8. **Crown Lift and Felling of Conifers in the Graveyard – Request from St Luke’s Church for matched funding to carry out the work** – The quote for the work to be carried out is £750.00 plus VAT. The proposal is for a 50/50 split with each party paying £375 plus VAT.

Resolved: The Amenities Committee resolved to support the request from St Luke’s for the Parish Council to pay for 50% of the cost of the tree work listed at a cost of £375 plus VAT. The Amenities Committee also agreed to put this proposal forward to the Parish Council at the Parish Council Meeting in February.

9. **Box Hedge at Shearbrook Bank – Update on Inspection** – EW reported that she had inspected the hedge and that, in her opinion, it needed fertilizing. The removal of the small box hedge plant at the Bog Bean end of the hedge be removed and a 50cm box cone planted in its place. She also suggested that the few stumps at the gap in the hedge be removed and the gap left as it appears to be in regular use by residents.

Cllr Williams also recommended that the hedge not be trimmed for a year. Action: EW to purchase fertilizer and box hedge plant at a cost of up to £50 plus VAT. Clerk to instruct Greenfingers not to cut the hedge for 12 months.

10. **Public Footpath from VH Car Park to Grave Yard – Quotations** – The Clerk reported that she had received a quote from E Whitehead for £1,800 to scrape the mud from the path, replace the wood and raise the level of the path.

Resolved: *The Committee resolved to ask for approval from the Parish Council to spend up to £2500 to resurface the path and to obtain further quotes for a specific solution.*

11. **Notice Board Replacement – Proposal** – The Clerk reported that she had a quote from Signs of Cheshire for poster cases with thumb turn locks and header boards. The pricing was for poster cases which would accommodate 18 A4 sheets (3 high and 6 wide) at a cost of £470.00 + VAT per board. There may be a reduction for a quantity of boards. The boards can also be painted the same colour as the one at the end of Bank View, and can have a similar header board with the Goostrey Logo and sign writing.

Resolved: *The Committee resolved to ask for approval from the Parish Council to spend up to £1,500 (total for 3 boards with fittings) to replace the existing Village Notice Boards and to obtain further quotes to ensure a best value solution.*

Action: PG & Clerk to measure up boards to check the correct sizes are ordered for each of the 3 locations.

- 12. Goostrey Tree Warden – Update** - PG reported that Thelma Carter was happy to accept the position of Tree Warden. Action: Clerk to speak to CEC Tree Officer to discuss appropriate activities for the Tree Warden. Clerk also to put Thelma’s contact details into the Parish Magazine and on the web site.

13. Correspondence

- Letter from resident regarding new equipment for the Booth Bed Lane Play Area – The Clerk reported that the resident had initially talked to her at the Parish Office and had then put her request in writing. Following that the Clerk had asked for an update on the status of the project from the Friends of Booth Bed Play Area and had received the survey form, request for assistance to produce posters and flyers from Parish Council and the form to draw down the funds from CW&C.

PG indicated that it would be appropriate for a Councillor to be assigned to work with the Friends of Booth Bed Play Area to move the project forward. Cllr Morgan volunteered to take on this role.

Resolved: *The Committee resolved to appoint Cllr Morgan to the role of liaison with the Friends of Booth Bed Play Area.*

Action: Clerk to advise the Finance Committee that Cllr Morgan will be taking on this role.

- Rose Day Stand – The Clerk had received the form for reserving a stand at this year’s Rose Day Festival. It had been indicated that stands were oversubscribed last year, so it would be prudent to book it now.

Resolved: *The Committee resolved to ask reserve a stand at this year’s Rose Day Festival at a cost of £15.00.*

Action: Clerk to reserve and pay for a stand at Rose Day.

14. Minor items and matters for the next agenda

- **Graveyard Bins** – The Clerk reported that (ex Councillor) David Craggs telephoned last week to say that he had been putting the bins at the graveyard out for collect but he would no longer be doing this in future. She had agreed to put them out that week but on checking the brown bin it was too heavy to move. She further checked the bins to see what could be done on Sunday but by then both the brown and black bins were full to the brim with wreaths, plant pots etc

The Amenities Committee agreed that as the bins are an operational issue we should ask the Church to have a look at the situation and see if it can be managed by the Church or volunteers.

Resolved: *The Committee resolved to ask the St Luke’s Church to review the bin situation at the graveyard*

Action: Clerk to contact the Vicar to request she consider the matter.

- 15. Date of next meeting** – The next meeting will take place on 8th April 2019.