



# Goostrey Parish Council

The Village Hall

Goostrey

Cheshire

CW4 8PE

01477 535825

E-Mail: [clerk@goostreyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@goostreyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

16<sup>th</sup> July 2025

## GOOSTREY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**Public Forum 7.30 – 7.45pm.** - Public comments will be taken before the Meeting commences but are restricted to 15 minutes unless the Chairman allows otherwise.

### AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence:** To receive apologies for unavoidable absence.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** To receive and minute any declarations of interests.
3. **Minutes:** To accept the minutes from the meeting of the Parish Council on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025 and all the decisions therein. [View draft minutes of the meeting of Goostrey Parish Council 24th June 2025.](#)

**Motion:** The Parish Council resolves to accept the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

4. **Cheshire East Council Matters:** To receive a report on Cheshire East Council Matters. To deal with any questions by Members relating to the report and any questions by Members notified in advance to the Chairman and the CE Councillor.
5. **Committee Matters:** To receive reports from the Parish Council Committees:
  - a) Amenities Committee Minutes 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025. [Amenities Committee Minutes 2nd July 2025.](#)

[View Environmental Policy](#)

**Motion:** The Parish Council resolves to accept the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025 and all the decisions therein.

- b) Finance Committee Minutes 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025. [View Finance Committee Minutes 8th July 2025.](#)

**Motion:** The Parish Council resolves to accept the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025 and all the decisions therein.

6. **Planning Matters:** Applications may be viewed following the links below or at [https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/planning/view\\_a\\_planning\\_application](https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/planning/view_a_planning_application)

- a) **To receive and agree a response to the following planning applications:**  
[25/2178/FUL](#) St Luke's Church Church Bank, Goostrey, Crewe, Cheshire East, CW4 8PG. Extension. Comments deadline 24th July 2025.

[25/1676/HOUS](#) 77 Main Road, Goostrey, Crewe, Cheshire East, CW4 8JR. Single storey side and front extensions, loft conversion and construction of detached single garage.

Comments deadline 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

- 7. Financial Payments:** To approve payments in Schedule 07/25. **Includes:** Salaries & expenses. See page 3.

**Motion:** The Parish Council approves the payments listed on Schedule 07/25.

- 8. Clerk's Report:** To receive and note the Clerk's report, including actions from the Last Meeting and Correspondence. See page 4.

- 9. Highways & Speedwatch:** See page 5.

a) **Speedwatch Report** – To receive the Speedwatch Report.

b) **SDU at Shearbrook, Main Road** – To receive the SDU Data Report.

- 10. Police Matters:** To consider any matters related to local policing.

- 11. Residents' Petition:** To note the results of the residents' petition: [Can We Make Goostrey Roads Safer?](#) and to agree a course of action.

- 12. Strategic Plan:** To review and approve the updates to the council's four year Strategic Plan. See page 6.

**Motion:** The Parish Council approves the updates to the Strategic Plan.

- 13. Civility and Respect Pledge:** To consider signing the Civility and Respect Pledge. See page 16.

**Motion:** The Parish Council resolves to commit to the eight statements and to sign the Civility and Respect Pledge.

- 14. Devolution Update:** To receive an update from the Cheshire and Warrington Devolution Community event. Cllr. Freeman.

- 15. Village Improvement Plan Survey:** To review and approve the draft survey, the suggested incentives and timeline for distribution and collection of results. See page 18.

**Motion:** The Parish Council resolves to approve the Village Improvement Plan Survey, arrangements and timeline.

- 16. Consultations:** To consider and approve any council response to the following consultations:

a) **Cheshire East Council Farms Service Review:** Deadline 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025. See page 25.

b) **ACRE/NALC survey on planning for flood resilience:** Deadline 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025. [View consultation](#)

c) **Cheshire East's Active Travel Consultation:** Deadline 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025. [View consultation](#)

- 17. Co-option of Councillor:** To note any expressions of interest or the receipt of any applications.

- 18. Minor items and items for the next agenda.**

- 19. Date of Next Meeting – 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2025**

Close meeting

## ITEM 7 FINANCIAL PAYMENTS

### Payment Schedule 07/25 July 2025

Payment Date	Payee	Paid Out	Description	
01/07/2025	1 The Leaflet Team	£305.00	Newsletter Printing and Distribution	Paid
04/07/2025	2 Staff Salaries	£2,305.14	Staff Salaries	Paid
04/07/2025	3 HMRC	£549.48	Tax and NI	Paid
04/07/2025	4 Nest	£211.20	Pension Payment	Paid DD
14/07/2025	5 Vodafone	£19.20	Mobile Phone Contract	Paid DD
15/07/2025	6 Nat West	£27.20	Bankline Charges	Paid
21/07/2025	7 Plusnet	£44.49	Telephone and Broadband	DD
25/07/2025	8 C&C Catering Engineers Ltd	£234.00	Annual Maintenance	
25/07/2025	9 SLCC Enterprises	£54.00	Training - Clerk	
25/07/2025	10 SLCC Enterprises	£36.00	Training - Clerk	
			Repair of the Paxton Door Software	
25/07/2025	11 Keytrak Lock & Safe	£431.40	incl. site visit.	
25/07/2025	12 Cartridge Save	£30.55	Printer Ink	
25/07/2025	13 Caxton	£500.00	Card Load	
		<b>£4,747.66</b>	<b>inc VAT</b>	

### Receipts at 14th July 2025

Village Hall Income	£1,225.67	inc VAT
Santander Bank Interest	£251.82	
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>£1,477.49</b>	

### Account Balances at 14th July 2025

Current Account	£59,523.65
Santander Capital Account	£82,389.89
NS&I General	£60,695.97
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£202,609.51</b>

### Caxton Card Report 14th July 2025

Transaction Date	Payee	Amount	Description
	Balance brought forward	£393.88	
20/06/2025	1 DefibWarehouse	£346.80	Replacement Battery for Defib on Main Road
07/07/2025	2 Microsoft Ltd	£138.24	Microsoft 365 Annual Licence Fee
08/07/2025	3 Post Office Ltd	£34.80	2nd Class Stamps
	<b>Total Spend</b>	<b>£519.84</b>	
	<b>Total Fees</b>	<b>£4.50</b>	
	<b>Total Spend inc Fees</b>	<b>£524.34</b>	
	<b>Card Load</b>	<b>£500.00</b>	
	<b>Card Balance at 14th July 2025</b>	<b>£369.54</b>	

## Item 8 Clerk's Report

### Actions

- a) Planning comments submitted.
- b) Payments made.
- c) Policies and plans updated.

### Correspondence

- a) Resident Access to the stage store 15/07
- b) Admin John Potts Ltd RE: Replacement Lighting
- c) ChALC ChALC Weekly Bulletin 14.07.25
- d) Swift Admin RE: Quotation for tree work
- e) Ashley Hilton RE: Asbestos Survey
- f) CEC Farms Review Cheshire East Council Farms Service Review
- g) GRIBBIN, Jonathan CHOC Bulletin
- h) Goostrey Primary Admin RE: Work during the summer break
- i) CHADWICK, Russell (Councillor) FW: Devolution for Cheshire and Warrington - what does it mean?
- j) CEHStreetworks Cheshire East Highways - Traffic Management Area Highway Group Report
- k) Life Line Ambulance Re: Christmas Lights Switch On Event
- l) Resident Re: Christmas Lights Switch On
- m) **Resident Re: Hawthorn hedge**
- n) ChALC 📧 ChALC Weekly Bulletin 07.07.25
- o) Cheshire East Planning Planning Application Consultation ref. 25/1676/HOUS
- p) Jigsaw Marquees Re: Gazebo Hire
- q) Resident RE: residents' petition
- r) Sharon Angus-Crawshaw ACRE/NALC survey on planning for flood resilience
- s) Cheshire East Planning Planning Application Consultation ref. 25/2178/FUL
- t) CEHStreetworks Cheshire East Highways - Traffic Management Area Highway Group Report
- u) Digital - Cheshire East Application to hold an event received. Ref: EFRM140527
- v) Andrew Bott Re: Newsletter
- w) ELECTORAL INFORMATION RE: Potential Mayoral Election
- x) Ambulance Service RE: [External Email] Publicly Accessible Defibrillator Removed EN0594
- y) ChALC ChALC Weekly Bulletin 30.06.25 🍌
- z) GRIBBIN, Jonathan CHOC Bulletin
- aa) Re: Rose Day
- bb) CEHStreetworks Cheshire East Highways - Traffic Management Area Highway Group Report
- cc) CHADWICK, Russell (Councillor) FW: Active Travel Consultation Brochure
- dd) SBA Data logged – AGAR part 3
- ee) BARNARD, Julie Rest Centre Venue Review - Joint Cheshire Emergency Planning Team
- ff) ChALC ChALC Weekly Bulletin 23.06.25
- gg) Resident Re: Planning Application 25/1739/FUL
- hh) Re: RE: Goosfest 25
- ii) Resident Re: Planning - Change of Use - Land Adjacent to 51 Main Road, Goostrey
- jj) GRIBBIN, Jonathan CHOC Bulletin 20/06/2025 7 MB
- kk) e-learning Team Congratulations on Completing the GDPR e-Course
- ll) CEHStreetworks Cheshire East Highways - Traffic Management Area Highway Group Report
- mm) Resident Defibrillator

**GOOSTREY PARISH COUNCIL SPEEDWATCH REPORT June/July 2025 For July  
2025 GPC MEETING**

DATE & TIME	LOCATION	LOW SPEED MPH	TOP SPEED MPH	NUMBER OF VEHICLES LOGGED	TOTAL NUMBER OF VEHICLES PASSING
04/07/25 14.30-15.25	MAIN ROAD BOGBEAN	35	37	5	Not available
11/07/25 08.25-09.20	NEWPLATT LANE	35	41	9	97
11/07/25 14.45-15.35	MAIN ROAD BOGBEAN	35	37	3	226

Report to Parish Council July 2025

**Speedwatch Activity Summary**

Speedwatch sessions resumed with a session on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025 led by Paddy Fagan and are now continuing to take place. Extra sessions on 11<sup>th</sup> July in support of Cheshire-wide Speedwatch initiative by Police.

Session on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025 5 vehicles monitored travelling at 35 mph and above. Maximum speed monitored is 37mph.

Morning session on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025 9 vehicles monitored travelling at 35 mph and above. Maximum speed monitored is 41mph 9.3% of vehicles were travelling at 35mph and above.

Afternoon session on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025 3 vehicles monitored travelling at 35 mph and above. Maximum speed monitored is 37mph 1.3% of vehicles were travelling at 35mph and above. There may be a case for more sessions at Newplatt Lane.

**SHEARBROOK SID**

No report for July 2025 meeting as data still cannot be downloaded but device is still displaying. Liaison taking place with TWM Ltd. Regarding repair of SID progress is slow (This has continued since February 2025).

TR 13/072025

## **Item 12 Strategic Plan**

The Finance Committee has recommended division of the Village Hall Boiler/Hall Floor Contingency reserve into two separate reserves as follows, Village Hall Floor Replacement £8,000. The remaining £7,000 to be left in the Village Hall Boiler reserve to be renamed the Village Hall Energy Projects reserve and to transfer the remainder of the Unallocated General Reserve, £17,582.42, into this reserve.

The Village Hall Energy Projects Reserve will accrue funds to cover a contribution towards a new boiler but also funds to pay for the installation of green technology, such as solar panels and heat pumps, to improve the Village Hall's carbon footprint and reduce energy costs. The funds may also help to unlock grant funding to assist with such costs and earmarking this money enables the council to be prepared as opportunities arise.

The council should update its Strategic Plan to reflect this modified approach.



## Goostrey Parish Council Strategic Plan 2024 - 2028

The Parish Council's Strategic Plan sets out the Council's planned projects and objectives for the years 2024 - 2028. These projects have been allocated to the appropriate committee, are either in development or have already been fully scoped and are included in the council's medium term financial planning.

### Project List

No.	Project Title	Summary	Justification	Funding Requirements	Funding Source(s)	Responsible Member/ Committee	Planning period	Recommendation/ Updates
1	Village Environment Improvement Project	Public survey completed April 2021. The program of improvements is monitored and updated by the Amenities Committee as projects are brought forward for completion.	Remaining projects requiring scoping are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primrose Chase</li> <li>• Station Area</li> <li>• Outside Mini Market Main Road.</li> </ul>	Funding from Capital Reserves. The Village Projects Reserve balance is £6,630	Adopted Parish Council Project	Amenities Committee	2024 – 2028	Primrose Chase Project has been scoped. One quote has been received so far. Permission needs to be sought for work as this is Highways land. Mini Market item to be removed as be removed as this is a small, busy space and there was little which could be changed or added.

2	Booth Bed Lane Play Area Improvements	New equipment and facilities for the play area.	Approximately £40k is available via S106 funding. Consultation with residents has taken place and the Goostrey Playground Community Project Working Group has been established, reporting to the Amenities Committee and Council. The group is working with ANSA to deliver the project.	The council has placed £10,750 in Earmarked Reserves as a third party contribution to access a larger (£100,00) FCC grant.	Adopted Parish Council Project	Amenities Committee	2025	Funding bid resubmitted for consideration in June 2025. Five companies on Cheshire East Council's preferred supplier list were asked to tender for the project. Two submissions were received. One company was selected based on outline design. Final design to be revised based on survey feedback and budget.
3	Village Gates Project	To install village gates as a visual speeding deterrent.	Data from SIDs continues to show a worrying level of speeding through the village. The installation of Village Gates would seek to control this.	Original estimate £7,000. Suggest funding from Unallocated Capital Reserves in the first instance, £4,606 available. Any underspend from the Village Entrances Project	Project in development. To be approved by Parish Council.	Amenities Committee		Project needs to be defined and approved. Clerk to contact CEC to establish whether a licence fee would be payable as part of establishing the feasibility of the project. Confirmed no licence fee payable.



				(approx. £1,234).				
4	Average Speed Cameras	To install average speed cameras in the village.	Data from SIDs continues to show a worrying level of speeding through the village. Applications to join pilot schemes have been unsuccessful in the past.	Previous estimates were costs upwards of £50,000.	Project in development. To be approved by Parish Council.	Amenities Committee	2024 to end of 2025  2026 - 2028	Continue to pursue the new PCC regarding inclusion in future pilot schemes.  If the above fails then obtain technical approval for installation by Parish Council plus consideration of how this could be funded.
5	Village Survey	To identify what improvements residents would like to see following the last survey in 2021.	To provide ongoing engagement with residents and inform future project plans	Funding to be via the 3 year budget plan. Approx. £1,000	Adopted Parish Council Project.	Amenities Committee	2025 - 2026	New survey in development to inform further environmental improvement projects.

6	Repainting the Main Hall	Required to maintain the hall in good condition.	Regular repainting of at least the lower walls is required to keep the hall in good condition for the school and hirers.	£6,771.14 available in VH Maintenance reserve.	Adopted Parish Council Project.	VHMC	Autumn 2025	Quotes to be obtained.
7	Installation of wall covering to protect the Chair Store in the Main Hall	Required to maintain the hall in good condition.	To provide long lasting protection for the walls and maintain cleanliness	£6,771.14 available in VH Maintenance Reserve.	Adopted Parish Council Project	VHMC	Autumn 2025	Quotes to be obtained.
8	Replacement of windows in the Parish Office, Committee Room and toilets.	Replacement of remaining single glazed windows in the Parish Office, Committee Room and toilets.	To reduce energy costs and create a warmer, more pleasant environment for hirers.	Funding earmarked in Capital reserves – Village Hall Projects of £8,800. Funding will also be sought from the Improved, Greener Community Facilities Fund which offers 75% of projects costs up to a maximum of	Adopted Parish Council Project	VHMC	March 2024 – February 2025	Completed May 2025.

				£15,000				
9	Replacement of lighting in the Parish Office and Committee Room.	Replacement of remaining fluorescent lighting in the Parish Office and Committee Room.	To move to more energy efficient LED lighting, as in the rest of the building, especially as these type of bulbs can't be replaced.	Indicative Quote £1,2000 Suggest funding through remainder of Capital reserves – Village Hall Projects.	Adopted Parish Council Project	VHMC	2025	Further quotes to be obtained.
10	New ceiling/wall mounted projector screen for the Lounge.	To install a wall/ceiling mounted projector screen in the Lounge. Preferably operated by remote control and perhaps including the projector itself.	The Coronation wall hanging covers a wall that was used to project meeting documents. The current screen is broken and is difficult to set up. This would improve the facility for Village Hall hirers as well as the council.	Quotes to be obtained. Proposed funding from the VHMC budget – Village Hall Improvements	Project in development. To be approved by Parish Council.	VHMC		

11	Sand and reseal of the Main Hall Floor	Required to maintain the hall in good condition.	Regular maintenance is required to keep the hall in good condition for the school and hirers.	Reserves to be earmarked, possibly from the surplus VH Recharge 2021/22 reserve of £6,771.14.	Project in development. To be approved by Parish Council.	VHMC	Summer 2026	Confirmed with school that they will have funds in the budget to share costs.
12	Replacement Boiler/Main Hall Contingency	Planning required for eventual replacement of the boiler and Main Hall floor.	Forward planning for a contribution towards the eventual replacement of the boiler which is 20 years old and the original floor.	£10,000 to be earmarked from the current Unallocated General Reserve. The Finance Committee will also review any budget surplus at the end of financial year 2024/25. Increases in the Village Hall Maintenance budget line have also been incorporated into the	Project in development. To be approved by Parish Council.	VHMC	Not known.	

				VHMC 3 year budget plan to increase this reserve.				
13	Neighbourhood Plan Review	To review the Neighbourhood Plan Made in 2017.	Review will be required in light of the changes to the CEC Local Plan.	Funding from existing Earmarked reserves £12,000	Adopted Parish Council Project	Planning Committee	Timescales will depend on the completion of the Local Plan.	

Adopted at the Meeting of Goostrey Parish Council on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

Updated at the Meeting of Goostrey Parish Council on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

## **Objectives**

### **Amenities Committee**

1. Implement the works remaining on Environmental Improvements Plan identified by the Village Improvements Survey:
  - a) Primrose Chase
  - b) Station Area
  - c) Boothbed Lane Green - Completed

A detailed specification and scoping document will be provided for each project based on the requirements in the Environmental Improvements Plan, which will be agreed by council.

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.
4. Installation of Average Speed Cameras. Continue to pursue the new PCC regarding inclusion in future pilot schemes.
5. To carry out a Village Survey in order to provide ongoing engagement with residents and inform future project plans.
6. Continue to formalise ownership of The Bogbean.

### **Village Hall Management Committee**

1. Consider the potential to provide electric car/van charging points (environmental improvement) at the village hall at regular intervals.
2. Repainting of the Main Hall. Clerk to obtain quotes and the school have confirmed that they will make a contribution to the cost.
3. Replacement of remaining single glazed windows in the Parish Office, Committee Room and toilets. Quotes have been obtained for fitting the new windows and carrying out the R&D survey for asbestos. Clerk to investigate removal of identified asbestos if possible and to include a contingency for this and any other measures required during work, such as air testing.
4. Removal of asbestos in the Village Hall where it is identified as a proactive measure for the future of the building.
5. Replacement of remaining fluorescent lighting in the Parish Office and Committee Room. Clerk to obtain quotes.
6. New ceiling/wall mounted projector screen for the Lounge. Clerk to obtain quotes.
7. Forward financial planning for a contribution towards the eventual replacement of the boiler and main hall floor.

### **Finance Committee**

1. Review the Council's deposit accounts with a view to gaining online access to accounts and to ensure the best interest rates are obtained.
2. To consider creating a Reserves Policy.

#### **Planning Committee**

1. To fully engage with the CEC's new Local Plan consultations.
2. To review the Neighbourhood Plan in light of the changes to the Local Plan.

#### **Staff Committee**

1. To continue to encourage its staff, members and volunteers to participate in relevant training and to view ongoing training as necessary to ensuring that the Parish Council maintains the highest standards in carrying out its functions.
2. To encourage all councillors to participate in introductory and advance training offered by the Cheshire Association of Local Councils, the National Association of Local Councils, the Society of Local Council Clerks and other courses relevant to their council and committee roles.
3. The committee will ensure that there is adequate budget provision to support training for the council.

Adopted at the Meeting of Goostrey Parish Council on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

### **Item 13 Civility and Respect Pledge**

The Civility and Respect Project is led by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) and One Voice Wales (OVW) and was launched to address growing concerns within the sector about the impact that bullying, harassment and intimidation of councils, councillors and staff has on the effectiveness of councils. As part of the project, the Civility and Respect pledge has been created which aims to commit councils to upholding good governance and standards which support civility and respect. For further information [view a video explaining the Civility and Respect Pledge](#) The pledge also indicates support to the continued lobbying by the national bodies for a change in legislation to strengthen the standards regime, including the reintroduction of sanctions for members (where appropriate) as recommended by the Committee on Standards in Public Life.

Goostrey Parish Council has been fortunate that there have been no significant issues of poor conduct affecting the council. The council, however should not be complacent and ensuring that high standards of behaviour are maintained and that processes are in place to address problems where they arise is vital.

#### **PLEDGE COMMITMENTS**

The Civility and Respect Pledge involves commitment to eight statements:

1. Our council has agreed that it will treat all councillors, all employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations, and volunteers, with civility and respect in their role.
2. Our council has put in place a training programme for councillors and staff.
3. Our council has signed up to a Code of Conduct for councillors.
4. Our council has good governance arrangements in place including, staff contracts, and a dignity at work policy.
5. Our council will commit to seeking professional help in the early stages should civility and respect issues arise.
6. Our council will commit to calling out bullying and harassment when if and when it happens.
7. Our council will continue to learn from best practice in the sector and aspire to being a role model/champion council e.g., via the Local Council Award Scheme.
8. Our council supports the continued lobbying for the change in legislation to support the Civility and Respect Pledge, including sanctions for elected members where appropriate.

The Clerk confirms that the council meets the requirements set out in points 2, 3 and 4. The council has a Training policy for staff and councillors as well as a training budget and encourages members to undertake relevant training. The council has adopted relevant policies including a Code of Conduct for members, a Dignity at Work policy, staff contracts, employment policies, an Equality and Diversity Policy and a Zero Tolerance Policy which underpin good governance. The Pledge is also a requirement of reaccreditation to the Local Council Award Scheme.



The Council should consider resolving to sign up to the Civility and Respect Pledge and endorsement of the pledge commitments.

### **Item 15 Village Improvement Plan Survey**

The last Village Improvement Plan Survey took place in 2021 with the aim of obtaining feedback from residents on what they would like to see in terms of environmental improvements in the village for the future. The improvements identified as a result of this survey have largely been completed and the Parish Council is again seeking residents' views in order to develop a new prioritised programme of improvement works to be managed by the Amenities Committee.

It is proposed that the survey will be available in hard copy and online via a link to an MS Form on the council website. The aim is for the printed survey to be distributed with an issue of the council newsletter in January with a closing date at the end of February 2026.

The decisions required from council are:

- To approve the contents and assertions within the survey.
- To approve the timeline for the distribution and collection of results.
- To approve the incentive of a prize draw to encourage participation.

The draft survey is included for review. Estimated additional costs for printing and distribution of an eight page survey is £360, plus cost of vouchers for prizes. This will be funded from the Amenities Committee budget.



# Goostrey Parish Council

## Village Improvement Plan Survey

The last Village Improvement Plan Survey took place in 2021 with the aim of obtaining feedback from residents on what they would like to see in terms of environmental improvements in the village for the future. The improvements identified as a result of this survey have largely been completed and the Parish Council is again seeking residents' views in order to develop a prioritised programme of improvement works.

A copy of this survey will be delivered to every household in the village along with the Parish Council newsletter. Alternatively, you can submit your response electronically by using the link below:

[LINK](#)

We would encourage everyone who wishes to take part in the consultation to make an electronic return or complete the paper form.

There will be a prize draw. To enter you must submit a completed questionnaire (paper and online submissions are eligible), but you must remember to fill in your name, and telephone number or email address otherwise we will not be able to contact you if you win! There are 3 prizes to the value of £20 each.

**Your Details** (all optional, but we need your name and phone number or email address if you wish to be included in the prize draw.)

Name:

Address:

Post Code:

E-mail:

Telephone:

## **1. Parish Council Services and Activities:**

Services and activities provided by the Parish Council's Amenities Committee and include the village's planters and planting, village maintenance such as additional mowing of grassed areas and the cemetery, events like the Christmas Lights Switch on and the Seniors' Christmas Lunch, provision and maintenance of village assets for example benches, noticeboards and defibrillators, and the development and maintenance of Booth Bed Lane Play area, in conjunction with Cheshire East Council.

Cheshire East Council manage services such as highways, social services, waste management and planning.

**Please tell us how important the following services and activities are to you:**

*Select one option only.*

### **a) Planting and planters**

- Not at all important
- Somewhat important
- Fairly important
- Very important

### **b) Public space maintenance:**

- Not at all important
- Somewhat important
- Fairly important
- Very important

### **c) Provision and maintenance of village assets:**

- Not at all important
- Somewhat important
- Fairly important
- Very important

### **d) Village events:**

- Not at all important
- Somewhat important
- Fairly important
- Very important

### **e) Booth Bed Lane Play Area**

- Not at all important
- Somewhat important
- Fairly important
- Very important

- f) The council's Goostrey Community Playground Project Working Group continues to work with CEC to redevelop the Booth Bed Lane Play Area. Once the new equipment has been installed, the Parish Council would seek to support community groups to deliver further improvements at the Play Area.

**Based on your answer to question 1e, how important do you consider community involvement to be in the delivery of future improvements to the play area?**

- Not at all important
- Somewhat important
- Fairly important
- Very important

- g) **Would you be prepared to volunteer to be involved in a community led project?**

*Please circle yes or no.*

Yes

No

- h) **If you answered yes to question 1g, would you be prepared to submit your contact details so that we can get in touch with you in the future?**

*Please circle yes or no.*

Yes

No

If you answered yes, please provide your name and email address and or telephone number below.

.....

.....

.....

The Amenities Committee also liaises with local groups and organisations to enhance the quality of life for Goostrey residents.

## 2. Station Area:

- a) **Do you use Goostrey Station?**

*Please circle yes or no.*

Yes

No

- b) Thinking about the Station Area, Friends of Goostrey Station are trying to make the area a more wildlife friendly site and have introduced a number of plant species and habitats to encourage wildlife. Would you like to see a small wildlife pond established here to increase biodiversity?**  
*Please circle one answer.*

Yes

No

Don't Know

- c) If you answered no, please explain your reasons in the box below:**

### **3. Goostrey Footpath Network**

- a) The Parish Council supports Goostrey Footpaths Groups aims to promote and encourage the use of the villages footpath network, ensuring footpaths remain safe and accessible and the development of new footpaths. Do you use the public footpaths in Goostrey?**  
*Please circle yes or no.*

Yes

No

- b) If you answered yes, are there any walks that you take regularly and what are they?**

- c) Noting that footpaths, or sections of footpaths, may require permission or the co-operation of Cheshire East Council or private landowners, are there any walks which you feel could be improved?**

- d) If you answered no, do you think that there are any improvements which could be made which would encourage you to use the footpaths?**

**4. General:**

- a) If you could change or improve one thing in Goostrey, what would it be?**

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey and don't forget to provide your contact details if you would like to be included in the prize draw.

Please return the survey by XXXXXX

Completed forms can returned by email to the Clerk at [clerk@goostreyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@goostreyparishcouncil.gov.uk), left in the post box at the Village Hall or posted to Goostrey Parish Council, Goostrey Village Hall, Main Road, Goostrey, CW4 8PE.

Additional copies of this booklet are available from the Clerk.

**What Happens Now:**

The data collected from all respondents will be analysed for a potential programme of Village Environment Improvements.

All views given in the questionnaire will be stored confidentially and analysed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Any results published will be grouped and anonymous.



## **Cheshire East Council Farms Service Review 2025 Stakeholder Questionnaire**

Cheshire East Council continues to use approx. 4,800 acres of agricultural land and property in its ownership to provide the Farms Service. The service operates to policy objectives set in 2011, modified over the years, to continue the provision of a service whose history extends over a century. Information about the service is accessible through the web site [Cheshire Farms Service](#), through annual CIPFA returns and at a national level through annual reports to parliament.

The Council recognises that agriculture is a valuable part of the rural economy and its policy objectives for the Farms Service focus on the delivery of entry level farms to aspiring farmers. Management strategies identify a target structure, environmental objectives and considers both the demand for investment to modernise and improve the estate, as well as the source of funding.

Since policies were adopted, the restructuring of the estate has reduced numbers from 74 properties to 43 let farms with an average size increasing from 76 acres to 112 acres and delivered 18 new long-term lettings. This has involved Council investment of over £700,000 and £16.5 million from capital receipts, provided access to 287 acres of land for woodland planting whilst continuing to deliver revenue surplus of £440k in 2023/24.

There have also been many changes since 2011 for both the Council and agriculture at national level, and the Council would therefore like to hear from stakeholders as it reviews its policies in this area.

Initial discussions with a cross-party working group of Cheshire East Councillors indicates that the Council continues to value the service and the role that it plays within the local community and industry. There is, however, recognition that the service should be considered in the context of the wider challenges for the Council, and it must therefore test its rationale, seek external views and consider options to ensure that policies are relevant for today and the next 10 years.

The following questionnaire is intended to address some fundamental questions, but it is not exhaustive. We would be grateful for your input and if you wish to submit any further additional information or commentary, please feel free to do so.

## Cheshire East Council Farms Service Review 2025 Stakeholder Questionnaire

### Section 1: General Information

1. To help us understand your comments and responses, it would be helpful to know what your interest is in the Council Farms Service (*please tick all that apply*)

- a. Council Farm Tenant ☐
- b. Local Farmer ☐
- c. Local Landowner ☐
- d. Community Organisation / Member ☐
- e. Parish Council ☐
- f. Other (please specify) ☐

### Section 2: Service Evaluation

2. Do you consider that the opportunities that the Council offers through the Farms Service are valuable for new entrants into farming? (*please circle your response*)

Yes / No / Don't know

**Please expand upon why you have reached this conclusion:**

3. Do you consider that the Council should continue to provide opportunities to farm to new entrants? (*please circle your response*)

Yes / No / Don't know

**Please expand upon why you have reached this conclusion:**

**4. In your opinion would the Council best support the rural economy of Cheshire East by: (*please tick 'a' or 'b' or 'c'*)**

- a. Continuing to provide the farms service ☐
- b. Selling part of the estate as opportunities arise ☐
- c. Selling all of the estate as opportunities arise ☐

**Please expand upon why you have reached this conclusion:**

**5. Do you know of any other organization that does or could provide a similar range of opportunities for new entrants into farming? If yes, please provide further details:**

**6. Should the Farms Service objectives evolve to provide other rural business opportunities where appropriate e.g. non-agricultural uses such as liverys, energy generation, leisure or commercial opportunities, subject to planning consents etc (*please circle your response*)**

Yes   /   No   /   Don't know

**Please expand upon why you have reached this conclusion:**

7. Within the context of the Council continuing to provide a Farms Service, please place the following objectives in order, beginning with the most important (where 1 is the most important and 8 is the least important):

- a. The commercial financial return from the portfolio ☐
- b. The take up of government sponsored support schemes for rural / agriculture ☐
- c. Improving access to the countryside ☐
- d. The use of land to support environmental aims and objectives ☐
- e. Improving food security ☐
- f. To provide opportunities for new entrants into farming and the stepping-stone to commercial opportunities in the private sector ☐
- g. To provide a broader range of rural business opportunities ☐
- h. Other – (please specify) ☐

8. Applicants for Tenancies – opportunities are currently advertised nationally to find the best possible applicants. Do you think this approach should continue or should there be a preference for applications from Cheshire East residents? *(please circle your response):*

Yes      /      No      /      Don't know

Please expand upon why you have reached this conclusion:

9. Tenancies for new entrants are typically for a period of 15 years with break clauses every 5 yrs. Do you think this approach should continue? *(please circle your response):*

Yes      /      No      /      Don't know

Please expand upon why you have reached this conclusion:

**10. Do you think that the Farms Service should continue developing positive environmental strategies and sustainable farm management practices? (please circle your response):**

Yes        /        No    /        Don't know

**Please expand upon why you have reached this conclusion:**

**11. If additional funding was available to support the growth of Cheshire East's rural agricultural sector, where would it be best utilised and why?**

**12. Are Cheshire East Council's farming opportunities an important part of the local rural economy? (please circle your response):**

Yes        /        No    /        Don't know

**Please expand upon why you have reached this conclusion:**

**13. Please provide any further comments, changes or improvements relating to the provision of the future Cheshire East Council's Farms Service in the space provided below and on the next page if required:**

**Thank you for your feedback.**

**Please return this questionnaire with any further information that you wish to provide to [CECFarmsReview@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:CECFarmsReview@cheshireeast.gov.uk) by Friday 25 July, 2025.**

**All responses will be collated and presented as part of the Farms Service review process and shared with a small working group of cross-party Cheshire East Councillors and officers.**

**Please provide your name and contact details if you are happy to be contacted in the future for additional detail if required:**

**Respondent name: .....**

**Email address: .....**