



Goostrey Parish Council

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the meeting on 25th July 2023 at 7pm

in The Village Hall Lounge

Present: Cllrs. Morris (KM) (Chairman), Rathbone (TR), Beckham (NB), Craggs (DC)

In Attendance: E Bambrook, Clerk to the Council, Cllr. Russell Chadwick, CEC Ward Councillor

1. **Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest made.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs. Morgan and Fagan
3. **Planning Applications:** To consider and agree comments on the following planning application:
23/2468C Cornbrook House, 19, STATION ROAD, GOOSTREY, CHESHIRE, CW4 8PJ. The committee confirmed that the amendments on this resubmission consisted of a minor change to the roofline and therefore decided to make no comment.

Resolved: *The committee resolved to make no comment on application 23/2468C..*

4. **Correspondence:** To consider any correspondence received since the last meeting
 - a) The council's response to the findings of the Stage 2 complaint (reference number 19541281) planning application ref. 21/2569C (see Appendix 1), was sent to the Chief Executive of Cheshire East Council on 5th July and an acknowledgement was received the same day with the advice that there would be a response in due course. There was no further update at the time of the meeting and the Clerk confirmed that she would follow this up so that an update could be provided at the September meeting.
 - b) The council received the following update on 30th June from the Enforcement Officer regarding Enforcement Number 23/0154E Holly Bank Farm, 65, MAIN ROAD, GOOSTREY, CW4 8JR – erection of a detached garage. The owners of the property dispute the allegation and believe that the building is within the domestic curtilage. The owners are compiling evidence to support this claim. If this isn't possible they have been advised that they will need to submit a further application to regularise the issue. There was no further update at the time of the meeting and again, the Clerk confirmed that she would follow this up.
5. **Applications received after the agenda for this meeting was issued:** None.
6. **Minor Items and Items for the next meeting:** None.
7. **Date of the Next Meeting:** Tuesday 26th September 2023.

Meeting closed at 7.10pm

Appendix 1

Letter to Chief Executive Cheshire East Council

At its June 2023 meeting, Goostrey Parish Council discussed the responses received from CE Planning Department regarding a Formal Complaint made by the PC. The Complaint relates to an error that CE Planning Department made in approving the wrong drawings for an ancillary dwelling in Goostrey, the outcome being a larger than intended permanent negative impact on the operations of the nearby Jodrell Bank Observatory (JBO) radio telescopes. This is contrary to Local Plan Policy SE14 and Neighbourhood Plan Policy SC2. The Parish Council acknowledges the apology received from Mr Malcolm, but the PC had also requested formal revocation of the unintended approval which Mr Malcolm has rejected, leaving the increased permanent damage to the telescopes in place.

After careful consideration, the Parish Council has decided not to pursue the Complaint further with the Local Government Ombudsman. However, it was unanimously agreed that you should be made aware of this issue as Chief Executive, given the importance of Jodrell Bank as both a world leading scientific facility and a UNESCO World Heritage Site of Outstanding Universal Value.

The Parish Council's dissatisfaction with the responses to our Complaint concerns three areas:

1. We do not agree with Mr Malcolm's reasoning for not revoking the erroneous permission. His response says that JBO's objections to this type of development are "rare". We agree that they are "rare" but in this case JBO has objected. This is not surprising considering the proximity to the JBO site and the numerous appeal cases in which JBO and CE have successfully demonstrated the existing exceedance of the ITU threshold at this site.
2. None of the responses received to our Complaint suggest that any review or improvement of processes will take place to ensure this error does not happen again.
3. None of the responses suggest that there will be any action to improve the considerable time it takes CE Planning to respond to a Parish Council letter. In this case the erroneous permission was granted on 14th July 2022. The Parish Council wrote to Mr Malcolm on 19th August 2022 but received no reply. We wrote again on 30th September 2022 but received no reply. After intervention from the Ward Councillor, replies were received from an Officer with the error only being acknowledged for the first time on 8th December 2022. Our Complaint submitted on 29th December 2022 did not receive a reply until 14th April 2023, with the second stage Complaint finally receiving a response from Mr Malcolm on 6th June 2023.

For further information we are attaching copies of our Stage 1 and Stage 2 Complaint. The Parish Council request that you personally acknowledge receipt of this letter and that you have understood our concerns.