



Goostrey Parish Council

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the MEETING on WEDNESDAY 2nd March 2022

at 7.30PM in The VILLAGE HALL, MAIN HALL

Present: Cllrs Rathbone (TR)(Chairman), Morgan (PM)(Vice-Chairman), O'Donoghue (IO), Beckham (NB), Williams (EW)

In Attendance: E Bambrook Clerk/RFO to the Council

1. **Declarations of Interest** - There were no declarations of interest made.
2. **Apologies for Absence** – Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Roberts.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting on 12th January 2022** – See minutes at <https://goostreyparishcouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Amenities-Working-Group-12012022-Notes-Draft-v1-with-appendices-and-report.pdf> were accepted as a true and accurate record.
4. **Tree Report** - The Tree warden sent apologies for the meeting as there was little to report but had raised a question with the Clerk about a request to plant a tree in a grass verge. The Clerk advised the Tree Warden that requests like this could be referred to her to provide an answer or to signpost the public to the correct authority or service. TR commented that the number of trees that had been felled, excluding those that had been wind damaged, seemed to have increased.
5. **Actions from the Amenities Meeting on 12th January 2022**
 - a. “Remembrance” crocuses - Clerk to obtain a quote for the plaque (wording to be provided by Rev Buckley). **Completed and installed.**
 - b. Revised Community Resilience Plan – **Update:** Clerk is approximately halfway through checking volunteers’ details and whether they are willing to remain on the list. This should be completed this week and the draft can be published. **Completed. See item 13.**
 - c. Audit of Village Assets – To carry out an audit of the assets listed on the report. **Update:** PM to complete the audit.
 - d. SDU on New Platt Lane – To consider investigating a mains electrical supply to the unit. **In Progress – Clerk has contacted an electrician.**
 - e. The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee – Clerk to contact regular hirers to advise them that 2nd June is a Bank Holiday and ascertain whether they wish to proceed with their bookings then secure the Village Hall for the whole period – **Completed – Hall booked for the whole weekend.**
 - f. Seniors Lunch – Clerk to contact Scouts to confirm the date they have for the Christmas Lights Switch On and contact the caterer to confirm availability. **Complete – See item 6.**
 - g. Budget Update – To consider any additional work or purchases to be made before the end of the financial year. Clerk to obtain quotes and permission for work to the oaks on Boothbed Lane. **In progress – quotes requested.**
 - h. Keep Britain Tidy Campaign 2022 - Clerk to promote the campaign via the website and newsletters. **Completed.**
 - i. Bogbean Christmas Lights – To consider a replacement lighting scheme. Clerk to obtain quotes to establish a power supply from the current box to the large beech tree. **In Progress – I O’D has contacted Duttons.**
 - j. Village Environmental Improvements Working Group – **Actions Boothbed Lane:** IO to investigate cyclists’ requirements for bike racks and to report to the next meeting. The Clerk to obtain quotes for a replacement bench to match the style of “Nell’s Bench”, in addition to the items and work listed in the report. The Clerk was also asked to investigate whether a small bee motif could be incorporated into the bench for the next meeting. **Action Shearbrook Bank:** Clerk to obtain quotes for environmental hedge planting for the next meeting to take place this spring, if this is possible. **In progress.**
 - k. Correspondence - Email from Trees East regarding footway on Main Road – The response indicates that no application has been received and therefore action cannot be considered. The group agreed to

contact the council's CEC Ward Councillors to ask them to progress this. Action: Clerk to contact Ward Councillors. **In progress – Comprehensive email sent to Cllr. Andrew Kolker.**

6. Events in 2022 - To set the dates for the events to take place in 2022:

- i. **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee** – It was agreed that an exhibition should take place on the afternoon of Saturday 4th June with tea and cakes. Councillors are to be encouraged to attend. **Action:** The Clerk will contact the Archive Group to ask if they are willing to stage the exhibition and will also contact the local WI to see if they would like to provide cakes as a fundraising opportunity. Clerk also to contact the Royal British Legion and liaise with the church to prevent event clashes.
- ii. **Rose Day** – It was agreed that a stall at the event would be a good idea. Councillors are to be encouraged to man the stall on a rota. It was also agreed that a game on the stall would be a good addition. A demonstration of the Speed Watch equipment to be considered. **Action:** Clerk to contact the organisers to arrange for the council to have a stall at the event.
- iii. **Seniors Lunch November 2022** - The Clerk confirmed that the Christmas Lights Switch On event was already scheduled for 27th November so 20th November had been booked into the Village Hall calendar and confirmed with the caterer. The committee felt that 20th November was too early. **Action:** Clerk to look at the availability of the hall and the caterer on 4th December. Councillors to be encouraged to assist.

7. Annual Plan – To review progress on the items in the Annual Plan. See A1 on page 3.

8. Environmental Improvements Project – Item 2 Main Road/Boothbed Lane Junction: IO confirmed that having spoken to cyclist; there are simple clips which can be fixed to the back of the benches as long as there is space. **Action:** Clerk to progress with a view to getting this completed for Rose Day. **Item 5 Shearbrook Bank:** As the end of the bare root season is approaching the committee agreed to defer this to season commencing Oct 2022. **See updated monitoring document A2 on page 6.**

9. SDU on New Platt Lane – The Clerk had spoken to an electrician who had estimated that this would cost at least £1500. It was agreed not to progress this until it was clear what Cheshire East's strategy on static SDUs would be otherwise any work undertaken could be a waste of money. **Action:** To be kept under review.

10. Proposed Tree Work on Boothbed Lane – The findings of the report were discussed and it was felt that if work is required on the trees identified then, with the possible exception of tree number 5, the work should be carried out by CEC Highways as it this their responsibility. In addition, as the work identified was to address amenity rather than safety issues it was agreed that this should be deferred until the trees are in leaf when members of the committee would assess any work that may need to be done. Consideration should also be given at that time as to how to advise CEC that any work undertaken by the Parish Council would not absolve CEC of their responsibilities with regard to safety.

11. Highways Update – The following report was provided by the Highways Officer in answer to the council's questions in bold:

1. Re-installation of the road name plate for Station Road? This is on the current programme of works for street name plates to be replaced, the original signs were removed for safety.

2. The works specified by an officer from the Highways team near to the junction of Booth Bed Lane and Main Road, ie cutting back of hedges etc. This has been brought up many times around the signage and lining both of which do not require any further action at this time, the line markings are still clearly visible at the junction and the hedges are maintained by the adjacent land owner which I did see a tractor cutting them approx. November time so does not require any further action regarding the hedges.

3. Footway between the Station and the Red Lion (I have received two more complaints on this matter and I am just about to report some issues with the state of the road at the junction of Manor Avenue and Main Road. This is currently on the future programmes list awaiting allocation for Footway Slurry sealing.

4. Water on Main Road – is there a date set for the further investigations into the cause? No date as of yet however we will update you when we have been made aware.

5. The footway lifted by tree roots at 77 Main road. We have had a response from the TPO department which indicated that there is no application to remove the tree, but I understood that you had discussed this with her and the residents. If highways feels that the removal of the tree will enable a solution surely you need permission from the householder and then the TPO people? Yes this was discussed with the tree owner who was happy to apply to fell it however advice from Trees East was that they would not approve the application to fell so unfortunately we cannot take any further action.

The Clerk is in the process of arranging a meeting with the Highways Officer and will speak to him again about this. CEC Ward Cllr. Andrew Kolker also has all the information regarding this problem. It was agreed that if no action was taken in 3 months then the council should carry out its own risk assessment to present to CEC to make the safety case.

- 12. Update on the Boothbed Lane play area.** PM provided an update. There has been some progress on this project with regard to the results of the consultation process and the various funding streams. A full update will be provided at the next meeting. It was clarified that the S106 funding only became available in August 2021. A member of the public had requested an explanation for the perceived delay in using the S106 funding. **Action:** PM to provide bullet points on the background to this so that the Clerk can draft a suitable response.
- 13. Community Resilience Plan –** TR has reviewed the plan and noted that the council must take care not to over commit in terms of the response it can provide as local councils are low down on the list of organisations that are expected to provide a response. The issue of which contact details should be contained within the plan was also discussed. **Action:** PM to investigate creating a public document and one which will be circulated internally. The Clerk to provide the Word document. Plan to be published in the next few weeks.
- 14. Correspondence – Item ii Goostrey Sign –** It was established that this sign is no longer required and the Highways Officer has confirmed that this belongs to the Parish Council. **A3 on Page 7. Action:** The Clerk to contact Northwich Town Council and ask them to quote to remove and dispose of the sign.
- 15. Minor items and matters for the next meeting –** The condition of the lavender in the planter on Main Road, opposite the Bank View noticeboard. It was agreed to ask Northwich Parish Council to suggest which plants would suit the location best and would provide colour as well as act as environmentally friendly pollinators. The committee agreed to provide a budget of up to £200 for this work. **Action:** The Clerk to contact Northwich Town Council.
- 16. Date of the next Amenities Committee Meeting –** The date of the next meeting will be 4th May 2022. PM gave his apologies.
- 17. Close Meeting –** The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Appendices

Item 7 A1

Goostrey Parish Council Plan for 2020-21

Presented by Responsibility

Amenities Committee

- A) Revise the Resilience Plan to take account of learnings from the Covid-19 situation Including an emergency network of support for any purpose** (e.g., extreme weather event recovery), with appropriate training (e.g., on PPE, CPR) with a mechanism to keep lists up to date. To include any learnings from Holmes Chapel and surrounding villages resilience plans.

SL and PM volunteered to undertake the review/update with support from the Clerk with a view to them producing a first revised draft by end of December 2020. Clerk to circulate draft.

Action: PM to investigate creating a public document and one which will be circulated internally. The Clerk to provide the Word document. Plan to be published in the next few weeks.

- B) Get feedback from villagers on their views on what they want to see in the village for the future.**

Publish a plan to improve every area of the village. To include Church Bank/Main Road, Main Road/Booth Bed Lane, Booth Bed Lane Green, Primrose Chase, outside Main Road Newsagent and Station area.

A questionnaire will be produced by NB & TR by end February 2021

Distribution of the Questionnaire both physically and via Survey Monkey and analyse results to take place in 21/22. ***Distribution to take place wc 26th April 2021.***

Survey complete. Working Groups set up to review the output, members of the group will be DR, NB, and TR.

Anonymous survey results to be posted on the website with TR summary report.

Complete

- C) Create a Plan to implement the Environmental Policy utilising the Environmental group as well as deciding what a longer-term strategy would look like.**

PM to liaise with the Environmental Group to confirm membership and to arrange a joint meeting of Amenities Committee and Environmental Group in January 2021 to consider development of plan.

Action: PM to arrange a meeting of the Environmental group before the Amenities Meeting on 2nd June 2021.

In Progress.

- D) Implement the plans outlined in A, B & C (above) and make a positive difference to the village commencing 2021-22**, potentially using a village volunteer network and the owners of commercial premises for feedback and implementation.

Pending actions from items A, B & C.

- E) Define and implement visual speeding deterrents, including resolution on the proposal to install village 'gates'.**

Progressing following decision by PC at meeting on 22/09/20 to accept recommendations of report to that meeting. KM has written to CEC asking them to consider funding and implementing works.

TR reported that KM was trying to secure the trial extra works money to fund this as well as the some of the Ward Councillors' budget. No response from CEC, Clerk to chase CEC Highways regarding funding status.

Action: Clerk to check with the Chairman to establish whether he has received any feedback regarding CEC Ward Councillors' budget.

F) Consider the potential to provide electric car/van charging points (environmental improvement) at the village hall?

After some initial investigation there appears to be no appetite for this at the present time.

Action: Review in January 2023. To be added to the VHMC meeting agenda for the final meeting of 2022.

G) Investigate and implement improvements to the Booth bed Lane play area.

- a. S106 Monies for the Booth Bed Lane Play Area** – The amount of funding has been confirmed by ANSA and is now available to be spent. The Council has agreed that the Amenities Committee will lead this project and that any contact or correspondence from ANSA and other stakeholders, should be directed to the Clerk.

Update: PM has written to the resident co-ordinating the project to request an update on the project status.

PM has received a response from the co-ordinator, and they will be meeting to review the results of the last consultation. PM will review potential additional funding sources and will work with the co-ordinator to plan the way ahead. A further consultation with residents will be required once a plan of suitable options is available.

Update: PM has met with the co-ordinator again and they have another meeting planned in the next few weeks to work on a plan for the way ahead. PM has also contacted the other resident who was interested in helping and he is keen to assist with the project going forward.

Update: PM expects to be able to provide a full progress report or a proposal at the next Amenities meeting.

Item 8 A2**Goostrey Parish Council – Amenities Committee - Environmental Improvements Project****Programme Monitor**

Location	Scope Prepared by Working Group	Scope Reviewed & Approved by Amenities Committee	Quotations Invited	Quotation Accepted by Amenities Committee	Start on Site	Completion	Comments
1.Church Bank	12/10/21						
2.Main Road/Boothbed Lane Junction	12/10/21	12/01/22					
3.Primrose Chase	12/10/21						
4.Station Area	12/10/21						
5.Shearbrook Bank	12/10/21	12/01/22					Feb 22 Amenities Committee Planting deferred to season commencing Oct 2022
6.Boothbed Lane Green	12/10/21						
7.Outside Newsagents, Main Road	12/10/21						
8.Bogbean	12/10/21						

TR 03/03//22 (updated)

Item 14 A3

Correspondence

i. 16/02/22 - Footpath

I'm enquiring into whether there has been any discussion in regards to placing a pedestrian footpath on Goostrey lane to the side of the fields where the quarry is, to allow walking access to Goostrey home and leisure and other amenities on the site. As a resident of Goostrey I am seeing evermore people walking the very busy and fast road of Goostrey lane and feel having a path would increase the safety for car users and walkers alike. Is this something Sibelco would consider to provide? When I look at the bund there does appear to be a grassed area between the bund, the hedges and the road. Could this be fenced and used as a grassed path? There is also an opening from the field (albeit gated at present) could that be used as entrance/exit point?

ii. 23/02/22 – Goostrey Sign

I was just wondering whether the Parish Council would consider replacing the "Goostrey" sign on Station Road, either out of its own funds or through Cheshire East Highways, as I think it looks quite damaged and is clearly showing its age.

I know that there are new black-and-white village signs at the entrances to the Parish, so I don't know whether the Parish Council feel that the sign in question is either no longer necessary or could be slightly different (i.e. perhaps referring to Goostrey Village Heritage zone as detailed in the Neighbourhood Plan)?