



## AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024  
at 7.30pm in The Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs Rathbone – Chairman (TR), Morgan – Vice Chairman (PM), Fagan (PF), Freeman (AF)

**In Attendance:** E Bambrook, Clerk

- 1. Declarations of Interest:** No declarations of interest were made.
- 2. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. Craggs.
- 3. Minutes of the Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024:**

*Resolved:* The minutes of the meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

- 4. Tree Report:** The Tree Ranger reported the following:
  - There have been two enquiries regarding the replacement of street trees. I have advised that there is currently no policy from Cheshire East on this and that they will not currently (or in the foreseeable future) plant or licence others to plant replacements.
  - Planning application 24/2878T. I would recommend the following: Proposal advises that a large limb has failed onto a public highway, this is incorrect as Brookfield is not a public highway (unadopted); It is good practice to insist that a replacement is planted if permission is granted for removal.
- 5. Budget Review and Monitoring:** The committee reviewed the budget and reserves report and there were no issues of concern. The Clerk suggested, in preparation for the budget meeting, that the committee could consider creating a reserve for Speedwatch and SIDs as spend from this budget line is not regular but is necessary. This same has been done for defibrillators and this has worked well. The reserve can be topped up from the budget as required.
- 6. Village Maintenance and Equipment Checks:**
  - a) Bleed Control Kit:** The kit has now been installed.
  - b) Church Bank Planting:** Seasonal planting for the planter at Church Bank is not included in the Service Level Agreement with Congleton Town Council. Clerk to obtain costs and include in the agreement.
  - c) Shearbrook SID Repair:** TWM have invoiced for this work but a site inspection report has not yet been received Cllr. Rathbone is still unable to download data. Clerk to chase report.
- 7. Annual Plan:** It was noted that strimming of Shearbrook Bank is not being carried out. Clerk to check whether this is specified in the contract. Items 4a and d to be marked as complete.
- 8. Strategic Plan:** Cllr. Rathbone attended a police liaison meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> September and asked if the Parish Council installed a SID with automatic number plate recognition whether the PCSO could send out advisory letters, a response is awaited. Update plan to remove projects which have been completed (see item 7 above) and change the wording of objective 6 to read, 'Continue to formalise ownership of The Bogbean'.
- 9. Events:** The following updates were received:
  - a) Christmas Lights Switch On Event:** Volunteers to act as stewards on the night will be required.
  - b) Seniors' Christmas Lunch:** The following menu options were confirmed.

**Starters:**  
Homemade Soup Served with Fresh Homemade Bread Roll & Butter – Farmhouse Vegetable and Oak Smoked Salmon served on a bed Potato Salad with Mixed Leaves Finished with fresh chives and cracked black pepper.

**Desserts:**  
Traditional Christmas Pudding & Warned Brandy Sauce, Profiteroles & Chocolate Sauce and Fresh Raspberry Pavlova.

c) **VE Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** The date for this is 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025 and it was agreed that Cllrs. Rathbone and Fagan would form a working group which would meet soon to discuss how to mark the occasion.

**10. Goostrey Playground Community Project:** Cllr. Morgan provided the following update. Tenders were received at the beginning of August and were reviewed by ANSA and members of the working group. The contractor was selected on the basis of quality and style and the funding bid has been submitted. If the bid is successful then there will be a meeting on site with the contractor.

**11. Correspondence:** The installation of a new litter bin next to the bench at Bank View was requested by a resident. The Clerk responded that, the Amenities Committee could consider installing a bench in this location, however, I recently asked Cheshire East Council aren't taking on any additional litter bin emptying so would not be able to commit to an additional location in Goostrey, even though the Parish Council would fund the cost of the bin. So, it's not particularly the bin itself that would be the problem, it would be getting it emptied.

**12. Minor items and matters for the next meeting:** None.

**13. Date of the next Amenities Committee Meeting:** Budget Meeting - Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024.

**14. Meeting closed at 8pm**