



Goostrey Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 25th June 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Morgan (PM) (Chairman of the Meeting), Morris (KM), Rathbone (TR), Freeman (AF), 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 who wanted to thank everyone involved in the D-Day event on behalf of the village for a truly memorable event.

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

06.24.2 Apologies for absence: Cllrs. Mooney, Beckham and O'Donoghue

06.24.3 Minutes of the meeting on 28th May 2024:

***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 28th May 2024 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.*

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

- **Highways:** Cllr. Chadwick has reported that Highways (Ringway Jacobs) have given £600,000 of their maintenance budget back to CEC for the last year, which is surprising given the condition of the roads.

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

- a) **Village Hall Management Committee Meeting 4th June 2024:** Cllr. Freeman provided an overview of the decisions made at the meeting, in the absence of Cllr. Beckham, to support the previously circulated minutes.

***Motion:** The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Village Hall Management Committee meeting of 4th June 2024 and all the decisions therein.*

- b) **Planning Committee Meeting 12th June 2024:** Cllr. Morris provided an overview of the decisions made at the meeting, the majority of which were responses to the Local Plan Consultation. These responses are available as an appendix to the minutes, all of which were circulated with the agenda.

***Motion:** The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 12th June 2024 and all the decisions therein, including the committee's recommended responses to the Local Plan Consultation.*

06.24.6 Planning Matters:

To receive an update on the following planning matters:

- a) Enforcement Request 23/00154E – Planning application 24/0688C Holly Bank



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Farm. There has been no response to the council's request for information on what will happen to resolve this situation as the application has been withdrawn. The question is whether this will remain with planning or go back to enforcement, in either case the council needs to be assured that the matter will be pursued. The Clerk will contact the Enforcement Officer.

- b) 23/3015C RED LION INN, 3, STATION ROAD, GOOSTREY, CHESHIRE, CW4 8PJ. Formation of new raised external seating area to front/side of public house. Refused 24th November 2023. It has been confirmed that the applicant has appealed the decision although the Parish Council do not yet know the detail of that appeal. The council will need to consider a response when it is notified.

06.24.7 Financial Payments: The council reviewed and approved the payments listed on schedule 6/24.

Resolved: The Parish Council approved the payments listed on Schedule 6/24.

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

06.24.9 Highways & Speedwatch

- a) **Speedwatch Report:** The contents of the report were received and noted. 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. SID data for May 2024 includes a genuinely concerning maximum speed of 68mph.
- b) **SDU at Shearbrook, Main Road:** The total number of vehicles for May was 35,560. Approximately 7,100 were travelling at over 35 mph. Peak times for vehicles travelling at over 35 mph were 6am – 8am and 4pm and 2pm - 5pm.
- c) **SID Licencing:** In response to the Clerk's request for clarification of the basis for the new charges, CEC Road Safety confirmed that the parish council will have to pay £575 (£115 x 5) per SID and that these are the new fees for 2024/2025. This charge is for a new SID license fee that is being introduced by CEC. The one off payment is now applicable to all councils with existing SIDs, where a payment has not previously been made. The parish council agreed that it would have to pay the fee upon presentation of an invoice but were interested to find out the opinions of other neighbouring councils. Cllr. Kolker was asked to speak to Holme Chapel Parish Council.
- d) **Speed Management Measures, Main Road:** The council's request for speed management measures to be introduced, specifically to reduce the speed limit for vehicles approaching the village e.g. Goostrey Lane approaching the village from A50, has been rejected. Having been assessed against the Speed Management Strategy, it was decided that this location would not be added to the list for prioritisation for speed management measures.

A letter was also sent by the parish council to the new Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to ask if there will be further phases of average speed camera projects and if so, whether Goostrey could be included in any early new phase. A response was received on



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4th June to confirm the office remains committed to finalising pilot sites but at this stage are unable to offer any further commitment than this whilst the new PCC consults with the community to understand the key issues to form the basis of his Police and Crime Plan. It was agreed that the Clerk would send a reminder to the PCC's office in three months' time.

06.24.10 Police Matters: There was nothing to report at this time.

06.24.11 Deferred Items: The following council policies were reviewed.

a) **Communication and Engagement Policy:** The following points were approved for inclusion in the policy:

- Expand section 4.3 to include how members of the public can contact the council and councillors including the Parish Office opening times.
- Clarification within the Consultation section that this refers to parish council consultations and a point regarding how CEC consultations are publicised.

Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to approve the amendments to the Communication and Engagement policy.

b) **Complaints Policy:** It was agreed to include a line to clarify that complaints about the Clerk should be made to the Chairman. It was also confirmed that complaints after Stage 3 in the process are not referred to the ombudsman as town and parish councils are not within its remit.

Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to approve the amendment to the Complaints policy.

c) **Data Protection Policy:** The policy was reviewed and approved without change.

Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to approve the Data Protection policy.

d) **Disciplinary Policy:** The policy was reviewed and approved without change.

Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to approve the Disciplinary policy.

e) **Equality and Diversity Policy:** It was agreed that the following should be included in relation to contractors working for the parish council: Consultants and businesses contracted to work for Goostrey Parish Council will be required to support our Equality and Diversity policy and they will be directed to the policy.

Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to approve the amendments to the Equality and Diversity policy.

f) **Grievance Policy:** The policy was reviewed and approved without change.

Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to approve the Grievance policy.

06.24.12 Cheshire Community Action Membership: The council reviewed the benefits of membership and approved payment of the £50 membership fee for another year.

06.24.13 Village Hall Bench: The bench in front of the village hall was presented by The Friday Friendship Club to mark the Millenium, the bench had begun to look tired and had also broken away from



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its base. The Friday Friendship Club is no longer in existence and so the Clerk arranged for the bench to be cleaned, treated and secured to the base. To ensure that the bench continues to be maintained and safe the council agreed that it should be added to the council's asset register and should also be included on the annual equipment checklist.

06.24.14 Telecoms Poles Installation Legislation: The council has received correspondence from Holmes Chapel Parish Council highlighting its concerns about legislation which allows telecoms poles to be installed with limited consultation and opportunity to object, asking the parish council to support its stance. Due to the problems that have been experienced in Goostrey, it was agreed that the council should support Holmes Chapel Parish Council by also sending letters to the MP and CEC Planning.

06.24.15 Lithium Batteries: Correspondence was received from a researcher on behalf of Lord Foster to seek support for the campaign to improve the safety of lithium batteries and their disposal. The council agreed to support the campaign and the Clerk will make contact to register this support.

06.24.16 Cheshire East Council Consultations: It was agreed that councillors should submit their own responses to the Bus Service Review Consultation if they wished. The Clerk was asked to make a general comment about the council's concerns about the drastic reduction in Goostrey's bus service and its wish to see it reinstated. Consultations often ask in what capacity responses are submitted. Cllr. Kolker was asked to find out whether responses submitted by councils carry more weight than the responses of individuals

06.24.17 Newsletter Articles: The next issue of the newsletter is in progress. Articles already or to be included are as follows:

A review of the Annual Parish Meeting

The New Local Plan

An update from the last Highways Liaison meeting

Dates for diaries

D-Day event

Village Hall Bench

Church Bank Village Entrance

Rose Day

Information on the following was requested:

Boothbed Lane Play Area – Cllr. Morgan to provide an update

Post Office – Cllr. Freeman to provide an update

Open Gardens – Clerk to contact organiser

06.24.18 Council Vacancy: Cllr. Hall has resigned, CEC have been notified and the vacancy has been posted on the website and noticeboards. CEC will advise the council, after 5th July, whether an election has been requested or if the council is free to co-opt a new councillor.

06.24.19 Minor items and items for the next agenda:

- **D-Day +80 Event:** The success of the event was noted with thanks given to all involved. The council was advised that over £3,000 was raised in aid of the Royal British Legion.



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- **Apologies:** Cllr. Morris gave his apologies for the next council meeting.

06.24.20 **Date of Next Meeting:** 23rd July 2024.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm