

**Goostrey Parish Council***The Village Hall**Goostrey**Cheshire**CW4 8PE***MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 11th APRIL 2017 at 7.30pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL, LOUNGE**

Present: Cllrs Godfrey(Chairman)(PG), McCubbin (Vice-Chairman)(CMcC), Bennett (RB), Macfarlane (IM) and Rathbone (TR)

In attendance: Sharon Jones, Clerk to the Council, Cllr Kolker (CEC) and 6 residents

04.17.01 **Declarations of Interest** – None.

04.17.02 **Apologies for absence** – Apologies were received from Cllrs Craggs, Lenihan, Morris, O'Donoghue & Williams.

04.17.03 **Minutes:** To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting of 14th March 2017.

Resolved: *The minutes of the meeting of 14th March were accepted as true records of the meeting.*

04.12.04 **Cheshire East Council Matters:** To receive a report on Cheshire East Council Matters from Cllr Andrew Kolker:

AK reported that at 5.15pm a letter from Rachel Bailey, announcing an investigation by the Disciplinary Committee, at a meeting on 10 & 11 April, the decision was made to suspend the Chief Executive of Cheshire East (on full pay) whilst and further investigation takes place. At present it would be inappropriate to make any comments and there is no other information available. This is not completely unexpected the Chief Executive is Head of paid services and is in charge of all staff. This is an almost unique situation which is very troubling. PG asked if an interim CEO will be appointed. AK said that a CEO can be shared with another authority, or someone can be promoted to the position for an interim period. Peter Bates is the current RFO.

There is no security classification on the letter which was sent to officers and Councillors and has been posted on twitter.

See full press release from Cheshire East in Appendix

04.17.05 **Committee Matters:** To receive reports from Committee Meetings held since the last PC Meeting.

- **Finance Meeting on 4th April 2017** - CMcC summarised the Minutes of the meeting which are on the website. Items of particular note are:
- Unaudited Accounts for Q4 – 2016/17 – draft accounts were approved by the Finance Committee.
- Abacus accountants will perform the audit for the year 2016/17 – as they had no involvement in the accounts for **this** financial year.
- Actuals vs Budget for Q4 – 2016/17 – were approved by the Finance Committee.
- The new accounts system is now in use and the management reports will be available by the end of Q1 – 2017/18.
- The Finance Committee approved a proposal by the Amenities Committee for the purchase of a new low powered SDU and higher rated solar panel to help resolve the issues with the SDU on New Platt Lane, the proposal also includes moving the current SDU and solar panel to the post opposite the Crown to help to reduce the speed of traffic near the School and the New Scout Hut and Youth Centre. The total cost for the project including a licence for the works is £3171 + VAT. There is £1000 in the Speedwatch budget for this year the rest would need to be funded from reserves. The Finance Committee recommends that the Parish Council agrees this proposal. We have not gone out to tender for the price because the supplier is a recognised CEC supplier and the equipment needs to come from the same supplier so that it works correctly.

Resolved: *The Parish Council Resolved to approve the proposal for the purchase of the equipment recommended by the Finance Committee at a cost of £3171 + VAT*

04.17.06 **Planning Matters** – PG reported on the Planning Meeting on 11th April. Minutes are available on the

web site.

- **Public Inquiry for Application 16/4306C- Land adjacent 51, MAIN ROAD** - PG advised the Parish Council that the Planning Committee recommended the approval of the Statement of case circulated by KM.

Resolved: *The Parish Council approved Cllr Morris's statement of case being sent to the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Parish Council.*

04.17.07 Financial Payments – to approve the schedule of payments for April 2017.

Resolved: *The PC resolved to approve the payments in Schedule 04/17.*

PG & CMcC signed the Payment Schedule.

04.17.08 Clerks Report - To receive correspondence and report on actions from the previous meeting.

Actions from the last Meeting

- Planners seem to be refusing any application in the zone for Jodrell Bank. **Action:** AK to take this back to CEC Planning for a response.
- Clerk to check when need to submit article for the Roseday programme.
- Clerk to produce copies of the Letter and card from the Queen for IO to get frames for £47.00
- Clerk to advertise Sibelco meeting on Web site – Completed.
- Clerk to ask when the sweeper comes to the village and log a request for the road and pavements to be cleaned.

Correspondence

- Chris Jones RE: Congleton Town Council Service 08:58 39 KB
- Christina Burgess Re: Rose Day Article for the Parish Council Newsletter - April
- Hazel Merrill ChALC Training Session Tue 13:58 11 KB
- JACKSON, Sandre planning list Tue 10:54 1 MB
- Customer Services Request for Road Sweeping SR1541849 Mon 15:43 11 KB
- Barbara Evans Beat Managers Report for March 2017 - Brereton Rural & Dane Valley
- Marianne Tomkinson Re: Parish Council Newsletter Sat 01/04 15 KB
- Andrew Batchelor RE: Bryan Batchelor Fri 31/03 38 KB
- COOPER, Richard RE: Road Closed at 51 Main Road Goostrey Thu 30/03 25 KB
- KOLKER, Andrew (Councillor) Land adjacent to 51 Main Road. 16/43016c
- helen.skinner@pins.gsi.gov.uk Planning Inspectorate APP/R0660/W/16/3166025: Land adjacent to 51 Main Road, CW4 8LH
- Skinner, Helen RE: Appeal Number: APP/R0660/W/16/3166025 (Cheshire East Council Reference: 16/4306C). Land Adjacent to 51 Main Road, Goostrey, Cheshire CW4 8LH.
- Nicola Cole RE: Sibelco Public Exhibition - Goostrey Village Hall Thursday 23rd March 2017
- John Hopkins Dangers arising from Hedges Overgrowing Pavements adjoining the Premises of the Trading Post, Boothbed Lane 24/03/2017 26 KB
- Victoria Marchant Twemlow Green Defibrillator 24/03/2017 11 KB
- GOOSTREY PRIMARY ADMIN VH Caretaker - Safeguarding Issue 22/03/2017
- WALTON, Sarah Anne Planning Lists 22/03/2017
- djohnson84 RE: 13/02468/FUL - Bloor Homes x 38 Houses - Allostock (CWAC) / Goostrey (CEC)... S106 Agreements & JBO Screening Materials... 21/03/2017 56 KB
- CEC Highways CEC Highways Enquiry Resolved - Enquiry 3273351 15/03/2017
- Nicola Cole Sibelco Public Exhibition - Goostrey Village Hall Thursday 23rd March 2017
- James Hawkins Adjustment to cover - Goostrey Parish Council - YLL-2720426623

04.17.09 Highways & Speedwatch:

- Report from the Finance Meeting on 4th April. (This item was covered in item 04.17.05 Committee Matters)
- The Clerk advised that she had purchased a new speed gun for the Speedwatch Group at a cost of £97.50 including postage (this forms part of the Clerk's expenses in Payment Schedule -04/17.)

04.17.10 Police Matters – TR reported that the Cheshire Police Beat Officer report mentions the new speed device needs to be purchased. This item has been purchased and has been given to the Speedwatch Team.

04.17.11 Neighbourhood Plan - TR reported that the consultation finishes on 17th April 2017. The document then goes to the examiner and it is likely that the referendum will be held in August 2017. PG mentioned that only two comments are recorded on the database at present.

04.17.12 Youth Facility:

- The new Scout Hut and Youth Centre will open on 6th May. The Scouts have invited all the

councillors to the opening and have now extended the invitation to the opening to the whole village. TR reported that snagging is currently being carried out.

- 04.17.13**
- **Community Projects Requiring Capital Expenditure Working Party** – RB presented the report from the Working Party on 28th March.
 - **Village Signs** – RB reported that there was a huge difference between the lowest and highest quotes because of the specification of the sign that the suppliers can supply. The lowest is very thin aluminium, Shelley quoted on a GRP sign. Glasdon quoted for gateway signs which we cannot accommodate on the narrow verges. Sign of the Times quoted for cast aluminium signs like the blue and gold signs in Holmes Chapel. The working party felt that these were the best quality signs. The quotes were for 6 signs. The signs will be black text on a white background, with the millennium logo and “Goostrey welcomes careful drivers”. RB asked for a 10% variance to allow for new poles for signs if required giving a total of £4,800 + VAT. The expected life span of the signs is 15 years but they can be repainted. CEC will erect the signs free of charge.
Resolved: The Parish Council agreed to the proposal for Sign of the Times to provide the new village signs for a maximum price of £4,800 + VAT including replacement posts where necessary.
 - **The Bar Servery Kitchen** – All 3 contractors submitted a price based on the same specification. The quotations ranged to £18,200 to £15,000 + VAT. C&C and Tribourne included bespoke stainless steel cabinets and work surfaces in their quotations. The Working Party felt that the C&C quotation represented the best value for money at £15,000 + VAT. C&C are a recognised CEC supplier.
Resolved: The Parish Council agreed to the proposal for C&C to provide the new kitchen at a price of £15,000 + VAT.
RB qualified that this was subject to landlord’s permission being granted which has been requested.
 - **Resurfacing the Stage** – RB said that Ashely Flooring had submitted a quote for £1000 + VAT and will include the white line at the front of the stage.
Resolved: The Parish Council agreed to the proposal for Ashley Flooring to resurface the stage at a cost of £1000 + VAT
 - **New doorway into the hall** – RB indicated that this depends on landlord’s permission and building regulations being granted. DC is getting quotes for the new doorway.
 - **Redecoration of the Hall and Lounge** – awaiting quotes for redecoration from CEC and Congleton Town Council. **Action:** Clerk to chase CEC and Congleton for quotes.
 - **Stage Lighting** - This still needs to be progressed. This could be done at autumn half term or at another time as it can’t be done whilst the stage and hall floor are being refurbished.
 - **Storage** – RB said that action is needed in the next month to talk hirers about removing their items before the works start. VHMC also needs to look at the amount of items stored and if they are legitimate items ie used on a monthly basis.
 - **Schedule of works** - RB indicated that the schedule for carrying out the works is very tight, only 5 weeks. On 27 & 28 July, help has been organised to strip out the VH items from the kitchen. All hirers will be advised that they must remove their items from the bar servery area by 27th July.

PG thanked the members of the working party for their hard work for agreeing to oversee the implementation of their proposals.

- 04.17.14. Minor Items & Items for the Next Agenda:** To take any points from Members and to note urgent items of interest.
- PG will attend the BlueDot meeting on 24th April at Lower Withington.
- 04.17.15. Annual Parish Meeting:** The invitation will go out with the Newsletter end of week commencing 17th April. The Clerk reported that Cllr Bailey – Leader of Cheshire East would not be able to speak at meeting due to holiday commitments. The Parish Council decided not to invite another speaker. The meeting will start in the Village Hall and after the agenda items everyone will move to the new Scout Hut and Youth Centre for a tour of the building with refreshments.
- 04.17.16. Parish Council Newsletter:** The Clerk confirmed all items had been received and the approved copy would be sent to the printers on 13th April. The printed copies are due by 21st April at the latest.
- 04.17.17. Date of Next Meeting:** To confirm the date of the next Meeting – 9th May 2017.

04.17.18. PART TWO**MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE ASKED TO RETIRE.**

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as extended by the Local Government Act of 1972, the press and public are excluded from the meeting for the discussion of the undermentioned items on the grounds that the publication of the matters would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

- **Burial Ground - Resolved:** *The Parish Council resolved to make an offer to St Lukes Church regarding the burial ground extension.*
- **Staff Committee -Resolved:** *The Parish Council resolved to form a Staff Committee to manage staff matters for the Parish Council, the membership would be The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council and the Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee.*

04.17.19 Closure of Meeting: The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Public Session

A resident asked if Arclid tip is it now closed. PG responded saying that the closure is delayed whilst alternatives are investigated including accepting commercial rubbish at the tip.

These minutes will be submitted for approval at the next meeting. Until then they are draft minutes.

APPENDIX

News Release

**PR 6136****11 April 2017****Release Sent**

RELEASE - Investigation and disciplinary committee

April 11, 2017

Investigation and disciplinary committee

Concerns about officer conduct have been considered at a meeting of the investigation and disciplinary committee on April 10-11, 2017.

A decision has been taken to suspend the chief executive of Cheshire East Council while an independent investigation is undertaken.

The chair of the investigation and disciplinary committee, said:

“We would stress that suspension is a neutral act taken in the interests of both the council and chief executive.

“It is important that this investigation is undertaken objectively and therefore it would be inappropriate to make any further comment at this stage.”

ENDS**Media Relations Contact: Michael Moore****Direct line: 01270 686581****Mobile: 07772 611058****Email: michael.moore@cheshireeast.gov.uk**