

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD****ON TUESDAY, 9<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2018 at 7.30pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL, LOUNGE**

Present: Cllrs Godfrey(PG)(Chairman), Bennett (RB), Craggs (DC), Lenihan (GL), Macfarlane (IM), Morris(KM), O'Donoghue (IO), Rathbone (TR) & Williams (EW)

In attendance: Sharon Jones, Clerk to the Council, Cllr Kolker (CEC) and 4 residents

- 01.18.1. Declaration of Interests:** To receive and minute any Declarations of Interest. Cllr Lenihan registered and interest in the planning application for 17 Brooklands Drive.
- 2. Apologies for absence:** To receive apologies for unavoidable absence. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr McCubbin. Cllr Williams and Cllr Kolker (CEC) had given advance notice that they would be late for the meeting but did attend.
- 3. Minutes:** To approve & sign the Minutes of the meetings of 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017.  
*Resolved:* *The Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December as a true record of the meeting.*
- 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.
- Council to consider AK response to questions posed before the meeting and to consider if any further actions are needed at this time.

Cllr Kolker reported that the traffic lights at the top of Manor Lane were back and that a roundabout is to be installed to replace the lights. A roundabout also to be put where the lights at Chester Road/London Road. This has been funded by the s106 monies from the Bloor Homes and Gladman developments in Holmes Chapel.

The space for the roundabout was a concern but we are assured by the highways designers there is enough room. IO raised concern about problems for people coming out of the school if the M6 was shut for any reason.

AK responded that a pedestrian crossing at Chester Road had been requested but it has not been approved as its too difficult to implement.

AK responded to the Chairman's e-mail. He indicated that suspended officers are still be paid as per employment law. Staff committee at CEC is dealing with the matter and it seems to have taken about 9 months. External investigators were appointed by CEC (HR & Legal). KM asked why it was taking so long. **Action:** AK to take back the criticism about how long it is taking and will find out what the timetable is for the completion of the investigation.

The Chairman asked if there was any likelihood that the details will be published if the individuals resign. AK indicated that a draft report has been sent to CEC but he has not seen it. The Chairman asked AK why CEC should not be taken into Government Control (Special Measures). AK replied that if this happened all local representation would be lost. There would be no negotiation about services to be cut. If bus services needed to be cut they would be. As CEC is acting to investigate issues as they arise there is no reason for the Government to take control.

The Chairman had seen an advert for a Planning Office on twitter and asked if this was an additional Planning Officer or a replacement Officer – **Action:** AK to respond.

The Chairman pointed out that questioning CEC was not a political act but a necessary part of representing the views of our residents. He asked Cllrs if there was anything that Goostrey Parish Council should do other than wait for AK to reply. No additional actions were suggested.

5. **Committee Matters:** To receive reports from Committee Meetings held since the last PC Meeting.
- Staff Committee Meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018
    - Motion to approve the Training Policy and Training Records recommended by the Staff Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018  
***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to accept the recommendation of the Staff Committee and approved the Training Policy and Training records for immediate implementation.*
6. **Planning Matters:** To receive a report from the Planning Committee Meetings on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018  
 Cllr Morris delivered the report from the Planning Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> January (minutes are posted on the web site).
7. **Financial Payments:** To approve payments in Schedules 01/18. Includes: Salaries & expenses.  
 Chairman and Vice Chairman to sign the schedules of payments and two bank signatories to sign cheques at the end of this meeting.  
***Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to approve the payments on schedule 01/18.*
8. **Clerk's Report:** To receive correspondence and report on actions from the previous meeting.
- Actions from Last Meeting**
- a. Clerk to request copies of the plans for the lights on the station bridge when they are drawn up.
  - b. Clerk to ask for any comments on facilities to be provided in the Committee Room to be sent to CMcC by the end of the week.
  - c. Clerk to raise gritting of Village Hall car park and pathways with the Village Hall Management Committee.
  - d. CMcC to arrange a meeting with Cllr Kolker (CEC) regarding 319 bus.
- Correspondence**
- a. Housing Policy CEC RE: Response to House Strategy Survey 2018-2013
  - b. BEDFORD, Karen [OFFICIAL] Changes to Parish Council Information
  - c. GLOVER, Lee RE: Road Fault ref: 3299792 Wed 14:17 41 KB
  - d. David Craggs Fwd: Road Fault ref: 3299792 Tue 9:59 7 MB
  - e. emmadonaldson RE: Planning application 17/6039C
  - f. Vicky Cropper RE: Lack of Disabled Parking Spaces at Goostrey Station Car Park
  - g. Suzanne Jones Re: Re Planning Application for Woodlands, Birch Tree Lane
  - h. DAVIES, Gareth (Corporate Debt) VAT Registration Number
  - i. Ashley Pettifer Woodlands, Birch Tree Lane - planning app
  - j. Ann Wright Weekly Bulletin from ChALC
  - k. WHITTAKER, Lawrence [OFFICIAL] RE: Goostrey Parish Council Precept 2018/19
  - l. CEC Highways CEC Highways Enquiry Received - Enquiry 3307068
  - m. DOUGLAS, Paul [OFFICIAL] 120 Main Rd re water
  - n. Ian Berrow FW: goostrey village hall test certificates
  - o. WHITTAKER, Lawrence Council Approval of Taxbase
  - p. david.giles@shell.com Re: Christmas Lights Switch-on
  - q. Alwyn Ayre Birch Tree Lane.
  - r. BAXTER, Sarah [OFFICIAL] FW: Strategic Planning Board Site Visits
9. **Highways & Speedwatch:** To consider any Highways & Speedwatch matters and to take any appropriate action.
- Speedwatch update – The Clerk confirmed that another volunteer had stepped forward to join speedwatch and sessions would resume in February. There would also be training for the new volunteers in February.
  - Pothole Repairs - IO mentioned the poor state of Blackden Lane at the junction with Bridge Lane where the building works had been carried out. This had previously been reported but had not been acted upon. There are also a number of large potholes on Main Road and where the repairs have already been done the surface has broken up again and needs refilling.  
**Action:** Clerk to report the potholes again and also to arrange a meeting on a Friday between our Highways contact and IO.

**10. Local Policing:** To receive a report from Cllr Rathbone.

Cllr Rathbone referred to the “Beat Report” (which had been circulated to all councillors before the meeting). He indicated that it explains how the PCSO spends their time and the crime statistics. The Clerk indicated that the PCSO is willing to attend SpeedWatch sessions once she has received her training at the end of January. **Action:** Clerk to invite PCSO to join sessions once dates are confirmed.

**11. Matters arising from the Meeting with the Leader of CEC on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

- Bus Service – To receive a report on the current status – Cllr McCubbin and AK need to meet to finalise suggestions and then to take these back to CEC.

**12. Local Council Awards Scheme**

- **Motion:** Goostrey Parish Council confirms by resolution that it has;

1	A risk management scheme
2	A register of assets
3	Contracts for all members of staff
4	Disciplinary and grievance procedures
5	A policy for training new staff and councillors
6	A record of all training undertaken by staff and councillors in the last year
7	A clerk who has achieved 12 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points in the last year

**Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to approve the motion confirming it has in place items 1 to 7 in the table above.

- Further steps needed to achieve Foundation Award – **Action:** The Clerk will check the website to ensure all documentation is up to date and compliant with the requirements of the Foundation award and will then inform CHALC to carry out the assessment of the Website.

**13. Goostrey Village Archive -** To receive a report on the current status – RB reported that he now knew what the Touring Theatre want. A scheme will be produced and this will need to go to the VHMC before coming to the Parish Council Meeting. RB agreed to try to sort this for the next PC meeting.

**14. Safety of Village Hall pathways and car parking areas in Freezing Weather Conditions –** The Clerk raised the issue as there had been a particularly cold spell just before Christmas when the pathways and car park at the entrance to the Village Hall had been particularly icy. Unfortunately the car park had not been gritted as there had been no weather warning for the extreme cold. The School are short staffed at present as one of the caretakers has left. However they would try to help if they can, but in the meantime RB agreed to get 2 bags of salt and would grit the paths if there is to be a threat of ice. **Action:** Clerk to send RB the weather warnings received from CEC.

**15. Response to CEC Pre Budget Consultation –** Cllr Morris has put forward the following suggested response which had been circulated to all councillors before the meeting;

1. We are disappointed that CEC cancelled both consultation events, especially considering that the document is 124 pages of detailed data.
2. We do not support the proposed increased cost for a food waste collection and suggest the money is used instead to support bus services.
3. We would like to know how CEC is budgeting for the increased costs for the officer suspensions and ask that these are now brought to a rapid end.

**Resolved:** The Parish Council resolved to accept these comments and agreed the Clerk should submit them on its behalf.

**Action:** Clerk to submit comments before the closing date.

**16. Minor Items & Items for the Next Agenda:** To take any points from Members and to note urgent items of interest.

- Parish Council Newsletter – Articles regarding the Budget, Speedwatch, Village Signs, reporting potholes to CEC, Planning update, 319 bus, Archive group, Station Bridge project, HC roundabout, date for APM. Copy date 29<sup>th</sup> January for delivery wc 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018.
- DC asked how the Land transfer to the Church for a burial ground was progressing – **Action:** Clerk

to ask for status from Poole Alcock.

- DC also asked if the Scouts had been in touch to arrange a Management Meeting for the Scout Hut and Youth Facility – **Action:** Clerk to chase again.

**17. Date of Next Meeting:** To confirm the date of the next Meeting –13<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

**18. Closure of Meeting:** To formally close the Meeting. The meeting closed at 21:08.

### **Public Forum**

There were no comments from the Public Forum.

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