



Goostrey Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 23rd January 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

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

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

PART ONE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC PRESENT

There were no members of the public present.

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

01.24.2 Apologies for absence: Cllrs. Fagan, Beckham and Hall

01.24.3 Minutes:

a) Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th December 2023.*

b) Resolved: *The Parish Council resolves to accept the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Goostrey Parish Council held on 18th December 2023.*

01.24.4 Cheshire East Council (CEC) Matters: Cllrs. Kolker was present and reported the following:

- **Budget Deficit:** Saving money and reducing costs continues to be the main business of the council with all committees working on this. It is likely that car park charging will be introduced in Holmes Chapel with Cllr. Chadwick's suggestions to mitigate this having been rejected. Cllr. Kolker reported that there would hopefully be a resolution to keep the area's swimming pools open. He also confirmed that CEC would be likely to ask the government for additional funding.

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

- a) Village Hall Management Committee Meeting 9th January 2024. Cllr. Freeman provided a brief overview of the meeting and advised that he would be attending the upcoming VHPFF AGM in place of Cllr. Beckham.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Village Hall Management Committee meeting of 9th January 2024 and all the decisions therein.*

- b) Amenities Committee Meeting Minutes 10th January 2024. Cllr. Rathbone provided a precis of the meeting.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting of 10th January 2024 and all the decisions therein.*

01.24.6 Planning Matters: All planning matters were addressed at the Planning Committee meeting held at 7pm, prior to the council meeting. Cllr. Morris highlighted that the Clerk had been asked to



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respond in support of the planning application for change of use for part of the Methodist Church to be used as a Post Office. The application was received after the agenda was published, with a comments deadline before the next meeting.

The Committee had also previously submitted a no comment response concerning planning application 23/4593C Valley Farm, Mill Lane under delegated authority to the Clerk and were due to ratify this decision. Subsequently, Jodrell Bank Observatory has formally objected on the basis that the telescopes will be impaired. Neighbourhood Plan Policy SC2 states that "Developments will not be permitted which can be shown to impair the efficient operation of the radio telescopes". The committee agreed, as new information has become known, to change its initial no comment response to one which supports Jodrell Bank Observatory's objection rather than ratifying the original decision.

01.24.7 Financial Payments: To approve the payments in schedule 1/24.

***Resolved:** The Parish Council approved the payments listed on Schedule 1/24.*

01.24.8 Clerk's Report: The contents of the Clerk's report were received and noted.

01.24.9 Highways & Speedwatch

a) **Speedwatch Report:** The reintroduction of Speedwatch sessions awaits the availability of the PCSO to train volunteers. The PCSO has indicated that this could take place in March. The Clerk will contact the volunteers to establish whether they are still interested and available to take part.

b) **SDU at Shearbrook, Main Road:** The report was received and noted.

Cllr. Rathbone was asked about the problem at Shearbrook Bridge where Highways have erected barriers. Highways have confirmed that they are monitoring the bank which is slipping and considering the need for remedial works. Cllr. Rathbone commented that he felt that this would be extremely difficult to resolve.

The Clerk has received a Highways Satisfaction Survey for completion by the Parish Council. It was agreed that Cllr. Rathbone and the Clerk would complete the survey on behalf of the council.

01.24.10 Police Matters: There was nothing to report at this time but Cllr. Rathbone noted that liaison between the Clerk and the PCSO was good.

01.24.11 Transfer of funds: The council approved the transfer of £10,750 from the council's NS&I account to its current account in order to make funds available to support the Goostrey Playground Community Project (approved by the Parish Council at its meeting on 12th December 2023, minute reference 12.23.11), by match funding a grant application to the Landfill Communities Fund.



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Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to approve the transfer of £10,750 from the council's NS&I account to its current account to make funds available to support the Goostrey Playground Community Project, by match funding a grant application to the Landfill Communities Fund.*

- 01.24.12 Annual Parish Meeting 25th April 2024:** Following the positive response to Cllr. Kolker's presentation at last year's meeting, he was asked to speak again and provide residents with an update on the latest from CEC. It was also suggested that Cllr. Chadwick might also speak and Cllr. Kolker agreed to ask him and let the Clerk know so that the agenda could be finalised and published in the next newsletter. The agenda for the meeting was approved.
- 01.24.13 Cheshire East Council Budget Consultation for 2024 to 2025:** The council discussed the consultation document and agreed that the statements and questions were too high level and lacking in detail to allow the council to make a considered response. The council decided that the Clerk should relay this information and that individual councillors could also respond to the consultation.
- 01.24.14 Health & Safety Policy:** The council reviewed and approved the policy and the recommended changes.
- Resolved:** *The Parish Council resolved to approve the Health & Safety Policy.*
- 01.24.15 Newsletter Articles:** The council reviewed the articles for the next Parish Council newsletter and it was agreed that Cllr. Morgan would provide a brief update on the Goostrey Playground Community Project. Cllr. Rathbone was asked to consider providing an article on plans for an event to mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day and the Clerk was asked to provide an update on the Post Office move to the Methodist Church.
- 01.24.16 Minor items and items for the next agenda:** None.
- 01.24.17 Date of Next Meeting:** 27th February 2024.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.