



# Goostrey Parish Council

## AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING Minutes of the Meeting on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.30pm in The Village Hall

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

**In Attendance:** E Bambrook, Clerk

- 1. Declarations of Interest:** No declarations of interest were made.
- 2. Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs. Craggs and Freeman.
- 3. Minutes of the Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024:**

*Resolved:* The minutes of the meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

- 4. Tree Report:** The Tree Ranger had submitted a report which included an offer to replant the hedge on Shearbrook Bank free of charge. The committee agreed to bear this in mind, however, there are issues surrounding health and safety which the council must be mindful of and the committee is awaiting information from its contractor Congleton Town Council.

Also noted was planning application 24/4279/TPO 136 Main Road, T1 Maple crown lift for highways to 5 metres all the way round for balance. The Tree Ranger recommended an objection as there is already a 5m ground clearance and no impact on the highway. The committee viewed the application and agreed to look at the tree and report comments back to the Clerk.

The Committee discussed the condition of the large (TPO) Lime tree in the highway verge outside 79 Main Road. The tree appears to be suffering Honey Fungus attack. The Clerk will report to CEC Highways Officer and CEC Tree Officer.

Also noted was the dead small thorn on The Bogbean and two dead trees on Boothbed Lane green. Actions will be considered at a future meeting.

- 5. Budget Review and Monitoring:** The budget monitoring documents were reviewed and no issues of concern were raised.
- 6. Budget Planning 2025/26:** Cllr. Rathbone provided an overview of the Finance Committee budget meeting. No revisions to the Amenities budget were required.
- 7. Annual Plan:** The Annual Plan was reviewed and confirmed as correct.
- 8. Environmental Hedge:** Congleton Town Council has been asked to quote for this work, the quote has not yet been received. The Clerk has chased a response.
- 9. Events:** The following updates were received:
  - a) Christmas Lights Switch On Event:** It was agreed that the Clerk plus Cllrs. O'Donoghue, Fagan and Morgan would act as stewards on the night. The Clerk will remain on The Bogbean to switch on the lights and generally be available for contractors to ask questions. One steward will be required at Church Bank to ensure that people crossing from the church after the service are safe and will then walk down to The Bogbean. A steward will be required on Main Road and Mill Lane Side of the site and the steward walking down from the church will take up position on the corner of the site to assist with safety near the junction with Mill Lane and Main Road. Hi-Vis vests have been purchased for stewards. Stewards will keep an eye on general safety and raise any issues of concern with the Clerk, ensure that there are no naked flames and give out carol sheets. The Clerk will send out an email with all the details prior to the event.

An email was received from a local group on 2<sup>nd</sup> November wishing to have a fundraising stall selling cakes at the event, as they have done in previous years. The group had been unaware that the Scouts were no longer running the event. It was agreed the request was unfortunately too late, as the council had to submit an application to hold an event to

Cheshire East Council many months ago, which included declaring what activities will be taking place, including the sale of food and drinks. Based on this, an in depth risk assessment has to be submitted and approved. This activity was not included and it is believed that appropriate food hygiene certificates and public liability insurance would have been needed from the group. On this basis it was decided that the committee would have to refuse the request for this year. It was noted that this could be reconsidered for next year once the review of the event has taken place. The Clerk was also asked to advise the group about the council's grant awarding policy.

- b) **Seniors' Christmas Lunch:** Tickets went on sale today. The Clerk confirmed that she was happy to set up the room on the Saturday afternoon with the Village Hall Supervisors and that no additional assistance was required for this. As this is a new caterer things are likely to be slightly different and it is unclear what, if any, help they will require during the event. Cllr. Morgan and the Clerk will attend on the day, Cllr. Fagan may also be available.
- c) **VE Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** It was confirmed that the Working Group would meet on 14<sup>th</sup> November.

- 10. **Goostrey Playground Community Project:** Cllr. Morgan advised that the Working Group are awaiting the grant application assessment meeting which is expected to take place late December 2024/early January 2025.
- 11. **Correspondence:** Nothing apart from what has been discussed in the meeting.
- 12. **Minor items and matters for the next meeting:** None.
- 13. **Date of the next Amenities Committee Meeting:** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025.
- 14. **Meeting closed at 8pm**

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **Amenities Committee Annual Plan 2024/2025**

1. Annual Maintenance Programme – Monitor and achieve planned maintenance programme by contractor Congleton Town Council.
2. Bogbean Christmas Lights – Monitor effectiveness of lighting including planning and management of event.
3. Seniors Christmas Lunch – Plan and provide event.
4. Environmental Improvements Programme – Implement approved works at:
  - a) Church Bank Village Entrance – work contracted, start date June.
  - b) Primrose Chase,
  - c) Station Area
  - d) Boothbed Lane Green - Completed
  - e) Outside Mini Market Main Road.
5. Boothbed Lane Play Area Improvements – Support the Working Group to achieve the improvements. S106 Funding to be committed/used by August 2025. Contributing third party funds approved by the Parish Council to secure an FCC grant.
6. Commemoration of 80th Anniversary of D Day 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024 – Support volunteer group to deliver the event on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Grant funding provided.

## **APPENDIX 2 Draft Strategic Plan**

### **Objectives for the years 2024-2028**

#### **Amenities Committee**

- 1.** Implement the works remaining on Environmental Improvements Plan identified by the Village Improvements Survey:
  - a)** Church Bank Village Entrance – work contracted, start date June 2024.
  - b)** Primrose Chase
  - c)** Station Area
  - d)** Boothbed Lane Green - Completed
  - e)** Outside Mini Market Main Road.
- 2.** Define and consider the feasibility of installing village ‘gates’ as visual speeding deterrents.
- 3.** Support the Goostrey Playground Community Project Group to achieve the improvements to the Boothbed Lane Play Area. S106 Funding to be committed/used by August 2025. Contributing third party funds approved by the Parish Council to secure an FCC grant.

**Add Project list as pdf.**

