



Goostrey Parish Council

The Village Hall

Goostrey

Cheshire

CW4 8PE

01477 535825

E-Mail: clerk@goostreyparishcouncil.gov.uk

22nd October 2025

DOCUMENT PACK FOR THE GOOSTREY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 28th October 2025

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 23rd September 2025 and all the decisions therein. [View draft Minutes of the meeting of Goostrey Parish Council 23rd September 2025.](#)

Motion: The Parish Council resolves to accept the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 23rd September 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) [View Village Hall Management Committee Budget Meeting Minutes 7th October 2025.](#)

Motion: The Parish Council resolves to accept the minutes of the Village Hall Management Committee budget meeting of 7th October 2025 and all the decisions therein.

- b) [View Finance Committee Minutes 14th October 2025.](#)

Motion: The Parish Council resolves to accept the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 14th October 2025 and all the decisions therein with the exception of items 9 and 11 which are dealt with as a separate items on the agenda.

- c) **VHPFF Trustees Meeting 30th September:** Cllr. Beckham to provide an overview of the meeting. **See page 3.**

6. **Planning Matters:** All planning matters and applications will be considered at a separate meeting of the Planning Committee immediately prior to the Council meeting.
7. **Financial Payments:** To approve payments in Schedule 10/25. **Includes:** Salaries & expenses. **See page 7.**

Motion: The Parish Council approves the payments listed on Schedule 10/25.

8. Clerk's Report: To receive and note the Clerk's report, including actions from the Last Meeting and Correspondence. **See page 9.**

9. Highways & Speedwatch:

a) To receive the Speedwatch report. **See page 11.**

b) To receive an update on actions from the Road Safety Meeting. **See page 12.**

10. Police Matters: To consider any matters related to local policing. **See page 13.**

11. Risk Assessment: To note the recommendations of the Finance Committee and approve the updated Risk Assessment as part of its Risk Assessment Policy. [View Risk Assessment.](#)

Motion: The Parish Council approves the updated Risk Assessment as part of its Risk Management Policy

12. Finance Committee Membership: To appoint a councillor to the Finance Committee to fill the current vacancy. **See page 24.**

13. Internal Auditor Review To note the contents of The Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit Arrangements and approve the appointment of the Internal Auditor for 2025/2026. **See page 26.**

Motion: The Parish Council approves the appointment of JDH Business Services as the council's Internal Auditor for 2025/2026.

14. Review and update of Annual Plan: To review and approve the updates to the Annual Plan. **See page 30.**

15. Review and Update of Strategic Plan: To review and approve the updates to the Strategic Plan. **See page 34.**

16. Defibrillator Update: To receive an update on the village defibrillators. **See page 43.**

17. Christmas Lights Switch On Event: To receive an update from the Clerk.

18. Consultations: To consider and approve any council response to the following consultation: [View CEC Transport Consultation.](#) Deadline 7th December 2025.

19. Minor items and items for the next agenda.

20. Date of Next Meeting – 25th November 2025

Close meeting



GOOSTREY VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELDS FOUNDATION

Registered Charity No. 520053

www.goostreyplayingfields.uk

Please reply to:
3 Shearbrook Lane
Goostrey
Cheshire
CW4 8PR
Tel: 01477 534160
Email: Sally.Ball@lineone.net

Minutes of the Trustees' Meeting held on Tuesday, 30 September 2025 in the Boothbed Lane Sports Pavilion

Present:

Officers:	Mr Jason Lynch (Elected Trustee & Chairman) Mr Keith Wood (Elected Trustee & Treasurer) Mrs Sally Ball (Ex-officio Trustee, Secretary & NWR)
Ex-Officio Trustees:	Prof. William Ollier Mr Martin Leake (Pavilion Manager & Goostrey Methodist Church) Mrs Alison Richardson (& Goosfest)
Elected Trustees:	Mr Kyle Davies Mrs Susie Weston
Co-opted Trustees:	Mr Peter Bentham Mr Jay Ashall Dr Mike Clapp
Nominated Trustees:	Mrs Laura Gerrard (Goostrey Tennis Club) Mr Derek Hurdle (Goostrey Bowls Club) Mr Rob Kennerley (Goostrey Junior Football) Mr Jack Holloway (Goostrey Friendly Football Club) Mr Neil Beckham (Goostrey Parish Council) Mrs Sheila Wood (Jodrell Side WI) Mr Nick Broad (St Luke's Church) Mr Chris Jackson (Goostrey Thursday Bridge Club) Mr John Crouch (Goostrey Probus) Mr Arthur Lamb (Royal British Legion) Mrs Edna Brandreth (& RBL Women's section) Mr David Smith (Goostrey Rose Festival)

1. Apologies for Absence

David Brigg (Goostrey Wine Circle), Catherine Morris (Co-opted Trustee), Simon Higginbottom (Goostrey Table Tennis Club).

The Chairman announced the recent death of a long-term Trustee, Roger Rushton, who had been an active supporter of the VHPFF since the very early days of the Playing Fields. The Secretary had received a Tribute to him, written by Jay Ashall, which she read out to the meeting.

The Chairman further announced that Tony Taylor had resigned as a Trustee in June, due to a conflict of interest.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting (2 June 2025)

These were approved (proposed by Derek Hurdle, seconded by Keith Wood).

3. Matters arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting

Para. 4 Facilities: The update of the VHPFF entry in the Land Registry is in progress.

Action: Secretary & Jay Ashall

Para 5: Financial Matters: Dr Mike Clapp, on behalf of the Trustees, expressed thanks to the Angel Investor whose contribution of £20,000 had been crucial to achieving the full funding for the astroturf replacement and associated improvements.

Para. 7 Open Day: The Chairman reported that, despite the wet weather, the Open Day had been a success, engendering a “buzz” on the Playing Fields and resulting in 10 new Memberships on the day.

4. Financial Matters

A statement of the Income & Expenditure (I&E) during the year to date had been circulated prior to the meeting which included a breakdown of the Astroturf Project.

The Treasurer confirmed that the total cost of the astroturf replacement was £92,789 including £10,620 from VHPFF reserves (slightly over the £10k predicted). All other funding has now been received, resulting in current funds in the Bank of just over £20,000. Special thanks were extended to Goostrey Parish Council for the provision of funding for the new tennis and football nets.

The Irrigation Pump for the Bowling Green watering system had failed unexpectedly with its replacement costing £500. The only major item of expenditure remaining is the annual insurance premium due in October, but it is predicted that the Gift Aid refund should cover this.

The Lottery now has 80 shares, the highest number since its inception. The Secretary has re-designed the Lottery Application form which is available on the website. This remains a steady source of income and Trustees are encouraged to promote it – with 17 prizes each year (ranging from £25 to £1,000) the chances of winning are quite high!

5. Report and Recommendations from the Management Committee

5.1 Actions and Maintenance: The Chairman read out a list, which included

- Successful Family Fun Day held on 14 September, which was well-attended despite the rainy conditions!
- Astroturf replaced, with 2 pickleball courts marked in blue on Court 3 (financed by local fundraising and grants from various external sources including Sport England and Veolia)
- Astroturf floodlights repaired
- New, mobile, tennis nets, 5-side football goals & nets, and basketball nets purchased (using a grant from Goostrey Parish Council)
- Marine boarding at each end of astroturf replaced
- New Goostrey Playing Fields signs erected either side of the main entrance
- Hedging behind astroturf and old playground area cut back
- General tidy-up carried out before Open Day (this needs to be repeated on a more regular basis)
- Pavilion guttering repaired and roof tiles replaced as necessary
- Coded lock installed on rear “football” door to allow access to the toilets during periods when the Pavilion is being used by a Hirer.
- Light/electric sockets moved upwards to prevent damage from the Table Tennis tables
- Quotation awaited to move switches for floodlights to an external (secured) position, and to check and convert all external Pavilion lighting to motion-activated (PIR) units
- Changing & shower areas cleared of junk; chairs and tables now stored in unused shower areas

- Facebook page updated as appropriate (special thanks to Kyle Davies)
- Website updated for the Open Day and new astroturf, including revised Registered User Application form (which includes Gift Aid declaration) and revised Lottery Application form
- Investigation (on-going) of moving to an on-line booking system for the astroturf courts
- Contracts for Hirers and Sponsored Signage being drafted (on-going – thanks to Jay Ashall for supplying outlines)
- Children from 7 local Primary Schools invited to take part in a writing competition.

The Trustees agreed that the winning essay from each school should receive free Family Membership for 2026, with the overall Winner receiving a £200 voucher from Rosebank Sports (at a cost of £150 to the VHPFF). The presentation to the Winners will be held at the Playing Fields on Sunday, 23 November 2025.

5.2 Recommendations:

- That the Pavilion Hire Charges should be increased from 1 January 2026 to £13/hour for residents and £15/hour for commercial lettings, and that all subscriptions and charges be reviewed annually in the Autumn.
This was agreed (proposed by Jay Ashall, seconded by Peter Bentham). In addition, **it was agreed** that a charge should be made for storage of equipment owned by commercial hirers, this charge to be set by the Management Committee (proposed by John Crouch, seconded by Chris Jackson).
- That the provision of sponsorship signage for local businesses be accepted (this had been **agreed** following e-mail circulation).
- That a small group of Trustees be formed to look into the feasibility of further enhancing the facilities at Boothbed Lane by providing a Padel Court.
The Chairman outlined his preliminary enquiries within the local area and envisaged a Padel Court generating a significant financial return. After further discussion, **it was agreed** that a group be set up to pursue this proposal further (Chairman, Rob Kennerley, Jack Holloway, Alison Richardson, Kyle Davies and Jay Ashall).
- That the Quotation of £6,504 (inc. VAT) for the repair and re-tarmac of the path around the Bowling Green be accepted and the work carried out over the winter.
The current condition of the path is considered to be a potential hazard, but concern was expressed at the high cost quoted. **It was agreed** that further Quotes should be obtained. It was noted that the Bowling Green Lawnsman had quoted £1,600 (no VAT) to replace the wooden boarding supporting the tarmac.
- That 2 bench seats be purchased to commemorate Roger Rushton and Cyril Caulkin.
Martin Leake had made enquiries and stated that the cost per bench ranged from £200 to £400 depending on the construction material. **It was agreed** that 2 benches should be purchased.

6. **Facilities**

6.1 Astroturf: The new surface is playing well and much appreciated by all users.

6.2 Bowling Green: The Green is in good condition and recovered well from the lack of irrigation while the pump was replaced.

6.3 Football Pitch: The Pitch is now being used on most Saturday and Sunday mornings by 4 teams (2 girls, 2 boys) from Holmes Chapel Hurricanes. The Groundsmen had recently charged £200 for marking out the pitch (including weedkiller) at the start of the season. If charges are made for re-whitening during the season, then the purchase of a line-marker may need to be considered.

6.4 Pavilion: Thanks was given to Mike Saxton for fixing the gutters. A Quote is currently awaited to replace all the outside lighting with motion-activated units, including one over the rear door so that the code lock can be seen. *Action: Secretary & Pavilion Manager*

Investigations are currently underway for the possible provision of an external door to the Accessible Toilet so that Hirers are not disturbed. *Action: Secretary & Pavilion Manager*

6.5 General Grounds: The quote for adding the regular cutting of the hedge behind the astroturf to the Maintenance Contract is awaited. *Action: Secretary*

7. Report from Village Hall Management Committee

The Secretary reported that this Committee (under the Chairmanship of Neil Beckham, a VHPFF Trustee) had met in June and September. Most of the items discussed related to routine maintenance and usage. All Minutes are available on the Parish Council's website (www.goostreyparishcouncil.gov.uk).

8. Possible Plans for the Future

- On-going improvements to Goostrey Playing Fields, including re-configuration of the Pavilion to meet current needs.
- Replacement of the Bowling Green floodlights with LED units.
- Provision of a metal storage container to replace the current Shed.
- Provision of a small "Goostrey Playing Fields" sign on the pedestrian access gate at the top end of the Football Pitch.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 The Secretary had received a proposal from Paul Kemsley to plant trees/shrubs in the field boundary to close the current gaps. **This was agreed**, with thanks.

9.2 Laura Gerrard (Tennis Club) notified Trustees of small adjustments to the dedicated Tennis Club times for the winter season.

9.3 There are now 50+ people interested in playing Pickleball so **it was agreed** that Goostrey Pickleball Club should become an Affiliated Club to the VHPFF.

9.4 Rob Kennerley (Junior Football) expressed concern that youngsters were playing football on the astroturf with the tennis nets still in position. He suggested that a local security company be asked to review the facilities and make recommendation for installing CCTV cameras. **It was agreed** that the Officers and Pavilion Manager should have an on-site meeting with this company.

10. Date of the Next Meetings

Management Committee Meetings (2025):

Monday, 6 October @ 6.30pm

Wednesday, 5 November @ 6.30pm

Monday, 1 December @ 6.30pm

AGM, followed by Full Trustees' Meeting:

Tuesday, 17 February 2026 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

sab/2 October 2025

ITEM 7 FINANCIAL PAYMENTS

Payment Schedule 10/25 Oct 2025

Payment Date	Payee	Paid Out	Description	
26/09/2025	1 St. Luke's Church	£200.00	Grant Funding Payment	Paid Min. Ref. 09.25/15
03/10/2025	2 Staff Salaries	£2,414.81	Staff Salaries	Paid
03/10/2025	3 HMRC	£585.71	Tax and NI	Paid
03/10/2025	4 Nest	£217.92	Pension Payment	Paid DD
07/10/2025	5 The Leaflet Team	£305.00	Newsletter Printing & Distribution	Paid
13/10/2025	6 Vodafone	£19.38	Mobile Phone Contract	Paid DD
15/10/2025	7 Nat West	£17.50	Bankline Charges	Paid
16/10/2025	8 Cladding Centre Ltd	£635.40	Materials for Chair Store	Paid
17/10/2025	9 Information Commissioner	£47.00	Data Protection Fee	Paid DD
20/10/2025	10 Plusnet	£44.49	Telephone and Broadband	Paid DD
31/10/2025	11 Geosphere Ltd	£117.00	Parish Online Mapping Software	
31/10/2025	12 Northwich Town Council	£1,360.80	Village Maintenance from October	
31/10/2025	13 Jigsaw Marquees	£620.00	Equipment Hire for Switch On Event	
			Donation for Wreath Min. Ref.	
31/10/2025	14 RBL Poppy Appeal	£100.00	09.25.17	Chq
31/10/2025	15 St. Luke's Church	£50.00	Contribution towards Christmas Lights	
31/10/2025	16 Caxton FX	£700.00	Pre-Paid Card Load	
31/10/2025	17 Viking	£98.28	Village Hall and Office Supplies	
31/10/2025	18 Congleton Town Council	£2,783.09	Village Maintenance April - September	
		£10,316.38	inc VAT	

Receipts at 20th October 2025

Village Hall Income	£3,853.52	inc VAT
Santander Bank Interest	£236.29	
Total Receipts	£4,089.81	

Account Balances at 20th October 2025

Current Account	£79,019.94
Santander Capital Account	£83,133.81
NS&I General	£60,695.97
TOTAL	£222,849.72

Caxton Card Report 20th October 2025

Transaction Date	Payee	Amount	Description
	Balance brought forward	£662.16	

17/09/2025	1 HM Land Registry	£14.00	Title register and title plan
06/10/2025	2 Hallmaster Ltd	£265.00	Village Hall Booking System & Invoicing Module
08/10/2025	3 Anderson Electrical Trade Ltd	£77.21	Solenoid for Floor Cleaner Repair
	Total Spend	£356.21	
	Total Fees	£4.50	
	Total Spend inc Fees	£360.71	
	Card Load	£0.00	
	Card Balance at 20th October 2025	£301.45	

Item 8 Clerk's Report

Actions

- a) Planning comments submitted.
- b) Payments made.
- c) Boothbed Lane Speed Limit Change resolved.
- d) Policies updated.
- e) Newsletter completed and out for distribution.

Correspondence

- 1. Goostrey Primary Head RE: School Crossing Patrol Update 20/10/2025
- 2. GRIBBIN, Jonathan CHOC Bulletin
- 3. Goostrey Primary Admin RE: Heating Issues
- 4. ELECTORAL INFORMATION RE: Use of Premises for Polling Station
- 5. PCSO Bonfire
- 6. CHADWICK, Russell (Councillor) FW: PRESS RELEASE Cheshire East Council launches transport plan
- 7. Cheshire East Planning Planning Application Consultation ref. 25/3736/CLEUD
- 8. Chelford Parish Council Re: Telephone boxes
- 9. CEHStreetworks Cheshire East Highways – Works in your area
- 10. Solar Together Cheshire and Warrington ✨ Your Personal Recommendation Is Ready
- 11. ChALC ChALC Weekly Bulletin 06.10.25
- 12. GRIBBIN, Jonathan CHOC Bulletin
- 13. CHADWICK, Russell (Councillor) FW: Consultation on a Material Change to the Keuper Gas Storage Project (KGSP) Development Consent Order (DCO)
- 14. Goostrey Primary Admin RE: Recharge 2023/24
- 15. Community (MAN) Manchester Airport Parish Council Forum
- 16. KGSP Consultation on a Material Change to the Keuper Gas Storage Project (KGSP) Development Consent Order (DCO)
- 17. Re: Sports Coaching Sessions at Goostrey Village Hall
- 18. CEHStreetworks Cheshire East Highways – Works in your area
- 19. Lightech RE: Christmas 2025
- 20. CEC Highways RE: Tree Inspection
- 21. Goostrey Footpaths Group minutes sept 18th
- 22. SHALLCROSS, Peter RE: Application for Landlord Consent - response letters
- 23. WHITMARSH, Katie Application for Landlord Consent - response letters
- 24. CE - PLANNING APP COMMENTS RE: Consultee's Responses
- 25. Goostrey Primary Admin RE: Petition - ROAD SAFETY
- 26. RE: Village Maintenance Contract
- 27. Goostrey Tots Re: Grant Application
- 28. ELECTORAL INFORMATION RE: Co-option
- 29. Cheshire East Local Issues Cheshire East Highways Report Update: SR510004324
- 30. Cheshire East Local Issues Cheshire East Highways Report Update: SR510003898
- 31. Re: Maintenance work 23/09/2025
- 32. Re: Goostrey Community Choir
- 33. Re: Interior Decorating Quote - Goostrey Village Hall
- 34. ChALC ChALC Weekly Bulletin 22.09.25 22/09/2025
- 35. WHITMARSH, Katie RE: Application for Landlord Consent
- 36. Parish Council Cheshire East | pa.cheshireeast.gov.uk | Application | 398818
- 37. PCSO RE: [EXTERNAL] Goostrey Speedwatch
- 38. PCSO RE: [EXTERNAL] Speedwatch Letters

- 39.** Rose Queen selection and evening event 2026
- 40.** Sharon Angus-Crawshaw FW: Devolution for Cheshire and Warrington - next steps
- 41.** Goostrey Primary Admin RE: School Crossing Patrols
- 42.** Resident FW: Speedwatch
- 43.** CEHStreetworks Cheshire East Highways – Works in your area
- 44.** GRIBBIN, Jonathan Holmes Chapel Partnership Meeting
- 45.** RE: Quotation 7422
- 46.** PCSO Automatic reply: [EXTERNAL] Goostrey Speedwatch
- 47.** RE: FW: Quote: QUO/1583869 – Electrical Work Lighting Replacements

GOOSTREY PARISH COUNCIL SPEEDWATCH REPORT October 2025 For
October 2025 GPC MEETING

DATE & TIME	LOCATION	LOW SPEED MPH	TOP SPEED MPH	NUMBER OF VEHICLES LOGGED	TOTAL NUMBER OF VEHICLES PASSING
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
04/09/25 08.30-09.30	MAIN ROAD BOGBEAN	35	36	2	268
08/10/25 14.43 – 15.45	MAIN ROAD BOGBEAN	35	45	7	309

Report to Parish Council October 2025

Speedwatch Activity Summary

Speedwatch sessions resumed with a session on 16th January 2025 led by Paddy Fagan and are now continuing to take place. More Volunteers have joined the Team and are being trained.

Session on 8th October 2025 7 vehicles monitored travelling at 36 mph and above.
Maximum speed monitored is 45mph.

SHEARBROOK SID

No report for October 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 Clerk is pressing TWM).

TR 20/10/2025

Item 9b Update on Road Safety Meeting Actions

The notes from the Road Safety meeting held on 17th September were presented at the last council meeting and the group had agreed the following actions:

- PF to meet with the PCSO to press for the approval of more locations for Speedwatch sessions.

Update: PF met the PCSO covering for the designated PCSO and reiterated the need to sign up new members. He gave me a couple of dates at which this could be done. The PCSO said training is not required, but signing of the form is needed. Members of the group are uncomfortable with the apparent lack of a requirement for training and may need to escalate this in order to be assured this is the case. PF also asked him to log that we need two new locations agreed by the Police.

- KK to try to encourage new Speedwatch volunteers.

Update: There are now eleven volunteers, however, training/approval by the police will restrict activity until this is completed.

- KK to contact the school to ask them to put a reminder to in the school newsletter about observing the speed limit and also asking for Speedwatch volunteers to come forward.

School Response as follows: As we discussed with the Parish Clerk, we are happy to remind families of their obligation to keep all road and pavement users safe. We already address road safety with our pupils through the curriculum, liaise with our PCSO and have road safety sessions with the fire service. Y4 and 5 pupils undertake Bikeability training each summer term, to be made aware of their need to abide by the Highway Code. Sadly it is not the pupils driving which causes concern. Miss Atkins and I were trained to join the Speed watch volunteers and operate the speed gun some time ago and I would be happy to do so again. When available we will also request the no parking banners again from Highways.

- The Clerk to check with the PCSO that letters are still being sent to speeding motorists who are identified by the Speedwatch logs.

Update: It appears that letters should still be sent but that this is an administration task without much priority in the face of other issues.

- The Clerk to contact the school regarding school crossing patrols.

Update: The school confirmed that they would wholeheartedly support the re-introduction of a school crossing patrol and the Clerk requested that CEC look again at the need for one in Goostrey. CEC has confirmed that they have requested an assessment to see if the area meets the requirement for a crossing patrol or any other type of intervention.

- The Clerk to send a letter to the police and CEC Highways endorsing the petition's principle of speed reduction measures for Goostrey.

Update: Letters have been sent.

Parish and town council meeting

With representatives from
Cheshire East



Cheshire
Police & Crime
Commissioner



Reduce crime

Community payback

Collaborative working | working with probation to change current offering of community payback (community service)

Community impact | work completed has direct impact on community; clearing overgrown green space, gravestones

Rehabilitation | offenders offered meaningful skills training to help with rehabilitation, and prospects



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Police & Crime
Commissioner



Reduce crime / Listen to the public

Social cohesion

Side by side contribution / high impact volunteering to break down barriers

Pilot / held in Warrington, cleaning up greenspace, with a group of asylum seekers.

Working with faith leaders and LAs / build on existing work and opportunities

County-wide strategy / next pilot in Ellesmere Port



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Police & Crime
Commissioner



Listen to the public

Citizens' Assemblies

Delivered Crewe, Runcorn and Widnes

Macclesfield running in Sep / Oct

Congleton then Northwich early 2026

Award winning

Nine areas

Multiple sessions

Fully representative

Expert speakers

Debate & discussion



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Reduce crime

Fresh Start

Aim / cut re-offending by provide ex-offenders with meaningful employment

Collaboration / work with Probation and Department of Work and Pensions

Business Advisory Board / with Cheshire businesses represented

Update / first cohort already in employment. Target is 100 by the end of 2025



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Police & Crime
Commissioner



Reduce crime / Listen to the public

Hotspot policing

Visibility | ability to pay for police resources **when** and **where** you need them

Pilot | Pickmere Parish Council piloted the scheme.

Hear what they had to say | watch our case study video



Hotspot

Hotspot policing

cing

Modernise / Reduce crime

Phone-free schools

***Aim** | first county to have full adoption of lockable phone pouches in schools*

***Collaboration** | working with Esther Ghey*

***Schools** | event for leaders in November to bring schools on board*



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Police & Crime
Commissioner



Modernise/ Reduce crime

AI drones

***Pilot** / drone in a box to deploy drones to instances quicker*

***Focus** / tackling illegal use of eBikes*

***Results** / first in NW region. Safer and more efficient way of catching offenders*



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Reduce crime/ Listen to the public

SWAP Fund

Latest round launched

£100,000

Grants up to £5k

Schools can now apply



87 projects across Cheshire so far

£250k criminal money re-invested



**Cheshire
Police & Crime
Commissioner**

Any questions?



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Item 12 Finance Committee Membership

Goostrey Parish Council Committees 2025 - 2026

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of each committee will be elected at the first meeting of that committee following the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Amenities Committee

Terence Rathbone – Chairman
Paul Morgan – Vice Chairman
Suzie Harvey
Arthur Freeman
Sarah Lisgo
Paddy Fagan

Finance Committee

Ian O'Donoghue – Chairman
Ken Morris – Vice Chairman
Arthur Freeman
Terence Rathbone
Vacancy
Neil Beckham

Planning Committee

Ken Morris - Chairman
Terence Rathbone – Vice Chairman
Neil Beckham
Sarah Lisgo
Paul Morgan
Paddy Fagan

Staff Committee

Ian O'Donoghue - Chairman
Paul Morgan
Ken Morris
Terence Rathbone

Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC)

Neil Beckham - Chairman
Arthur Freeman – Vice Chairman
Jason Lynch - Council
Sally Ball – VHPFF
Martin Leake – VHPFF
Edna Brandreth – VHPFF
Lyndsey Atkins – School
Jacqui Schurer-Lewis – School
Hannah Sterling – School

Boothbed Lane Play Area Working Group

Paul Morgan

Sarah Lisgo

External Appointments and Liaison Roles

Ken Morris – Jodrell Bank UNESCO Steering Group, Rudheath Quarry Liaison Group

Terence Rathbone – Police Liaison, Speedwatch Liaison, Highways Liaison

Neil Beckham – VHPFF Liaison

Paddy Fagan – FOGS Liaison, Goostrey Parish Archive Liaison

Suzie Harvey – Manchester Airport Liaison

Ian O'Donoghue – Goostrey Footpaths Group



Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit Arrangements

Smaller authorities are required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 to ‘undertake an effective internal audit to evaluate the effectiveness of its risk management, control and governance processes. Authorities should carry out a review of the effectiveness of their overall internal audit arrangements in order to provide sufficient assurance for the authority that standards are being met and that the work of internal audit is effective. There is no requirement to rotate auditors but the independence of the appointed person or firm should be reviewed every year with regard to; personal independence, financial independence, and professional independence.

This evaluation of JDH Business Services Ltd. is based on best practice guidance provided by the Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel’s Practitioners’ Guide 2025.

Review Date: 14th October 2025

Principle	Standard	Evaluation
Scope of Internal Audit	Internal audit testing as specified in the AGAR Annual Return for Local Councils in England. In summary this includes a review of receipts and payments internal controls, general governance areas such as risk assessment, payroll, bank reconciliations, fixed assets and year end accounts. In addition, the council website is reviewed for compliance with the publication requirements of Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, including public notice of electors rights.	The internal audit is carried out remotely. A bespoke checklist of information to be submitted is issued and in addition, samples of source documents are requested. The auditors checklist complies with the testing as specified in the AGAR Annual Return. See Appendix 1 Internal Audit Plan 2024/25.

Independence	Independence requires the absence of any actual or perceived conflict of interest. It means that whoever carries out the internal audit role does not have any involvement in, or responsibility for, the financial decision making, management or control of the authority, or for the authority's financial controls and procedures.	JDH Business Services Ltd is a registered firm based in Wales and has no connection to Goostrey, the Parish Council or the Clerk. The audit is carried out remotely, once a year at year end. The auditor provides a letter confirming continuing independence. See Appendix 2. The internal auditor will inform the Council immediately if the internal auditor becomes aware of any conflict of interest that may adversely affect their ability to carry out the internal audit objectively and independently and will resign from the appointment forthwith as confirmed by the letter of engagement.
Competence	There is no requirement for a person providing the internal audit role to be professionally qualified, however essential competencies to be sought from any internal audit service should include: ● understanding basic book-keeping and accounting processes; where an authority exceeds the £200,000 threshold, this understanding must include accrual accounting and balance sheets ● understanding the role of internal audit in reviewing systems rather than undertaking detailed checks that are more appropriately the responsibility of management ● awareness of relevant principles and practice of financial and other risk management ● understanding proper practices in relation to governance and accounting requirements within the legal framework and powers of smaller authorities, as set out in Sections 1 and 3 of the Joint Panel on	JDH Business Services Ltd are a registered firm, authorised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales to carry out audits. They have implemented the institute's Practice Assurance Scheme. The company has focused on public sector internal audit and has a large client base in England and Wales.

	Accountability and Governance Practitioners' Guide (knowledge of which is a prerequisite) ● awareness of the most recent model Standing Orders and model Financial Regulations as published by NALC and how they are adopted by authorities ● awareness of the relevance of VAT and PAYE/NIC rules as applied to the authority ● for larger authorities, a clear understanding of the risks and controls associated with 'cut off' procedures, particularly with respect to revenue-generating activities	
Engagement	Every authority should ensure that they have a letter of engagement which would normally include: ● roles and responsibilities ● audit planning and timing of visits ● reporting requirements ● rights to access to information, members and officers ● period of engagement ● remuneration ● any other matters required for the management of the engagement by the authority. Most internal auditors will have professional indemnity insurance cover which provides both the authority and the person or firm engaged, with protection and assurance.	A letter of engagement has been provided by the auditor. See appendix 3. The auditor has confirmed that they hold Professional Indemnity Insurance cover of £500,000.
Audit Planning and Reporting	The Council's Risk Assessment should properly take account of the corporate risk to the council.	The risk assessment is reviewed twice a year by the Finance Committee. Any recommendations are made to full council for review and approval.

	The duties of internal audit relate to reporting on the adequacy and effectiveness of an authority's system of internal control. As part of the review the internal auditor should produce a report to the authority highlighting areas for improvement or development. An action plan should be produced setting out the areas of improvement required, any proposed remedial actions, the members or officers responsible for delivering improvement, and the deadlines for completion of the action.	JDH Business Services Ltd produces an Annual Internal Audit Report which notes any issues, recommendations and a follow up to ensure that the issues have been properly addressed and implemented. The contents of the report are presented each year to the appropriate full council meeting. Work to address any recommendations is delegated to the Clerk or Finance Committee as appropriate. There was one recommendation made relating to the 2024/25 audit relating to the need to earmark reserves. Work on this is ongoing.
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Goostrey Parish Council Annual Plan 2025 – 2026

No.	Project Name & Aim/Objective	Actions	Responsible Person/Committee	Updates	Completion Date
1.	Booth Bed Lane Play Area Improvements. To provide new equipment and facilities for the play area.	Consultation with residents has taken place. 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.	The Goostrey Playground Community Project Working Group reports to the Amenities Committee and Council. The group is working with ANSA to deliver the project.	Funding bid resubmitted for consideration in June 2025 which was not successful. Based on feedback a further funding application bid is to be made to the FCC Community Action Fund - aiming for February 2026 submission. CEC to review the budget and costs associated with the previous application to see how it can be scaled back. An updated scheme will need to be obtained from contractors on the CEC framework.	

				A community fundraising drive is to be undertaken to try to boost the budget. A request to GPC is to be made for £10,000 towards the project (noting that the third party contribution that GPC underwrote last time was only noted and but scored to the detriment of the bid. CEC's Parks Development Fund will contribute the third party support."	
2.	Village Environment Improvement Project – Primrose Chase. To improve the appearance of the green area by removing accumulated fallen debris, removal of invasive growth, removal of low-hanging minor branches clear bases of trunks to main trees to allow grass to grow and facilitate future mowing	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.	Clerk. Amenities Committee	Permission obtained from Highways.	July 2025
3.	Village Survey. To identify what improvements residents would like to see following the last survey in 2021. To provide ongoing	New survey in development to inform further environmental improvement projects.	Clerk. Amenities Committee	The Amenities Committee has drafted survey ready to be distributed in early 2026.	

	engagement with residents and inform future project plans.				
4.	Christmas Lights Switch On. To continue to provide a much loved community event.	Band, Santa, First Aid, gazebos and associated lighting and equipment booked.	Clerk. Amenities Committee	Food, drinks and sweet stall have been organised. Event to take place 30 th November 2025.	
5.	Repainting the Main Hall. Required to maintain the hall in good condition.	Quotes to be sought.	Clerk. VHMC	Work scheduled for Christmas 2025.	
6.	New wall covering for Chair Store in Main Hall. To provide long lasting protection for the walls and maintain cleanliness	Quotes to be sought.	Clerk. VHMC	Work scheduled for October 2025.	
7.	Replacement of windows in the Parish Office, Committee Room and toilets. To reduce energy costs and create a warmer, more pleasant environment for hirers.	Project also included removal of existing external asbestos concrete cills. Work scheduled for 27 th – 30 th May 2025.	Clerk. VHMC	Work completed. New windows installed. Minor making good to take place.	30 th May 2025
8.	Replacement Lighting in the Parish Office and Committee Room. Replacement of remaining fluorescent lighting with more energy efficient LED lighting, as in the rest of the building, especially as these type of bulbs can't be replaced.	Indicative quote obtained, further quotes to be sought.	Clerk. VHMC	Work scheduled October 2025.	

9.	LCAS Gold Award Re-accreditation. To ensure that the council continues to demonstrate best practice within the sector.	The council needs to submit application in January 2026 for accreditation in May 2026.	Clerk. Parish Council	In progress.	
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Approved by the Parish Council at its meeting on 24th June 2025



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: • Primrose Chase • Station Area • Outside Mini Market Main Road.	Funding from Capital Reserves. The Village Projects Reserve balance is £7,064.73	Adopted Parish Council Project	Amenities Committee	2024 – 2025	Primrose Chase Project has been completed. 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. New projects will be identified after the results of the new survey are collated. Complete

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 which was not successful. A new play equipment provider framework has been put in place so any scheme will need to be re-tendered. The Working Group will meet to discuss options for a change of scope in the coming weeks. 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	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.

				Entrances Project (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 Amenities Committee budget 2025/26 Approx. £1,000	Adopted Parish Council Project.	Amenities Committee	2025 - 2026	New survey to be distributed early 2026 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.	£7,910.33 available in VH Maintenance reserve.	Adopted Parish Council Project.	VHMC	Autumn 2025	Work scheduled for Christmas 2025.
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	£7,910.33 available in VH Maintenance reserve.	Adopted Parish Council Project	VHMC	Autumn 2025	Work scheduled for October 2025.
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	Work scheduled October 2025.
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.	£7,910.33 available in VH Maintenance reserve.	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 of Main Hall Floor	Planning required for the eventual replacement of the Main Hall floor.	Forward planning for a contribution towards the eventual replacement of the original floor.	£8,000 earmarked in reserves.	Project in development. To be approved by Parish Council.	VHMC	Not known – Longterm	
13	Village Hall Energy Projects	Planning required for eventual replacement of the boiler and possible installation of green technology, such as solar panels and heat pump.	Forward planning for a contribution towards the eventual replacement of the boiler which is 20 years old and possible replacement with solar panels and/or heat pumps. This will 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	Approximately £24,500 earmarked in reserves. A line has also been incorporated into the VHMC 3 year budget plan to increase this reserve.	Project in development. To be approved by Parish Council.	VHMC	Not known - Longterm	Work started to establish indicative costs, suitability of site and landlord permission in principle.

			prepared as opportunities arise.					
14	Painting of Village Hall Lounge, Foyer and Corridors	Required to maintain the hall in good condition	Regular maintenance is required to keep the hall in good condition for the hirers.	£1,310 in VH Budget 2026/27. £7,910.33 available in VH Maintenance reserve.	To be approved by Parish Council.	VHMC	2025 for 2026/27	Work to be approved and scheduled.
15	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.	Reviewed in 2022 and policies found to be still relevant. This is kept under close review due to shanges to the planning system and the need for CEC to complete its Local Plan.

Adopted at the Meeting of Goostrey Parish Council on 17th December 2024.

Updated at the Meeting of Goostrey Parish Council on 22nd July 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. Review and implement any asset servicing costs.
3. Review and plan for any asset replacements.
4. Review and plan for any asset maintenance.
5. Repainting of the Main Hall. Clerk to obtain quotes and the school have confirmed that they will make a contribution to the cost.
6. 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.
7. Removal of asbestos in the Village Hall where it is identified as a proactive measure for the future of the building.
8. Replacement of remaining fluorescent lighting in the Parish Office and Committee Room. Clerk to obtain quotes.
9. New ceiling/wall mounted projector screen for the Lounge. Clerk to obtain quotes.
10. 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 17th December 2024.

Item 16 Defibrillator Update

At the September Council meeting, the Clerk was asked to establish the following:

- Whether the VHPFF would be willing to contribute towards the cost of consumables associated with the defibrillator at the sports pavilion.
Update: An answer as to whether the VHPFF is able to cover costs of consumables, whether they need help or need the council to pay in full is still awaited.
- Whether a new defibrillator could be mounted externally at the Trading Post and whether the owner would approve this work. What the costs of this work would be.
Update: The device here is not currently operational due to a lack of replacement consumables and has been removed from the circuit. So, assuming permission for an external device, a new device plus an outdoor cabinet and a power supply would be required (this is for the fan which cools in summer and heats in winter so that the device continues to work in all conditions). Approx £1,200 (ex VAT), plus installation. Ongoing costs of maintaining the device in working order would also need to be considered including batteries at approximately £300 each depending on model. Battery life is approximately 2 – 5 years, depending on model, usage and self tests, storage conditions. Pads cost approximately £100 for a twin pack depending on the model. Pad life varies but they do have an expiry date and shouldn't be used after this. It is worth noting that the volunteer who carries out regular checks on all the community defibrillators, does not think that a replacement device in this location is necessary.
- Whether the defibrillator at the Village Hall could be mounted externally and whether CEC would give consent to this. What the costs of this work would be.
Update: This is an old defibrillator and whilst still in production parts can be sourced, however, at some point a new device will be required. So at the minimum, an outdoor cabinet will be required with a power supply. Approx. £400 - £500 plus installation work, more if a new device is required.
- To ensure that sufficient funds are earmarked to cover the cost of consumables for the defibrillators at the Village Hall, Main Road plus The Trading Post and the Sports Pavilion if this is required.
Update: Funds may continue to be placed in an earmarked reserve to cover these costs via the budget.
- To ensure that funds are earmarked to cover the eventual replacement of the defibrillators at the Village Hall and Main Road.
Update: This will be considered by the Finance Committee as part of the budgeting process.

Given the age of the council's own defibrillators and the ongoing costs associated with their maintenance, the Clerk's recommendation is that the Finance Committee considers how this, and the potential provision of a replacement device at The Trading Post, could be funded.