

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD****ON TUESDAY 28th JANUARY 2020 at 7.30pm in the VILLAGE HALL, MAIN HALL**

Present: Cllrs Morris (KM)(Chairman), Rathbone (TR)(Vice-Chairman), Lord (SL), Morgan (PM), O'Donoghue (IO'D), Ross (CR), Sulej (JS) and Williams (EW)

In attendance: Sharon Jones, Clerk to the Council, Cllr A Kolker, CEC and 4 residents

- 01.20. 1. Declaration of Interests:** There were no interests declared.
- 2. Apologies for absence:** Apologies for unavoidable absence were received from Cllrs Beckham and Roberts.
- 3. Minutes:** To approve & sign the Minutes of the meeting of 10th December 2019 and 20th January 2020.

Motion 1: The Parish Council accepts the amendment to the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting on 20th January 2020, to increase the cost of the Survey Monkey licence from £25.00 to £99.00 and approves the increase in cost.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to accept the amendment to the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting on 20th January 2020, to increase the cost of the Survey Monkey licence from £25.00 to £99.00 and approves the increase in cost.*

Action: Clerk to add the payments of £50 for the photocopying and £99.00 for the Survey Monkey Licence to the Payment Schedule for the February Parish Council Meeting.

Motion 2: The Parish Council accepts the minutes of the Parish Council Meetings on 10th December and the amended minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting on 20th January 2020 (including the Confidential Report for the Extraordinary Meeting on 20th January 2020) as true records of the meetings.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meetings on 10th December and the amended minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting on 20th January 2020 (including the Confidential Report for the Extraordinary Meeting on 20th January 2020) as true records of the meetings.*

- 4. Cheshire East Council Matters:** To receive a report on Cheshire East Council Matters. To deal with any questions by Members relating to the report and any questions by Members notified in advance to the Chairman and the CE Councillor.

Cllr Kolker highlighted again the issue of places available at Holmes Chapel Academy. He stated that there could be as many as 170 places short. He indicated that he did not think it would affect children going from Goostrey Community Primary School to Holmes Chapel Academy, but it would mean that people new to the village may have to send their children to Knutsford School instead. He said the situation was very unsatisfactory, and that despite continued efforts to highlight the problem nothing has been done to facilitate more school places at Holmes Chapel Academy.

He went on to say that he had attended a very interesting presentation by Cheshire East Planning Enforcement, which had been extremely informative. It was agreed that Cllr Kolker will try to arrange a similar presentation for the Parish Council.

- 5. Committee Matters:** To receive reports from the Parish Council Committees:
- i. **Amenities Committee Meeting on 16th December 2019** – The minutes are available on the website.
Cllr Rathbone, Chairman of the Amenities Committee, delivered the report from the Amenities Committee Meeting.
Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting on 16th December 2019, (with the amendment to delete the repeated resolution in item 10.), and all the resolutions therein.*
 - ii. **Finance Committee Meeting on 7th January 2020** - The minutes are available on the website.

Cllr Morgan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, delivered the report from the Finance Committee Meeting.

Finance Report - Cllr Morgan drew attention to the Finance Report which recommended a pre-paid charge card for authorised spending. The card has no monthly fee and transactions are charged at £1.50. The proposal is to trial the card for 6 months.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting on 7th January 2020, and all the resolutions therein, including the Unaudited Accounts and Budget vs Actuals report for the 3rd Quarter 2019/20 and the ordering of the Caxton pre-paid charge card.*

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to approve Cllrs Lord and O'Donoghue as additional members of the Finance Committee.*

- iii. **Village Hall Management Committee Meeting on 7th January 2020** – The minutes are available on the website.

Cllr Sulej, Vice-Chairman of the VHM Committee, delivered the report from the VHM Committee Meeting.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Village Hall Management Committee Meeting on 7th January 2020, and all the resolutions therein.*

- iv. **Staff Committee Meeting on 15th January 2020** – The minutes are available on the website. Cllr Morris, Chairman of the Staff Committee, delivered the report from the Staff Committee Meeting.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes and confidential report from the Staff Committee Meeting on 15th January 2020, and all the resolutions therein.*

6. **Planning Matters** - To review the outcome of the Planning Meetings 16th December 2019 and 28th January 2020. (The minutes are available on the website.)

Cllr Morris Chairman of the Planning Committee delivered a report from the meetings on 16th December 2019 and 28th January 2020.

7. **Financial Payments:** To approve payments in Schedules 01/20. Includes: Salaries & expenses.

- **Motion:** To approve 01/20 Schedule of payments.
- Chairman and Vice-Chairman (or any other councillor) to sign the 01/20 Schedule of Payments.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to approve the payments on the Payment Schedule for 01/20.*

The payment schedule was signed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

8. Clerk's Report

Actions from Last Meeting

- a. Clerk to arrange a meeting for the working group to discuss this further with our CEC representative – Completed
- b. Clerk to arrange a Staff Committee Meeting to discuss an Appraisal Policy. - Completed
- c. Pre-Consultation of Community Governance Review ends on 31st January 2019 - If Councillors wish they can submit a comment that Blackberry Gardens is part of Goostrey (or another personal comment if they wish). **Action:** Clerk to submit this comment on behalf of the Parish Council. - Completed
- d. The Parish Council is to consult with residents with regard to the potential bid to purchase the Old Railway Sidings. Completed.
- e. Complete the business case for the potential land purchase – Cllr Rathbone- Completed

Correspondence See Appendix 01/20

9. **Highways & Speedwatch:** To consider any Highways & SpeedWatch matters and to take any appropriate action.

- **Highways** – Water on the carriageway on Main Road. Cllr Rathbone summarised the correspondence so far with CEC Highways. Currently CEC Highways are to take this up with the owner of the land. TR is disappointed that no action has been taken to resolve the matter as the risk of accidents is high with water freezing on the Road. A plan has been provided by a resident which shows where the land drains are located, and this has been passed to the landowner and CEC Highways. **Action:** Clerk to progress with CEC Highways.

Cllrs Roberts and Ross together with AK, met with Representatives of CEC Highways to discuss the lights on Station Bridge. Cllr Ross reported that the project has now been handed back to Mr Wallace (CEC Highways). However, the current status is that there are no solutions that can

be implemented to create a safe haven for pedestrians as the carriageway across the bridge is not wide enough. Additionally, the depth of the bridge is not deep enough to accommodate barriers. On the approaches to the bridge the bank drops away which does not lend itself to the installation of traffic barriers that would sustain impact from a car let alone an HGV.

A footbridge over the railway bolted to the bridge would cost £1million, because the line would have to be closed during construction. The proposed traffic lights to stop the two-way traffic, were now thought by CEC Highways to encourage drivers to speed up to beat the light change. A Rumble strip, and a change or speed limit were also discussed. Currently, there is a change of speed limit from 30mph to 60mph between Twemlow and the Station Bridge. A suggestion to change the 60mph limit to 30 or 40mph on this stretch of road was raised.

Despite putting forward a number of options for consideration no decisions were made. Cllrs Roberts and Ross asked to have a meeting with Mr Wallace and Network Rail.

Cllr Roberts has also written on behalf of FOGS to Cllr Fiona Bruce expressing disappointment that this project has not just stalled but has in fact gone backwards. CEC Highways would not accept that there had been any serious accidents at this location. However, Cllr Ross indicated there had been at least one serious accident which was supported Cllr Kolker.

Action: Clerk to arrange a meeting between the Parish Council and Mr Wallace and Network Rail.

- **SpeedWatch** -Cllr Rathbone directed the members to the report in the document pack on the Website. There has been a reduction in people speeding from this time last year.

10. Local Policing – Report from the PCSO meeting – Cllr Rathbone indicated that our current PCSO Liz Chesters will be leaving us to take up training to be a PC.

11. Land Purchase - To Consider making a bid to purchase the Old Railway Sidings on Station Road.

- i. **To receive a report of the results from the consultation survey.** The Chairman delivered a report giving the results from the consultation survey. On 21st January 2020 980 survey letters were delivered (the majority were hand delivered and around 67 by first class post and via Survey Monkey. It was advertised on the Goostrey.info website, LoveGoostrey and on residents Facebook Pages amongst others. Knutsford Guardian e-article about it too. The letter made it clear that the Council did not know the extent of remedial work required for the land. There was an overall return of 663 which is 33.3% of the voting population, 542 “Yes” votes received (88%) and 73 “No” votes received (12%). This is a very high return compared to CEC surveys. Cllr Morris went on to review the comments (these are available on request).
- ii. **Motion 1:** The Parish Council resolves in principle to make an offer to purchase the land which is the former Goostrey railway sidings, subject to the approvals in Part Two of the meeting.
Resolved: The Parish Council resolved in principle to make an offer to purchase the land which is the former Goostrey railway sidings, subject to the approvals in Part Two of the meeting.
- iii. **Motion 2:** The Parish Council resolves to form a sub -committee of the Finance Committee to manage the offers for the land.
Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to form a sub-committee of the Finance Committee to manage the offers for the land.
- iv. **Motion: 3** The Parish Council resolves to delegate any negotiations to purchase the land to the Finance sub-committee, together with the Clerk. The limits of the offers to be determined in Part Two of the meeting.
Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to delegate any negotiations to purchase the land to the Finance sub-committee, together with the Clerk. The maximum limit of the offer/s to be determined in Part Two of the meeting.

Standing Orders were suspended, and the Chairman invited comments from the members of the public in attendance. See Public Forum on page 5 for the comments raised. Standing Orders were resumed after the Public Forum.

12. Annual Parish Meeting – To select a date for the 2019/20 Annual Parish Meeting. The 23rd April and 5th May, 2020 were suggested as prospective dates.

Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on 5th May, 2020.

Action: Clerk to contact Prof Teresa Anderson from Jodrell Bank to ask if she would be willing to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting.

13. Minor Items & Items for the Next Agenda: To take any points from Members and to note urgent items of interest.

- i. **Report from Sibelco Liaison Group Meeting on 14th January 2020** – DR (see appendix 01/20)
- ii. **Report form the VHPFF Meeting on 21st January 2020** – Cllr Ross delivered a report from the Village Hall and Playing Field Foundation meeting on 21st January 2020 where matters relating to the children’s play area, the tennis court repairs to the Astroturf and new bowling hut were discussed.
- iii. **Newsletter – Date and Delivery** – To set a date for the publication of the next newsletter and to confirm delivery method/supplier. The proposed dates for copy are 4th February or 10th March and dates for delivery are 18th February and 24th March (if we wish to use the Villages Magazine service). **Action:** Chairs of Committees to select one item of interest and write an article to send to the Clerk.

Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to provide the Clerk to copy articles by 10th March and that the Newsletter would be delivered with the Village Magazine on 24th March 2020 at a cost of £60.00 ex VAT.

- iv. **Sandy Lane** – Cllr O’Donoghue reported that a resident had told him that blue badge holders been driving to their houses on the footpath. There are bollards in place but it is dangerous for cars to be driving on the pavement. However, Plus Dane Housing have a duty to ensure that Blue Badge holders are able to park near to their houses. **Action:** Clerk to raise this with Plus Dane Housing.
- v. **Lea Avenue** – A resident had informed Cllr O’Donoghue that there is a tree on corner of Forest Avenue, Meadow Avenue and Lea Avenue which has branches which are likely to fall. The resident has logged this with CEC but has not received a reply. The tree is next to the house with a privet hedge and archway. **Action:** Clerk to take a photo and report this to CEC Highways.

14. Date of Next Meeting: To confirm the date of the next Meeting – 25th February 2020.

PART TWO

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE ASKED TO RETIRE.

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as extended by the Local Government Act of 1972, the press and public are excluded from the meeting for the discussion of the undermentioned items on the grounds that the publication of the matters would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Items for discussion:

15. Land Purchase - To Consider making a bid to purchase the Old Railway Sidings on Station. The following items and Motions are to be considered by the Council.

- i. **Motion 4:** The Parish Council resolves to accept the Business Case regarding the proposed purchase of the land which is the former Goostrey railway sidings.
Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to accept the Business Case regarding the proposed purchase of the land which is the former Goostrey railway sidings.
- ii. **Motion 5:** The Parish Council to resolve to make a full and final offer for the Goostrey railway sidings at the amount detailed in the “Confidential Report from Part Two of the Parish Council meeting on 28th January 2020”. The Offer is to be “Subject to Contract, and to the granting of the Public Works Body Loan Board. The offer will be submitted to the agent by the Clerk in writing on 29th January 2020.

Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to make a full and final offer for the Goostrey railway sidings at the amount detailed in the “Confidential Report from Part Two of the Parish Council meeting on 28th January 2020”. The Offer is to be “Subject to Contract, and to the granting of

the Public Works Body Loan Board. The offer will be submitted to the agent by the Clerk in writing on 29th January 2020.

- iii. **Motion 6:** If the Parish Council's offer for the land is accepted, the Parish Council resolves to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to apply for a PWLB loan for the purchase of the old railway sidings in Goostrey, the details and term of the loan are detailed in the "Confidential Report from Part Two of the Parish Council meeting on 28th January 2020". The Parish Council also resolves to apply for the PWLB loan as detailed in the aforementioned "Confidential Report".

Resolved: *If the Parish Council's offer for the land is accepted, the Parish Council resolved to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to apply for a PWLB loan for the purchase of the old railway sidings in Goostrey, the details and term of the loan are detailed in the "Confidential Report from Part Two of the Parish Council meeting on 28th January 2020". The Parish Council also resolves to apply for the PWLB loan as detailed in the aforementioned "Confidential Report".*

16. Minor Items and Items for the Next Agenda

- 17.** Closure of the Meeting: The meeting closed at 22: 05

Public Forum

Standing orders were suspended after Item 11 to take comments for the members of the public in attendance

A resident asked if the Old Railways Sidings Land had been valued. The Chairman confirmed that if the Parish Council resolved in Part Two of the meeting to put in a bid, the land would be valued before the Parish Council applied for the PWB Loan.

The resident also commented that if the land was purchased by the Parish Council he was not in favour of "transferring" any of the land to the Church for a graveyard as he felt the Parish Council should set up a committee to run the graveyard.

He went on to ask if the Parish Councillors would buy the land with their own money.

Another resident asked where the rights of access were to the property. The Chairman indicated that there were two, one halfway along the land and one at the Station end.

CLlr Kolker commented that he was supportive of the proposal to purchase the land.

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

All minutes and meeting papers which are no confidential are available at <https://goostrey.info> under the Parish Council Documents menu item.

APPENDIX 01/20

ITEM 01.20.08 CLERKS REPORT - CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Resident - VE Day 75th Anniversary Celebrations
- b. SLCC Branch - Finance Officer Vacancy at Northwich Town Council
- c. UU - Unmetered Supplies Enquiries RE: Goostrey PC UMS Festive MPAN 1300060124071 Invoice.
- d. ChALC Weekly Bulletin 13.12.19
- e. Holmes Chapel Parish Council - Meeting with Cheshire constabulary and local parishes
- f. Footpaths CEC - [OFFICIAL] RE: Goostrey FP12 - display of notice and plan for Public Inquiry – on PC Notice boards
- g. Resident Potholes on New Platt Lane and gritting at the junction of the A50 and New Platt Lane
- h. CEC Highways Re: Patching on New Platt Lane
- i. CEC Highways : Pot hole near 67 Main Road Goostrey
- j. Street Scene - Goostrey Parish Council Quote letter Dec 2019
- k. CEC [OFFICIAL] Risk assessments for CEC Buildings
- l. Resident Appeal Hermitage Lane
- m. CEC Highways - Re: FW: Parking on the verge outside the Play Area on Booth Bed Lane 18/12/2019
- n. Resident Re: Goostrey Lane - Drowning in Alcohol Litter / Flytipping. – mail from resident concerned that people dumping bags of beer cans and wine bottles are littering and drinking and driving.
- o. Planning Enforcement - Update
- p. CEC - Council Approval of Taxbase
- q. CEC Highways: [OFFICIAL] RE: Goostrey Road Rail Incursion Scheme update
- r. ChALC Weekly Bulletin 20.12.19
- s. CEC [OFFICIAL] RE: Precept Request from Goostrey Parish Council - confirmation of receipt
- t. VHPFF Confirmation of Receipt of Donation from Blue Dot
- u. Liz Chesters RE: Parking ~[OFFICIAL]~
- v. Sibelco Liaison Group Members RE: FW: Sibelco New Platt Lane
- w. CEC Highways [OFFICIAL] RE: CEH - Structural Patching – New Platt Lane, Goostrey
- x. Sibelco Sibelco Rudheath Lodge Neighbour Update 3 – posted on the website and notice boards
- y. 123 Reg Domain Name for Goostrey.Info Renewal Request
- z. Follys Luxury Toilets -Deposit request for Rose Day Toilets 2020- deposit required to secure booking
- aa. Cranage PC FW: [OFFICIAL] RE: Invitation for a Luncheon in Cranage – Social Isolation initiative, posted on website
- bb. CEC [OFFICIAL] RE: Annual Joint Use Meeting between CEC, the Parish Council, the School and VHPFF rep
- cc. Liz Chesters RE: PCSO Surgeries at the Village Hall Jan-March 2020
- dd. CEC Highways - Re: Fw: Water on Carriageway - Main Road West of Shearbrook – map received from resident
- ee. CEC Highways - Goostrey Road Rail Incursion Scheme Meeting Tuesday 28th January 2020
- ff. CEC Highways- RE: Weight Limits 09/01/2020
- gg. Information Commissioner's Office Latest news from the ICO
- hh. ChALC Vacancy & Weekly Bulletin 10 January 2020
- ii. Environment Agency RE: Information Request re Waste Site
- jj. Chester Magistrates Court - GMMC Info Requests GMMC156656AB Acknowledgement
- kk. PROPERTY EAST [OFFICIAL] RE: Request for Landlords Permission to carry out works at Goostrey Village Hall
- ll. Cranage Parish Council Re: Liaison committee meeting Tuesday
- mm. The Villages Magazine - Re: Adverts
- nn. WOOD, Karen [OFFICIAL] RE: Thank you for contacting Cheshire East Revenues Section.
- oo. Goostrey Scouts Xmas Lights 2020!
- pp. St Luke's Longsight Fwd: St Luke's update to be displayed on the website and notice boards for a limited period
- qq. Chalc Community Hub Job Vacancy Gawsworth
- rr. Rose Day Committee FW: Toilets for Rose day
- ss. Resident GPC Newsletter Delivery Plans
- tt. Adam Keppel-Green Website Accessibility training
- uu. Chalc - Police & Crime Commissioners meeting 4th February at 6.30pm at Crewe Police Station. TR to attend
- vv. LOCAL PLAN [OFFICIAL] Cheshire East Local Plan - Update on planning policy preparation
- ww. Resident - Goostrey Parish Council re Old Railway Sidings
- xx. LOCAL PLAN [OFFICIAL] STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE - JANUARY 2020
- yy. Resident Railway sidings 17:47 3 KB

ITEM 02.20.13 - MINOR ITEMS & ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

i. Report from Sibelco Rudheath Lodge Quarry Liaison Meeting on 14th January 2020 at Cranage Village Hall – Report from Cllr Roberts

The meeting included representatives from Allostock, Cranage, Holmes Chapel and Goostrey Parish Councils. In addition to the Cheshire East and Cheshire West/Chester Councils, a representative from Jodrell Bank was also present. There was one invited member of the public: John Perkins who lives on Knutsford Road directly opposite the quarry site. There were four representatives from Sibelco - Andrew Walker (CEC Dane Valley) chaired the meeting.

The following are summary points arising from the various discussions;

1. A question was raised regarding residents attending the meetings. At the last meeting it was decided that full time membership was inappropriate and they would be invited on an 'as need' basis. This was discussed and Sibelco agreed they would invite residents when necessary but the trigger for the invite and who should attend was not resolved.

2. Sibelco then raised the issue of a ready mixed concrete lorry driving through Goostrey village which contravened the 7.5ton weight restriction. They admitted this was an error on their behalf! They were using a sub-contractor and sadly hadn't highlighted the weight restriction thorough the village. A document has been prepared by Sibelco - this will be given to all drivers to explain the weight restrictions in Goostrey etc.

3. Sibelco then went onto the weight restriction signage at the end of New Platt Lane and on Goostrey Lane.

By way of background - the 7.5ton weight limit sign on New Platt Lane is a several metres before the junction and the Goostrey Lane sign is between the 30mph sign and the start of Main Road. Based on these locations any vehicle above the 7.5ton weight limit using this junction will be breaking the law!

At the meeting, Sibelco said they have been in touch with Cheshire East Highways who confirmed the weight restriction only applies to Main Road and not New Platt Lane and Goostrey Lane. This has subsequently been confirmed by the Parish Council.

4. Regarding the possibility of sand lorries driving along New Platt Lane towards and through Goostrey when the quarry is operational - Sibelco confirmed that in addition to the document detailed above, they will be creating a curve in the road carriageway at the site exit that will 'force' lorry drivers towards the A50

5. New Platt Lane junction - question raised as to how lorries (especially larger ones) would negotiate this difficult junction during the closure New Platt Lane - Sibelco confirmed they will send a person down to the junction when a delivery (and return journey) is scheduled - this will control traffic and pedestrian flow while the lorry negotiates the junction. It wasn't made clear how this would be managed.

New Platt Lane - concerns were raised regarding the movement of heavy vehicles on this narrow road - these relate to the safety of car drivers, cyclists and children when lorries enter and drive along New Platt Lane. It's difficult to see how this item will be resolved/addressed by Sibelco.

6. The lack signage at various locations has been raised by a number of parishioners. The signs alerting drivers on the A50 from the Knutsford and Holmes Chapel that New Platt Lane is closed were not put in place when the road was closed. Sibelco confirmed signs were put in place on Friday 10th Jan.

It was also highlighted that the sign on New Platt Lane doesn't warn Goostrey Lane drivers that New Platt Lane is closed - Sibelco agreed to put an additional signs on Goostrey Lane - completed.

It was also requested that Road Closure signs should be placed on the Northwich Road (B5082) where many drivers turn left onto the A50 to access New Platt Lane thus avoiding the difficult junction from New Platt Lane across the A50. Sibelco agreed to put additional signage at this location

7. New Platt Lane closure – Sibelco confirmed it would be 12 weeks but could be shorter.

Sibelco have prepared a very useful table which details the various activities at the Plant and quarry on a monthly basis. This is presented in Sibelco's bulletins which are on the Parish notice boards and Goostrey Parish Council website.

8. Cranage Parish Council raised the issue of subsidence – more details were presented by John Perkins. Sibelco's response was: "there is none expected" and "the impact should be minimal" - these contradict each other! The main issue is, several properties are very close to the quarry so subsidence is a possibility and hence may have an impact on home Insurance costs.

9. Sibelco went on to detail their site operations and plans. These include the removal of soil from the quarry areas and moving it to form a soil bund – all soil will be retained on site and used for the bund. This together with two fences – one made from wood and the second made from a metal mesh was well received by the person from Jodrell Bank as this should minimise electromagnetic interference etc.

Sibelco also confirmed they will plant a woodland mix around the quarry which will be maintained by them. Further details of the quarry activities including the extraction schedules for the various zones will be sent through to the Parish Councils.