



GOOSTREY PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



Council Tax in 2018/19

Goostrey Parish Council has set the budget it believes it needs to fulfil its responsibilities in 2018/19 whilst retaining sufficient reserves to cope with unexpected expenditure. The budget is set to rise by 0.8% or £488. However due to an increase in Goostrey's Tax Base, Goostrey residents will effectively see no change in the Parish Council element of their Council Tax (there will actually be a negligible decrease of 0.3% or 11p per annum for a Band D property). Using the new accounting system introduced at the start of 2018, the Council has also made some changes to the structure of its detailed budget which will make it easier to understand. More such improvements are expected to be made to the

structure of the budget in future years.

Cheshire East Council will not agree its final budget until its meeting on 22 February 2018 however, following its pre-budget consultation, it is proposing to increase its share of Council Tax by 5.99 % of which 3 % will be spent on the vulnerable elderly. This follows last year's Council Tax increase of 4.99 %.

Peter Godfrey,

Chairman, Goostrey Parish Council

Edited by Cllr P Godfrey & S Jones, The Parish Office, Village Hall, Goostrey

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Planning Update

In a recent planning appeal by Henderson Homes, the Parish Council decided to actively support Jodrell Bank Observatory's objection at the Public Inquiry. The main objection was that the proposed additional development of 6 houses on Main Road would cause unacceptable additional radio interference to the Lovell telescope and this is

contrary to the Goostrey Neighbourhood Plan Policies SC2 and HOU1. The Planning Inspector accepted the Jodrell Bank objection and the appeal was dismissed on 18th January.

The Parish Council has also raised some concerns on increased traffic and other matters arising from the Sibelco application for a Sand Quarry at Rudheath Lodge,

between New Platt Lane and Goostrey Lane. This application will be decided by the CEC Strategic Planning Board on Wednesday 28th February. The meeting is open to the public and normally starts at 10:30am in the Town Hall, Macclesfield. Please check CEC's website for details nearer the time if you are planning to attend.

Highways Matters

We would like to take this opportunity to update you in regard to Highways Matters in the Village and surrounding area.

Station Bridge

We have been advised that the work on the bridge scheme is scheduled to take place in 2018. You may recall that the bridge was closed in December. This enabled CEC to check the depth of the carriageway. We

are awaiting the detailed plan which is still in preparation but we hope to be able to share with you in the next month or so.

Other Highways Matters

Presently there are temporary traffic lights and roadworks on A535 Macclesfield Road at Manor Lane, Holmes Chapel. Resurfacing and road widening works and roundabout construction are being carried out until 21st February, 2018.

Reporting Potholes and other Highways Issues Help us to Help You!

As you might imagine, quite a lot of the work of the Parish Council is related to Highways. It could be requesting that gullies are cleared to enable water to drain freely from the land and roads or it could be in relation to street lights not working. At this time of year the main problem is getting potholes in the roads repaired.

In most cases the Cheshire East Council (CEC) web site allows you to report the issue online. You can also telephone them directly if you prefer. If CEC do not reply or have not resolved

the issue in the given timescale please feel free to report this to the Parish Office, with the details and reference number for the original issue and we will try to get the matter escalated within CEC Highways.

Contacting Cheshire East Highways & Street Lighting Issues

In an emergency you can call CEC Highways on 0300 123 5020 during office hours (out of ours on 0300 123 5025)

Web site is at :

http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/highways_and_roads/highways_and_roads.aspx

Choose the type of fault you want to log in the "Report IT" section.

Please note that if the door on the lamp

post is open or has been removed it will make the issue a high priority fix.

Street Cleansing

Street cleaning, fly tipping etc can be reported through the web site but you can also call them on 0300 123 5011

Report a Pothole

You can report a pothole through the web site but you can also call them on 0300 123 5020 if the hole is making the road dangerous.

Current Status of Road Works

There is also a site which shows the current status of roadworks in Cheshire East which can be accessed at

http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/highways_and_roads/roadworks/latest-roadworks.aspx

Points of interest:

- **Parish Council** - If you would like to speak to a member of the Parish Council please contact them directly (contact details for councillors are on the website) or contact the Clerk to arrange a appointment.
- **Parish Office Hours**
Monday 09.30 to 12.30,
Wednesday & Friday 13.00 to 16.00
- **Contact** - E-mail
ParishCouncil@Goostrey.info
Phone: 01477 535825
Answer phone service out of office hours
- **Web Site** - For a calendar of local events, Parish Council Meetings, Village Hall booking information and forms visit www.Goostrey.info

PLEA TO DOG OWNERS

When walking your dog in & around the village PLEASE BAG & BIN your dog's waste. Help keep our Village Clean
THANK YOU!

319 Bus - Latest News

CEC are in the process of reducing the frequency of bus services right across the Borough. As part of this they had proposed to withdraw the 319 bus service completely. The Parish Council have had a number of meetings with CEC Councillors and Officers to protest about the impact on residents. We have been supported by our Ward Councillors, Andrew Kolker and Les Gilbert. As a result, the

proposal was restored to two buses per day and after further meetings to four buses per day, though with no bus on a Saturday.

Confirmation of this is still dependent on CEC receiving acceptable tenders from the bus companies and the outcome will be published in the next few months. Beyond this we are still in discussion with CEC about new additional bus times but this will very much depend on CEC's assessment of forecast usage and hence financial viability.

SpeedWatch Report

We have 3 new volunteers who will be trained in February. The other team members will be running daytime SpeedWatch sessions at locations in the Village where speeding is thought to be an issue.

If you would like to join the team please provide your contact details to the Clerk by email to parishcouncil@goostrey.info or ring 535825.

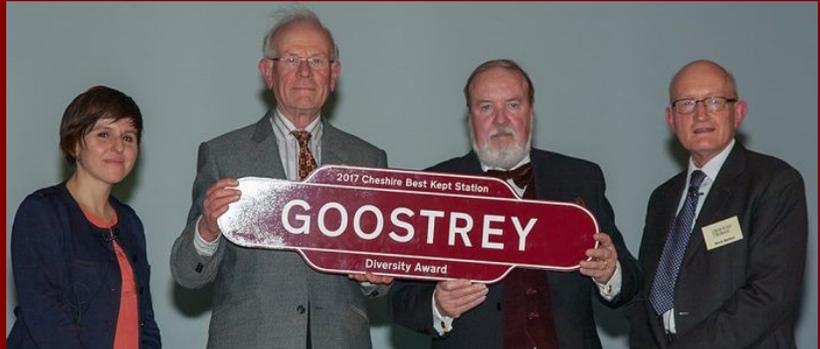
Focus on FOGS - Latest news and updates on work and projects at the Railway Station from the Friends Of Goostrey Station

Goostrey Railway Station wins Diversity Award

At the Cheshire Best Kept Stations Awards for 2017 held on 23rd January, Goostrey Railway Station picked up the Diversity Award recognising the volunteer work at the Station and the partnership with Goostrey Community Primary School and other organisations in the Village.

Previously Goostrey Station has won the award "Network Rail Award for Arts Projects" in 2016 and the award for "Most Improved Station" in 2014.

The Parish Council sends congratulations to the FOGS Group and everyone else involved in these initiatives.



Centre: Mike Jarvis and Bill Macdonald receiving the Diversity Award

MP supports Friends Of Goostrey Station, but Northern is slow to deliver station improvements

Fiona Bruce MP sent FOGS this message of support after reading the newspaper article about plans to add CCTV and a customer information system (CIS) to Goostrey station.

"Friends of Goostrey station do absolutely sterling work in maintaining Goostrey Station and making it attractive for the many passengers using this line. It is, therefore, excellent news that Northern are also investing in the station and making vital infrastructure improvements. There is, of course, much more that could be done and I know that with the FOGS on the case the station is in the best hands!"

However, by the end of 2017, the promised improvements by Northern had not materialised.

In the New Year, members of FOGS were extremely frustrated to read the following from Vicky Cropper, Regional Community and Sustainability Manager for Central Region.

"Regarding the installation of the CCTV and CIS, it looks as if this has been pushed back a number of weeks and is expected to be completed in March due to Landlord Consent.

The cross track cabling design for the new equipment needs Landlord Consent from Network Rail; this document will be submitted this week and NWR have 21 days to review it. Also the CIS screens are a bespoke model which have a long lead in time and won't be delivered until March 2018."

As Mike Jarvis, chair of FOGS, commented "We look forward to more news on the matter and hope that 2018 improves as the year goes on."

FOGS Working Parties.....

Despite such disappointments, volunteers still come forward to help at our working parties between 10 and 1 on the second Sunday of each month. Platforms, steps and car park are swept and planted areas, including tubs, are maintained. Our latest recruits are young people who are using the experience to qualify for Duke of Edinburgh awards.

Art at the Station.....

Goostrey Community Primary School continue to produce art for the platform shelter which is much appreciated by passengers. The current work about Water produced many comments including these:- 'Every time I visit this station I enjoy the displays from the school.' And 'Another fabulous display! What beautiful handwriting and talented artists.'

Restoration.....

Members of FOGS also help in other ways including keeping the pressure on Northern to restore the old Ticket Office. The Rail Authority have agreed to repair the outside of the building but work on the inside will need to be organised by local people.

If you would like information about this group of volunteers, please speak to Mike Jarvis on 533981 or Peter Godfrey on 533745. In addition, there is a recently updated website at <http://goostreystation.org.uk> which includes information about rail tickets.

Goostrey Village Archive

The Parish Council has been asked by the Goostrey Village Archive Group to help them relocate the Archive from Blackden Hall to a new location in the Village where it can be accessed more easily.

The Parish Council as the owner of the Archive is currently working with the Goostrey Village Archive Group to find a location for the Archive which will be suitable for the foreseeable future.

An update on the new location for the Goostrey Village Archive will be published once a decision has been made.

Parish Councillors

Cllr P Godfrey (Chairman)

Cllr C M'Cubbin (Vice Chairman)

Cllr R Bennett

Cllr D Craggs

Cllr G Lenihan

Cllr I Macfarlane

Cllr K Morris

Cllr I O'Donoghue

Cllr T Rathbone

Cllr E Williams

Date for the Diary

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 24th April 2018 at the Village Hall. You will receive an invitation 2-3 weeks before.

We hope you will be able to join us.