



Goostrey Parish Council

AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING Minutes of the Meeting on Wednesday 6th March 2024 at 7.30pm in The Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Rathbone (TR)(Chairman), Morgan (PM) (Vice Chairman), Craggs (DC), Fagan (PF), Beckham (NB), Freeman (AF)

In Attendance: E Bambrook, Clerk

1. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllrs. Rathbone and Fagan declared an interest in item 13 D-Day +80.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** None
3. **Minutes of the Meeting on 10th January 2024:**

***Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting on 10th January 2024 were accepted as a true and accurate record.*

4. **Tree Report:** The contents of the Tree Ranger's report, circulated in the document pack, were received and noted. The Tree Ranger referred to the interim guidance from Cheshire East on the replacement of street trees on highway verges. Cllr. Rathbone noted that the application process is quite onerous with restrictions on tree location, a requirement for wide consultation and a formal licence under section 142 Highways Act 1980 which includes future maintenance provisions. From previous experience it was felt that the licence is likely to be prohibitively expensive. The Tree Ranger was thanked for his report and his offer to apply for permission to plant replacement trees if required by the Parish Council.
5. **Budget Review and Monitoring:** The committee reviewed the budget monitoring documents; no issues of concern were raised.
6. **Annual Plan:** All items included in the Annual Plan are covered by items on the agenda. In addition, Cllr. Rathbone reported that the Remembrance Crocuses on Church Bank were now doing well and were better than last year.
7. **Village Maintenance Contract:** The committee reviewed the quotes and selected quote A with the condition that the Clerk seek confirmation from the tenderer that they are satisfied with their quote and are content to proceed on this basis.

***Resolved:** The committee selected quote A for the Village Maintenance Contract with the condition that the Clerk seek confirmation from the tenderer that they are satisfied with their quote and are content to proceed on this basis. If the tenderer decides to withdraw, the Clerk will proceed with the tenderer of quote C.*

8. **Village Entrance Church Bank Project:** The committee reviewed the quotes and selected quote C. The Clerk was asked to confirm whether the quote included the cost for an oak or plastic planter, as this was not clear, and if the quote was for oak, then to obtain a price for a plastic planter.

***Resolved:** The committee selected quote C for the Church Bank Project Contract subject to confirmation of whether the quote included the cost of an oak or plastic planter.*

9. **Seniors' Christmas Lunch:** Despite best efforts, only one quote had been forthcoming. The committee, however, were impressed with the quote and selected the option of 3 courses with a choice of starters and desserts for £27.50 per person (including VAT).

***Resolved:** The committee selected the option of a 3 course Christmas meal with a choice of starters and desserts for £27.50 per person (including VAT).*

10. **Rose Day Festival Support:** The committee had been asked by council to look at what support is provided to the Rose Festival and whether anything further was required. The council currently provides the mobile toilet unit and for the last two years has purchased a half page advertisement in the festival programme. The Clerk works closely with the Village Hall Supervisors and the organisers to ensure that costs for use of the Village Hall and support are kept to a minimum and has not received

any requests for additional help. The committee agreed that, if required, the Clerk would sign post the organisers to the council's grant funding process.

- 11. Removal of Tree Stump Boothbed Lane:** The Clerk had been in discussion with a company for this work but they had failed to provide a quote. The Clerk will progress this.
- 12. Christmas Lights Switch On Event:** This has been scheduled for 1st December to follow on from St. Luke's Christingle service, with those involved coming to The Bogbean for the switch on and carol singing. The Clerk will obtain quotes for the hire of a gazebo/marquee and brass band and also costs for a PA system as an alternative.
- 13. 80th Anniversary of D-Day:** The committee were advised that the group had received further private donations taking the total to over £4,000. The group are also preparing an updated grant application as requested at the last council meeting. The committee were advised that receipt of the grant is critical to the event progressing.
- 14. Goostrey Playground Community Project:** Cllr. Morgan provided the committee with the latest update from Ansa. The most recent indication is that the S106 funds and potential grant funding have been included in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), to proceed from April 2024. Booth Bed Lane will be included in the list of projects proposed to be delivered in 2024/2025, therefore Cheshire East will commit resources to conduct their Construction, Design and Management (CDM) client duties, which will come at a cost to the project but would be taken from the confirmed S106 funds. A fee is yet to be determined for this. A design for the playground has yet to be procured as Ansa needed to confirm the budget for the scheme first. In addition, the FCC funding requires that all S106 funding for the project is declared and committed or spent before any FCC funding is used. The aim is still to aim to begin the project work from April 2024, with preparation for a grant application submission by 5th June 2024 at the earliest. If the application is successful, notification of the award would be approximately 3 months after the round closes taking us to September 2024. The project would need to be completed by September 2025.
- 15. Annual Equipment Check:** Cllr. Morgan has completed the annual equipment check and was thanked by the Chairman. The report, circulated prior to the meeting, highlighted the oak bollards at Church Bank as requiring attention, this will be resolved by the Church Bank Village Entrance Project which is due to begin in the summer. The Clerk was asked to check with the person who monitors the council's two defibrillators that they are in good working order and how often they are checked.
- 16. Correspondence:** Nothing of note to report.
- 17. Minor items and matters for the next meeting:** The Clerk noted that a request had been made by the school's Eco Team for use of the council's litter picking equipment to tidy around the school grounds as part of The Great British Spring Clean.
- 18. Date of the next Amenities Committee Meeting:** Wednesday 1st May 2024.
- 19. Meeting closed at 8.30pm**