



Goostrey Parish Council

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

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

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

PART ONE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC PRESENT

There was one member of the public present.

04.24.1 Declarations of interest: No declarations of interest were made.

04.24.2 Apologies for absence: Cllrs. Mooney, Hall and Morgan.

04.24.3 Minutes of the meeting on 26th March 2024:

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26th March 2024.*

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

- **Middlewich By-Pass:** This has been put on hold by the government. Costs have increased by approximately 50% and the government has requested an explanation. The increase in costs is likely to be as a result of the amount of time it has taken for the project to begin and inflation in the intervening period.
- **Shearbrook Bank Slippage:** Cllr. Rathbone advised that the CEC Highways Officer has confirmed that this issue has been passed to CEC Construction but there is no further information. It was felt that this may be raised at the Annual Parish Meeting.

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

- a) **Finance Committee Meeting 9th April 2024:** Cllr. Morris provided an overview of the Finance Committee meeting to support the minutes circulated in the document pack.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 9th April 2024 and all the decisions therein, including the year-end statement of accounts, financial position vs. budget report and reserves position for the year from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.*

04.24.6 Planning Matters:

- a) The following planning applications were considered and the comments approved:

24/1203N 58, MAIN ROAD, GOOSTREY, CREWE, CHESHIRE, CW4 8LG. Proposed front porch extension and new storm porch. New front bow window. Changes to cill heights and windows at front and back of altered kitchen.



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Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to make no comment on planning application 24/1203N.

24/1272C WOODSIDE COTTAGE, CROSS LANE, GOOSTREY, CW4 8DG. Proposed general purpose agricultural storage building.

Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to ask the Officer to consider the following comments in coming to a decision:

- That the council considers the proposed building to be large in relation to the size of the plot of land as well as to other agricultural buildings in the area.
- That the building's use remains agricultural.

b) The following updates on planning matters were provided:

- i. Enforcement Request 23/00946E The Sidings, Station Road. No response has been received, despite requests for an update.
- ii. Enforcement Request 23/00945E The Sidings, Station Road. No response has been received, despite requests for an update.
- iii. Enforcement Request 23/00154E – Planning application 24/0688C Holly Bank Farm. The decision date for this application is now 26th April. The council's objection has been logged.

c) Cheshire East's Consultation on New Local Plan Documents: The current Local Plan runs from 2010 – 2030 but CEC have agreed to create a new plan which will run up into the 2040's. The government's methodology has not yet been published in detail and may change depending on the outcome of the next general election. CEC can, however, undertake preparatory work and a number of documents have been issued for consultation prior to 1st July, mainly concerning the approaches that should be used when the new Local Plan is being produced. The Parish Council will need to respond, particularly as the categorisation of Local Service Centres, infill villages and rural areas will be established. When the last Local Plan was created, Goostrey was categorised as a Local Service Centre despite the services available in the village being limited and the bus service having been cut drastically since then. Jodrell Bank Observatory has also objected to all new planning applications in the last five years. Cllr. Morris proposed highlighting this at the Annual Parish Meeting and also asked for volunteers to help interrogate the relevant documents and formulate a response for the council to approve.

It was agreed that Cllr. Morris would allocate documents to the Planning Committee members and agree the responses at a committee meeting before the next council meeting. The Clerk will schedule a meeting. It was noted that this marks the beginning of a long process.

04.24.7 Financial Payments: The council reviewed and approved the payments listed on schedule 4/24.

Resolved: The Parish Council approved the payments listed on Schedule 4/24.



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

04.24.9 Highways & Speedwatch

- a) **Speedwatch Report:** The contents of the report were received and noted. Three volunteers have confirmed that wish to join a Speedwatch Team. Essential training of the new team of volunteers to revised National Speed Watch Procedures by the PCSO is awaiting availability of PCSO 2024. The Clerk agreed to contact the PCSO for an update. SID data continues to demonstrate that speeding is on the increase and it is increasingly important to obtain more PCSO Trucam sessions and to continue to promote the possibility of installation of Average Speed Cameras. PCSO has recently been observed using Trucam on Goostrey Lane (over the station bridge).
- b) **SDU at Shearbrook, Main Road:** The report was received and noted. Note for March 2024 data: Number of vehicles 34,065. Approximately 6,100 were travelling at over 35 mph. Peak times for vehicles travelling at over 35 mph were 06.00 – 08.00 and 17.00 – 18.00 with 19 vehicles per hour.
- c) **Highways Liaison Meeting:** The minutes of the meeting on 5th April were received and noted. It was reported that following the meeting and production of the minutes, it had been established that it is illegal to put up repeater signs on 30mph roads where there is a system of street lights. The Highway Code states that where there are street lights, there is a 30mph limit unless otherwise signed. Repeater signs can be considered on roads with other speed limits.
- d) **SID Licencing:** The Road Safety Team contacted the council asking for information on the number and location of working SIDs in the village along with a list of fees and charges for 2024/2025. The fees are £115 for an initial consultation and £115 for a SID Licence Fee (one off payment). The information requested has been provided and it was confirmed that the current SIDs were approved and installed by Cheshire East Council and are covered by the Parish Council's insurance policy. The Clerk has also asked the Road Safety Team to confirm whether they are now expecting the Parish Council to pay £575 (£115 per SID) to Cheshire East Council and that this will be a one off rather than an annual payment. Also for confirmation of what the fee covers and why this charge is being introduced. A response is awaited.

04.24.10 Police Matters: The Police & Crime Commissioner's election takes place on 2nd May.

04.24.11 Risk Assessment: The council's risk assessment was included in the document pack circulated before the meeting, and was scrutinised by members. No changes were made on this occasion. The Risk Assessment is reviewed twice a year and amendments were made and approved in October 2023.

Resolved: *The Parish Council resolved to approve the risk assessment for adoption by the Parish Council as part of the risk management policy.*



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- 04.24.12 External Appointments:** Cllr. O'Donoghue volunteered for the liaison role on the Goostrey Footpaths Group and will be the dedicated point of contact.
- 04.24.13 Cheshire East Council Consultations:** The council's responses to the following consultations were considered:
- a) Carbon Neutral Action Plan Consultation:** The council agreed that members should comment individually on the consultation if they wished to do so.
 - b) Air Quality Strategy Consultation:** The council agreed that members should comment individually on the consultation if they wished to do so.
 - c) Statement of Licensing Policy Consultation:** The council agreed that members should comment individually on the consultation if they wished to do so.
- 04.24.14 Minor items and items for the next agenda:** Cllr. Beckham asked whether the council could publicise the VHPFF hanging basket sale to help boost much needed funds. It was agreed that the Clerk would put this on the website and would make some posters/forms available in the Village Hall.
- 04.24.15 Date of Next Meeting:** Annual Meeting of the Parish Council 28th May 2024.
- The meeting closed at 8.20pm.