



Goostrey Parish Council

The Village Hall

Goostrey

Cheshire

CW4 8PE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 28th APRIL 2020 at 7.30pm by VIDEO CONFERENCE

Present: Cllrs Morris (KM)(Chairman), Rathbone (TR)(Vice-Chairman), Beckham (NB), Morgan (PM), O'Donoghue (IO'D), Roberts (DR), Ross (CR), Sulej (JS) and Williams (EW)

In attendance: Sharon Jones, Clerk to the Council, Cllr A Kolker, CEC and 2 residents

- 04.20. 1. Declaration of Interests:** There were no interests declared.
- 2. Apologies for absence:** Apologies for unavoidable absence were received from Cllr Lord.
- 3. Minutes:** To approve & sign the Minutes of the meeting of 25th February and 24th March 2020 (including the Confidential Report for the Meeting on 24th February 2020).
- Motion 1:** The Parish Council accepts the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 25th February and 24th March 2020 (including the Confidential Report for the Meeting on 24th February 2020) as true records of the meetings.
- Resolved:** *The Parish Council resolves to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 25th February and 24th March 2020 (including the Confidential Report for the Meeting on 24th February 2020) as true records of the meetings.*
- 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.
- Cllr Kolker provided a report on the following topics:
- **Business Support Grants** – CEC has paid out 4,640 eligible business have received grants to support businesses during the Covid-19 pandemic, however 29% of the businesses entitled to the grants have not been paid as CEC does not have their bank details.
 - **Covid-19 Testing Stations** – Testing stations will be set up at hospitals, and there will also be mobile testing stations, run by the Army on behalf of the CCG, these are for care home staff, voluntary services etc and must be pre-booked.
 - **COVID-19 - Cemeteries and Crematoria** – Cemeteries are open, but Crematoria are closed (other than for funerals to take place).
 - **CEC Meetings** – CEC are holding meetings via MS Teams including Planning Meetings which will start in May 2020.
 - **Business Rates for the Village Hall** - AK said he had received a reply from CEC Property Services saying that they believed this was part of the discussions regarding the Joint Use Agreement.
Action: AK, KM and the Clerk to meet to discuss how this matter can be progressed with CEC Property Services.
 - **CEC Waste Recycling Sites** - AK said that the re-opening of waste sites is under review at CEC.
 - **Rail Incursion, Planning Complaint and Village Gates Project** – AK had asked the relevant parties to send a response but as, yet no reply has been received.
- 5. Committee Matters:** To receive reports from the Parish Council Committees:
- i. **Finance Committee Meeting on 7th April 2020** - Minutes on website.
 - To approve the Unaudited Accounts for the year 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020. **Resolved:** *The Parish Council resolved to accept the Accounts for the year 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020.*

- To approve the Actual vs Budget Report for the year 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020. **Resolved:** *The Parish Council resolved to accept the Actuals vs Budget Report for the year 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020.*
 - To request further volunteers as approvers for payments on Bankline. **Resolved:** *The Parish Council resolved to accept Cllr O'Donoghue and Cllr Williams as additional Bankline Authorisers.*
 - To approve the remainder of the Minutes of the Finance Meeting on 7th April and any further resolutions therein. **Resolved:** *The Parish Council resolved to accept the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting on 7th April and any further resolutions therein.*
- ii. **Village Hall Report** - Current status of the impact of COVID-19 on the Village Hall income - Cllr Beckham explained that the impact of social distancing and the lockdown had been that there had been no events held in the Village Hall since 16th March 2020. A number of the March bookings that were cancelled were annual bookings and the income had already been received which would mean that credit or alternative books would need to be provided free of charge to those hirers once the current restrictions were lifted.
- It was unlikely that the restrictions would be lifted for quite some time and there would be no income from Village Hall lettings in the meantime. Delaying the recruitment of the Village Hall Supervisor would help counteract the lack of income but the Parish Council would still need to pay the recharge to Cheshire East in June 2021. He felt it likely that very little of the budgeted £20,000 income was likely to be realised in this financial year.
- Cllr Beckham recommended that the Bar Servery Project, and lighting projects should be completed as approved by the Council once the work is permitted to go ahead under Government Guidelines. However, other projects should be postponed for the time being.
6. **Planning Matters** - To review the outcome of the Planning Meetings on 28th April 2020. This meeting was cancelled.
- **To consider application number 20/1512M – Jodrell Bank Observatory** - Listed Building Consent for re-roofing to the control room with a multi layered elastomeric felt system, incorporating cut to falls insulation. Comments due by 27th May 2020.
- Resolved:** *The Parish Council resolved not to make any comments on application 20/1512M.*
7. **Financial Payments:** To approve payments in Schedules 04/20. Includes: Salaries & expenses.
- Motion 2:** The Parish Council approves the payments listed on Schedule 04/20.
- Resolved:** *The Parish Council resolved to approve the payments on the Payment Schedule for 04/20.* The payment schedule would be sent to Cllr Morris and Rathbone for signature.
8. **Clerk's Report**
- Actions from Last Meeting**
- a. Rail incursion - KM to draft a letter to be sent by the Clerk to the portfolio holder (Cllr Crane)- Completed.
 - b. Parking on the Acreage - Clerk to draft a letter to business owners – Completed.
 - c. Clerk to find out if there is availability at another venue on 15th December 2020, as this is the most suitable date, the Lounge and Hall are already booked for another event – Completed.
 - d. Assets of Community Value – IO'D to draw up a mail for the Clerk to send to the resident outlining the Parish Council point of view – Completed.
 - e. TR to draft letter to CEC Highways and the Police to see if average speed cameras could be introduced in Goostrey if they were funded by the Parish Council - Completed.
 - f. Clerk to check the new Parish Council Insurance to find out if volunteers litter picking is covered on the proposed policies for new insurance - Completed.
 - g. Clerk to request that AK supports the continuation of gritting on Goostrey roads listed for removal at the Environment Regeneration overview and scrutiny committee on 16th March 2020.
 - h. Clerk to ask AK why the date for the consideration of the proposed waste site application at the CEC Planning Committee, has slipped again, and could he raise with Planning Enforcement.
 - i. Clerk to log the issue of water flowing down Main Road near Shearbrook Bridge and the blocked the drain on the opposite side of the road again.
- Correspondence See Appendix 04/20**

9. **Highways & Speedwatch:** To consider any Highways & SpeedWatch matters and to take any appropriate action.
- **Highways** – No issues raised.
 - **SpeedWatch** -Cllr Rathbone reported that Speedwatch was still suspended due to Government Restrictions on Social Distancing, however, he had noted that although there were less vehicles driving through the village they were travelling at higher speeds. He said that Speedwatch would be resumed as soon as Government Restrictions were relaxed sufficiently form sessions to take place safely.
10. **Local Policing** – To inform the PC of any key recent developments and to answer Councillors' questions. Cllr Rathbone had nothing to report which had not already been circulated to councillors.
11. **Scheme of Delegation to the Clerk**
- i. To accept the report containing the items approved under the scheme of delegation to the Clerk.
Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to accept the decisions listed in the report of the items approved under the Scheme of Delegation to the Clerk.
To consider using the emergency scheme of delegation to the Clerk agreed on 24th March 2020, between now and the next Parish Council Meeting
Resolved: The Parish Council resolved not to continue the Scheme of Delegation to the Clerk because Council meetings could be held legally by Video Conference with the standard notice period.
12. **Parish Council Meetings**
- i. **Schedule of Meetings whilst Social Distancing Guidance is in Place** - To consider holding all Parish Council and Committee Meetings on Zoom Video Conferencing until the restrictions are relaxed sufficiently to hold meetings in person.
Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to continue holding meetings via Video Conferencing until such time as the Government Restrictions on Social Distancing are relaxed sufficiently to hold meetings in person.
 - ii. **Annual Meeting of the Parish Council 26th May 2020** - To consider going ahead with the Annual Meeting on 26th May 2020 via video conference.
Resolved: The Parish Council resolved not to go ahead with the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May, leaving the current Chairman, Vice- Chairman and committee memberships and Responsible Officer, in place. The situation will be reviewed at the September 2020 Meeting with a view to the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council taking place in October if considered appropriate at that time.
Action: A regular monthly meeting of the Parish Council in May. The Agenda would include some essential administrative items from the annual meeting such as subscriptions, direct debits and regular payments.
 - iii. **Date for December 2020** – To consider holding the December Meeting 2020 on 15th December at the Scout Hut and Youth Facility.
Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to hold the December 2020 Parish Council Meeting on 15th December at the Scout Hut and Youth Facility.
13. **Minor Items & Items for the Next Agenda:** To take any points from Members and to note urgent items of interest.
- i. **Newsletter** – To consider sending out a short newsletter if delivery is still permitted/available.
Resolved: The Parish Council resolved not to produce a newsletter as it was not considered to be essential. However, the web site and the notice boards would continue to be used to publish important information for residents.
 - ii. **Annual Report** – To consider producing an Annual Report for publication on the website.
Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to produce an Annual Report for publication on the website.

Action: The Clerk and Chairman to produce the Annual Report for review and approval by the Parish Council before 30th June 2020.

14. **Date of Next Meeting:** To confirm the date of the next Meeting – 26th May 2020.
15. **Closure of the Meeting:** The meeting closed at 20:50

Public Forum

Andrew Shanahan gave an update on the activities of the Love Goostrey Volunteers. The group continues to provide support to residents in social isolation by collecting prescriptions, shopping and other related activities. A log is kept of the calls to ensure that no volunteer is overloaded and to learn from the experience going forward. One of the outcomes to assist the volunteers, is to ask residents requiring the collection of prescriptions if they will request their surgery sends the prescriptions to Goostrey Pharmacy. In addition, one of the volunteers is a mental health nurse so there is expertise to call upon in that area if required.

Andrew has also started to ask the volunteers if they would be willing to carry on in a volunteer role post Covid-19 and the response so far has been overwhelmingly, "Yes". This would mean that they can assist with village activities like Rose Day, the Footpaths group etc.

Andrew reported that the Scarecrow competition had been well received and that scarecrows were appearing all over the village. A photo gallery of the entries would be added to <https://LoveGoostrey.com> where residents will be able to vote for their favourite scarecrow. The Parish Council has provided Amazon Vouchers to be used as prizes for the winners. The competition will run until the end of May 2020.

He thanked the Parish Council on behalf of the volunteers for providing gloves and hand sanitizers.

The Chairman expressed the thanks of the Parish Council to Andrew and the volunteers for giving up their time to help those residents in need during the pandemic.

Waste Site on Bridge Lane - A resident stated that he could not understand how AM Skips trips to and from the proposed waste site on Bridge Lane could be considered as essential work when CEC household recycling centres are closed.

Cllr Kolker stated that Enforcement is not a quick process. AK wrote to CEC Planning Enforcement and received a reply which indicated that as the Planning Application was yet to be determined, enforcement could not be taken until it has been decided and there are likely to be more delays to the Planning Meetings because of the pandemic. The court case that the Environment Agency brought against the owner of the site is awaiting sentencing as he pleaded guilty to 4 offences. A court hearing date for sentencing has been provided on 17th June 2020, however at present there is no certainty that the hearing will go ahead because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Actions:

- Clerk to report the activity at the site and the sightings of lorries going to and from the proposed waste site on Bridge Lane to the PCSO, and the company is under any Government Restrictions due to COVID-19 ie is this essential work?
- Clerk to write to Planning Enforcement to report the latest activity at the site including the use of Blackden Lane for access.
- AK to find out why the Planning Application date at the Planning Committee keeps being delayed.
- Councillors are to log any activity at the site and forward to the Clerk.

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

All minutes and meeting papers which are no confidential are available at <https://goostrey.info> under the Parish Council Documents menu item.

APPENDIX 04/20

ITEM 04.20.04 - CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL MATTERS

Goostrey Parish Council Awaiting Responses from Cheshire East as of 28th April 2020.

1. Goostrey 'Village Gates' Assessment.

Budget approved at the CEC Area Highways Group on 22 March 2019, Project Number 1773. Site visit made on by Chris Hodgson (Highways) on 13th May 2019. On 6th Nov 2019 Chris sent email which says "I can advise you that this scheme will be completed before the end of March 2020". An update was requested from Chris on 15th April 2020, but no reply has been received. How do we get an update?

2. Waste Skip Site on Bridge Lane, Goostrey.

This site has been operating illegally for more than 5 years. GPC has made a number of complaints to the Enforcement Officers. E-mail from Andrew Kolker dated 9th November 2018 says "I have spoken to Enforcement several times over the last month about the Bridge Lane site. They have been gathering evidence that the 'Stop Notice' has been breached with a view to progress to a prosecution. I'll give them another call today, to see where they are at. The site is a disgrace and I feel for those residents who are having to put up with it."

However, as of April 2020, the site is still operating, with no planning permission and breaching the 7.5te limit on a daily basis. The Planning Committee date has been moved at least 6 times and the next Strategic Planning Board status is showing as "postponed". It's hard to understand after all these years why the site continues in this illegal state or has not been closed down?

3. Council Tax

Goostrey PC pays Business Rates to CEC via the 'Recharge' each year (in other words CEC pay the rates themselves then pass the cost to Goostrey PC). As Goostrey PC does not pay the rates direct to the rates department we do not get the 'Rural Rate Relief' which would reduce it to zero (and it would be zero for the last 6 years resulting in a significant refund). Our request to become a direct rate payer has been raised with CEC numerous times over the last 12 months. Currently waiting for action by Ian Hales (CEC).

4. Planning Complaint




Goostrey PC raised a formal complaint about errors in CEC allowing a planning application for a new house on Blackden Lane in February 2020 (numbers 17/0561C, 17/4006C, 18/2240C and 19/0329C). GPC received a response on 17th February 2020 from the Planning and Enforcement Manager (Peter Hooley) stating that "I will be undertaking a full review...". We have no date for a reply.

5. Goostrey Railway Bridge

On 21st July 2016 GPC held an onsite meeting with Simon Wallace (CEC) to ask for safety improvements at the railway bridge. After many delays a scheme of traffic lights was drawn up and agreed and an email on 26 November 2018 from Matt Rodway said "Works are due to commence on 4th February 2019 for 4-5 weeks." It was then discovered that the scheme was not "buildable". On 28th January 2020 there was a meeting with CEC in which it was stated that although the probability of injury is "high", no practical measures can be introduced". In response, Goostrey PC proposed a scheme (with drawing) to Councillor Crane on 28th February 2020. A reply was received on the same day from Councillor Crane saying "I will get back to you as soon as possible". Date for delivery of response is unknown.

ITEM 04.20.08 CLERKS REPORT - CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Bluedot Festival Update Tue 14:41 53 KB
- b. Congleton Town Council Re: Works at Goostrey Tue 6:41 16 KB
- c. Clerk Pickmere Neighbourhood Planning Mon 15:51 7 KB
- d. Re: Purchase order for Hand Sanitizers - Goostrey Parish Council Sun 14:43 7 KB
- e. SLCC SLCC Daily Digest - 17/04/2020 Fri 17/04 37 KB
- f. Sibelco -: Tidy up Wed 15/04 54 KB
- g. Police Crime Commissioner Police & Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable Stakeholder Bulletin - 09 April 2020
- h. BRUCE, Fiona From Fiona Bruce MP 04/04/2020 1,017 KB
- i. NALC Update on Coronavirus and Local Councils 03/04/2020 51 KB
- j. Letter from Police & Crime Commissioner & Chief Constable ~[OFFICIAL]~ 03/04/2020 180 KB
- k. CVS Spotlight eBulletin - 3rd April - Funding Update and Volunteer Resources 03/04/2020
- l. National Association of Local Councils 🗨️ CORONAVIRUS — INFORMATION FOR PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS
- m. CEC Footpaths [OFFICIAL] FW: Goostrey FP12 - display of notice and plan for Public Inquiry 02/04/2020 83 KB
- n. Sibelco RE: Sibelco Lorries 02/04/2020 57 KB
- o. SLCC SLCC Daily Digest - 02/04/2020 02/04/2020 40 KB
- p. ResidentRe: Sibelco Lorries 01/04/2020 14 KB
- q. Working from Home Working from Home 01/04/2020 34 KB
- r. Chalc Setting up a Local Response 01/04/2020 16 KB
- s. Automatic reply: Business Rates 31/03/2020 24 KB
- t. Resident re Sibelco Trucks
- u. SLCC SLCC Daily Digest - 31/03/2020 31/03/2020 30 KB
- v. Zurich FW: Your Zurich Town and Parish Insurance is due for renewal31/03/2020 225 KB
- w. PCSO Chesters Goostrey Football pitch 30/03/2020 17 KB
- x. Accessing Information and Advice from Citizens Advice Cheshire East 30/03/2020 29 KB
- y. Twemlow PC SID Machines 30/03/2020 10 KB
- z. HMRC Business Help and Support Emails Deferral of VAT payments as a result of COVID-19 27/03/2020 33 KB
- aa. National Association of Local Councils 🗨️ CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN 27/03/2020 81 KB
- bb. Bennett Brooks RE: Internal Audit27/03/2020 208 KB
- cc. HMRC Business Help and Support Emails COVID-19 Job Retention Scheme update 27/03/2020 34 KB
- dd. ChALC Weekly Bulletin 27.03.20 27/03/2020 3 MB
- ee. Sibelco - Rudheath Lodge Update March 2020 27/03/2020 6 MB
- ff. National Association of Local Councils 🗨️ CORONAVIRUS — INFORMATION FOR PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS
- gg. BRUCE, Fiona Fwd: Advice for Parish Councils 24/03/2020 10 KB
- hh. Ruth Burgess Re: Purchase order for the works for Goostrey Parish Council 23/03/2020 10 KB
- ii. ResidentRe: Electric Fence on Footpath at Swanwick Hall 21/03/2020 20 KB
- jj. Ken Morris Re: Electric Fence on Footpath at Swanwick Hall 21/03/2020 16 KB
- kk. Resident Re: Electric Fence on Footpath at Swanwick Hall 21/03/2020 10 MB
- ll. HMRC Business Help and Support Emails COVID-19 Update from HMRC 20/03/2020 32 KB
- mm. ResidentRE: Electric fence 20/03/2020 7 KB
- nn. BRUCE, Fiona RE: VE Day 75th Anniversary Event at Goostrey Village Hall 17/03/2020 12 KB
- oo. Chalc CORONAVIRUS - update for local councils 17/03/2020 11 KB
- pp. CEC [OFFICIAL] RE: Rates Refund 13/03/2020 30 KB
- qq. ChALC Weekly Bulletin 13.03.20 13/03/2020 2 MB
- rr. Plusnet Support Your bill is ready to view 12/03/2020 20 KB
- ss. PCSO Chesters Update 11/03/2020 16 KB
- tt. Connected communities [OFFICIAL] COVID-19 update 11/03/2020 153 KB
- uu. The Nest team Changes to your service 09/03/2020 15 KB

vv.	Resident	Fwd: Goostrey Station	08/03/2020	31 KB	
ww.	SLCC Membership	News Bulletin - 6th March 2020	06/03/2020	188 KB	
xx.	Chalc	FW: Weekly Bulletin 06.03.20	06/03/2020	7 MB	
yy.	BRUCE, Fiona	Re: VE Day 75th Anniversary Event at Goostrey Village Hall	05/03/2020	10 KB	
zz.	CEC	[OFFICIAL] Hold the Date - Town & Parish Council Conference May 12, 2020	05/03/2020	74 KB	
aaa.	Bankline Applications - RBS	RE: [WARNING : MESSAGE ENCRYPTED]Goostrey Parish Council Bankline Application			
bbb.	National Association of Local Councils	 JOB VACANCY	04/03/2020	70 KB	
ccc.	Chalc	FW: Invitation to the Cheshire Anti-Bullying Commission Phase One report launch ~[OFFICIAL]~	04/03/2020		
ddd.	Resident	RE: CEC Highways Enquiry Resolved - Enquiry 3376777	04/03/2020	22 KB	
eee.	Came & Company	RE: Volunteers	04/03/2020	2 MB	
fff.	ACAS	coronavirus guidance minimum wage updates bad weather advice	03/03/2020	58 KB	
ggg.	National Association of Local Councils	 HELP NALC IN ITS GROUND-BREAKING RESEARCH ON DEMENTIA			
hhh.	Rural Services Network	The Rural Bulletin - 03 March 2020	03/03/2020	160 KB	
iii.	Resident	Re: Parking	02/03/2020	14 KB	
jjj.	Chronicle Adverts	Re: Job Advertisement for Thursday 5th March Issue	02/03/2020	11 KB	
kkk.	membership@slcc.co.uk	Your new Society Membership	29/02/2020	117 KB	
lll.	National Association of Local Councils	 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN	28/02/2020	78 KB	
mmm.	Property Helpdesk CEC	[OFFICIAL] Consent Letter - Goostrey Parish Council 88179 71505	28/02/2020	275 KB	
nnn.	CRANE, Laura (Councillor)	Re: Goostrey Railway Incursion and Pedestrian Safety	28/02/2020	19 KB	
ooo.	PCSO Chesters	VE Day 2020 ~[OFFICIAL]~	28/02/2020	16 KB	
ppp.	ChALC Bulletin	28.02.20	28/02/2020	5 MB	
qqq.	Sibelco - A50 / New Platt Lane Closure		28/02/2020	632 KB	
rrr.	Chalc	Training Sessions	26/02/2020	2 MB	
sss.	(TWM)	RE: Battery Change	26/02/2020	33 KB	
ttt.	KOLKER, Andrew (Councillor)	Meetings this evening.	25/02/2020	17 KB	
uuu.	ag@greenfingers-group.co.uk	INVOICES	25/02/2020	16 KB	