



# Goostrey Parish Council

## ***Minutes of the Goostrey Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall***

**Present:** Cllrs. O'Donoghue (IOD) (Chairman), Rathbone (TR), Morris (KM), Beckham (NB), Freeman (AF)

**In Attendance:** E Bambrook, Clerk to the Council (EB), Cllr. Andrew Kolker, Ward Councillor (AK)

### **PART ONE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC PRESENT**

There were four members of the public present representing Manchester Area of Cycling Time Trials, the governing body for all time trial events promoted in the UK, and Congleton Cycling Club and Congleton Time Trials. Following a number of negative posts on social media the group attended a Twemlow Parish Council meeting in order open a line of communication and to demonstrate that they are a responsible organisation which will listen and do their best to address any concerns. The meeting at Twemlow was felt to be a positive step by all parties and was the reason for contacting Goostrey Parish Council, to continue to build relationships between cyclists and the public.

The council were advised that this type of cycling takes place on Saturday Afternoons, Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. If members of the public see a few cyclists or individuals then it is likely to be them and that no races come through Goostrey itself although the Village Hall facilities are used as a headquarters. All races are authorised by the Police, who have to be notified.

The council informed the group that complaints are also received about cyclists using bad language in raised voices and there have been incidents where cyclists have been seen undressing in public. The group advised that they would also be happy to liaise with other cycling groups to help resolve issues and asked that people try to get a description of cyclists who cause problems, such as numbers or colour of clothes to help identify the cyclist.

It was felt that this had been a positive session and that it was useful to have a contact to speak to when issues arise. The group were thanked for attending.

**11.22.1 Declarations of Interest:** No declarations were made.

**11.22.2 Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Cllrs. Morgan, Ross and Sulej.

**11.22.3 Minutes of the meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022:**

**Resolved:** *The Parish Council accepted the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.*

**11.22.4 Cheshire East Matters:** AK advised the meeting of the following:

- Cheshire East Council (CEC) have joined a national campaign to increase the number of foster carers.
- There will be no garden waste bin collection from 19<sup>th</sup> December and 8<sup>th</sup> January.
- A Warm Spaces grant is available and the parish council confirmed that they would be making an application.



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- CEC have also launched a digital inclusion consultation to understand the key issues for residents in relation to digital inclusion and what can be done to increase the number of residents who are digitally included/ This means that they are confident enough to use the internet to carry out day to day online tasks. The CEC Customer Services Team can be contacted if residents are not able to complete the survey online.
- AK confirmed that he would send KM's letter regarding the approval of a planning application, despite objections from Jodrell Bank Observatory, to Dan Evans on his return from annual leave.

**11.22.5 Committee Matters:** To receive reports from the Parish Council Committees:

- a) Amenities Committee Budget Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

**Resolved:** *The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Amenities Committee Budget meeting of 26th October 2022 and all the decisions therein.*

- b) Amenities Committee Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022.

**Resolved:** *The Parish Council resolves to accept the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting of 2nd November 2022 and all the decisions therein.*

- c) Finance Committee Budget Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

**Resolved:** *The Parish Council resolves to accept the minutes of the Finance Committee Budget meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and all the decisions therein.*

**11.22.6 Planning Matters:** Were considered at the meeting of the Planning Committee held at 7pm prior to the Council meeting. Minutes to follow.

**11.22.7 Financial Payments:** To approve the payments in schedule 11/22.

**Resolved:** *The Parish Council approved the payments listed on Schedule 11/22.*

**11.22.8 Clerk's Report:** The contents of the Clerk's report were received and noted. Items of note were highlighted as follows:

- A Freedom of Information request has been received from a member of the public wishing to see a copy of the Joint Use Agreement. The Clerk will advise all parties as a matter of courtesy and send the information within the 20-working day time limit.
- The Cheshire East Minerals and Waste Plan and call for sites consultation has been reviewed and has been reviewed and does not require a response from the parish council.

**11.22.9 Highways & Speedwatch**

- a) **Speedwatch Report:** The contents of the report were received and noted. Three volunteers have now been recruited with a view to training taking place after Christmas.

**SDU at Shearbrook, Main Road - Summary Report October 2022:** The contents of the report were received and noted and included the data from September which had been missing due to a fault with the SDU.



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a) **Bomish Lane/Cross Lane Crossroads:** The council estimated that we are now at the end of the previously suggested 8-week period for this work to be completed. There has been no evidence of any work having been started and as the winter weather approaches, the crossroads is likely to become more dangerous. The Clerk and AK will pursue this with the Highways Officer.

**11.22.10 Police Matters:** TR attended the Police and Crime Commissioner's Liaison meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> November. The contents of the report provided by TR were received and noted.

**11.22.11 Budget 2023 - 2024:** The Council considered the previously circulated budget documents. No amendments were requested.

*Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to approve the budget for the financial year 2023 – 2024.*

**11.22.12 Precept Requirement 2023 - 2024:** The Council considered the previously circulated documents.

*Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to approve the precept of £50,680 for the financial year 2023 – 2024.*

**11.22.13 National Salary Award:** The Council was advised that the Local Government Association had come to an agreement on the new rates of pay applicable from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022. The Clerk will action this through the payroll, in line with the information provided by the National Association of Local Councils which was circulated with the document pack.

**11.22.14 Increase in Clerk's Hours:** The Clerk had been asked to record her hours to ensure that 85 hours per month were sufficient to carry out the work she was asked to undertake. The information provided was considered by the Staff Committee. It was agreed in principal that the Clerk's hours should be increased to 110 per month and this was referred to the Finance Committee to ensure that sufficient funds could be made available. The increase in salary was included in the budget for the financial year beginning 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and the motion on the agenda reflected this.

Whilst the council agreed that the increase in hours was warranted, there wasn't a consensus as to when this should begin. The motion was therefore not moved and it was agreed that the Finance Committee should be asked to advise whether sufficient funds are available to back date the increase to earlier in 2022. This will be placed on the agenda for the next Finance Committee meeting in January so that, based on the committee's recommendation, the council can vote on this at the January parish council meeting.

**11.22.15 Bowling Pavilion Grant Payment:** The council noted that the final invoice has been received and that the terms for the payment of the grant had been met. A cheque for £10,000 had been raised as requested.

**11.22.16 Parish Council Newsletter:** It was agreed that the Parish Council Newsletter should place more focus on the council and its work. The committee Chairmen were asked to submit articles on the work of each of their committees, including specific examples. The Clerk will provide general information



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about becoming a councillor and encouraging people to consider standing in the local election in May.

**11.22.17 Meeting Schedule 2023:** the schedule of meetings for 2023 was received and noted by the council. It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting should be scheduled for Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April and that the Amenities Committee Meeting due to take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, the day before the election should be pushed back to later in that month. The Clerk advised that she would confirm that date of the Annual Parish Council meeting at a later date as the election on the May and the additional bank holiday on 8<sup>th</sup> May could affect the calculation for the correct timing of the meeting.

**11.22.18 Minor items and items for the next agenda:** No items for the next agenda were requested. Due to the resignation of Councillors Emma Williams and Dave Roberts it was agreed that it would not be possible at this stage to add additional members to the Amenities Committee. The casual vacancy notices have been posted on the website and noticeboards, however, as the six-month period before an election has started, an election cannot be called and the vacancy will be filled at the next ordinary election on 4<sup>th</sup> May. Following the 14-day notice period the council may choose to fill the vacancy for the period until the election by co-option. The 14-day deadline for the first vacancy is 5pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> December and 5pm on 8<sup>th</sup> December for the second.

KM volunteered to replace Cllr. Roberts on the Rudheath Quarry Liaison Group.

A suggestion had been received regarding the installation of plaques to commemorate key workers who had died as a result of Covid. It was agreed that the council had already addressed this by the planting of 400 crocuses to remember these sad losses.

**11.22.19 Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022.**

**Close meeting – The meeting closed at 9.25pm**