



Goostrey Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs. O'Donoghue (IOD) (Chairman), Morgan (PM) (Vice Chairman), Morris (KM), Rathbone (TR), Craggs (DC), Beckham (NB), Mooney (SM), Fagan (PF), Freeman (AF)

In Attendance: E Bambrook, Clerk to the Council (EB), Cllrs. A. Kolker and R. Chadwick (Ward Councillors, Cheshire East Council)

PART ONE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC PRESENT

There were two members of the public present.

12.23.1 Declarations of Interest: No declarations of interest were made.

12.23.2 Apologies for absence: Cllr. Hall.

12.23.3 Minutes of the meeting of 28th November 2023:

Resolved: *The Parish Council accepted the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 28th November 2023 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.*

12.23.4 Cheshire East Council (CEC) Matters: Cllrs. Kolker and Chadwick were present and reported the following:

- **Budget:** CEC has a full council meeting on 13th December and the projected budget shortfall is the major issue of concern.
- **Village Hall Recharge:** AK confirmed that he had emailed the Director of Finance concerning CEC's continued failure to raise an invoice for the Village Hall Recharge. The Clerk confirmed that she had received an acknowledgement and AK said that he would follow this up.
- **Leisure Centre Consultation:** Members were again urged to respond to the consultation to protect these important assets.
- **Car Parks Consultation:** RC confirmed that the majority of responses to this consultation opposed to any increase in charges. RC has asked officers to consider mitigations such as grace periods or 30 minute tariffs.
- **Westfields:** The Ward Councillors were asked whether Westfields would be closing and it was confirmed that this had been voted through.
- **Road Safety Solution:** The Ward Councillors were asked what the current budget pressures would mean for the proposed road safety solution outside 77 Main Road. RC advised that he would find out whether this was already in the workflow and report back.
- **Bus Permits for Mobility Scooters:** The Chairman had asked AK to clarify the position on whether permits are required for mobility scooters on buses and whether there was a fee to obtain a permit. AK agreed to find out and report back.

12.23.5 Committee Matters: To receive reports from the Parish Council Committees:



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- a) Village Hall Management Committee Meeting 5th December 2023. It was noted that this meeting has been rescheduled for 9th January 2023 as the scheduled meeting was inquorate.

12.23.6 Planning Matters:

- a) The following planning applications were considered:
23/4380C 8, FIELD SIDE CLOSE, GOOSTREY, CW4 8GD. Proposed garage conversion, Juliet balcony doors to replace the rear facing windows in the existing first floor living room, single storey rear extension and associated alterations.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to comment that planning application 23/4380C reduces the number of parking spaces down to two for a property that should have three parking spaces. This area is also a shared surface with no pavement and the council would like the Planning Officer to take these two points into consideration.*

- b) 23/4195C BURNSIDE, CHURCH BANK, GOOSTREY, CW4 8PG. Demolition of the existing dwelling and erection of a replacement dwelling (resubmission of 22/1763C).

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to make no comment on planning application 23/4195C.*

- c) To receive an update on planning matters: The Clerk reported that there had been no further update on Enforcement Request 23/00154E Holly Bank Farm. The Clerk advised that the Enforcement Officer had been in contact to confirm that he intended to visit The Sidings to investigate the issue of the commercial To Let sign on land at Goostrey Station.

- 12.23.7 **Financial Payments:** To approve the payments in schedule 12/23. The CEC Ward Councillors were asked what would happen regarding payment of the precept if CEC were to file a Section 114 notice. AK and RC advised that they would find out and report back to the Clerk.

Resolved: *The Parish Council approved the payments listed on Schedule 12/23.*

- 12.23.8 **Clerk's Report:** The contents of the Clerk's report were received and noted.

12.23.9 Highways & Speedwatch

- a) **Speedwatch Report:** The reintroduction of Speedwatch sessions awaits the availability of the PCSO to train volunteers.
- b) **SDU at Shearbrook, Main Road:** The report was received and it was noted that speeding continues to be a problem and anecdotal evidence also supports this.

- 12.23.10 **Police Matters:** Cllr. Rathbone attended the Police and Crime Commissioner's Liaison Meeting with Cheshire East Town and Parish Councils on 7th December and the report can be viewed in **Appendix 1 on page 4.**

- 12.23.11 **Goostrey Playground Community Project:** The report from Cllr. Morgan was received and noted. The Clerk confirmed that the sum of £10,750 was available in reserves.



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Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to continue to support the Goostrey Playground Community Project and approves the request for £10,750 as match funding for a grant application to the Landfill Communities Fund.*

The Clerk was asked to add approval to transfer the sum required from the Council's NS&I account to the NatWest account on either the Finance Committee or Council meeting agenda in January, whichever is first. The Clerk confirmed that the funds would be moved to a named reserve for this purpose from the unallocated general reserve.

- 12.23.12 Annual Parish Meeting:** The date for this meeting was confirmed as 25th April.
- 12.23.13 Appointment of New Tree Warden:** The Clerk reported that there had been two expressions of interest in this role but that only one had proceeded beyond that. It was therefore confirmed that Paul Kelmsley would become the council's new Tree Warden. The Clerk will contact Paul to confirm this.
- 12.23.14 Cheshire East Strategic Leisure Review Consultation:** It was agreed that the Clerk would write a letter for submission to the consultation stating the reasons for maintaining the current leisure provision in Holmes Chapel and Knutsford.
- 12.23.15 Minor items and items for the next agenda:**
- SM gave her apologies for the next meeting.
 - Councillors were reminded that all documentation relating to the draft budget has been circulated and available since November and would also be provided again on 13th December, in preparation for the meeting on 18th December.
 - The caterer of the Seniors' Christmas lunch is retiring and the council will be sending a formal letter of thanks.
 - The Clerk advised that she had contacted CEC concerning the council's Village Green application for The Bogbean. There had been no further contact since acknowledgement of receipt of the application in June. A response is awaited.
- 12.23.16 Date of Next Meeting:**
- Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting to approve the Budget and set the Precept for 2024- 2025 -**18th December 2023.**
 - Parish Council Meeting – **23rd January 2024.**

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.



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APPENDIX 1

REPORT OF ITEMS RELEVANT TO GOOSTREY FROM POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S LIAISON MEETING WITH CHESHIRE EAST TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS 07 DECEMBER 2023

1. Present: - John Dwyer PCC and 2 support staff, 3 senior Police Officers serving local areas, 14 Representatives from Town and Parish Councils, CEC Cllr Craig Browne (to pick up issues involving possible changes under Road Traffic Regulations).
2. GPC submitted the following question in advance of the meeting - Please can the Commissioner provide an update on the Commissioner's Average Speed Camera Project and in particular when applications may be invited from Town and Parish Councils for candidate sites for the next phase?
Commissioner advised that two cameras had been installed and are now being assessed for overall suitability and effectiveness with a report programmed for Spring 2024.
Commissioner advised that progress had been slower than expected with delays in establishing contractors for supply, installation and maintenance of equipment and there was now a Framework Contract in place which Town and Parish Councils may use. Commissioner anticipates some Councils using planning condition Section 106 highways improvement monies for Average Speed Camera projects. Police have recently taken delivery of nine mobile SID units which will be used to provide data to support attendance by police units to use Trucam and Traffic Officers for speed limit enforcement. TR asked about use of GPC existing SID data and was advised that this should be sent to the Goostrey Neighbourhood Police Officer.
Chalc has an event organised for 13/12/23 for feedback from Plumley PC regarding their project (GPC appears to have heard nothing of this). Subsequent to the meeting GPC Clerk established that this is a board meeting for Chalc Executive only.
3. Local Performance Indicators for July to September 2023 include: - Number of Incidents 19,626 +0.5%; Number of Crimes 6,171 -14%; Number of Arrests 1,525 +0.7%; General improvement in Response Times: Number of Stop and Searches 992 +44% a benefit of this is that Cheshire hospitals are the only area in the country to have witnessed a reduction in knife injuries for young people.
4. The Commissioner advised that Police Officer numbers allocated to a particular area are not a true measure of resources available as this includes Detectives, Traffic, Cyber and other specialist crime officers who are based centrally but may operate anywhere in the County. Cyber Officers have identified 700,000 paedophiles.

TR 11/12/23