



## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2019 at 7.30pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs Morris (KM)(Chairman), O'Donoghue (IO'D)(Vice Chairman) Beckham (NB), Godfrey (PG), Lord (SL) Morgan (PM), and Rathbone (TR)

In attendance: Cheshire East Cllr. A Kolker, Sharon Jones, Clerk to the Council, 24 Members of the Public

### 1. Welcome & Introduction

The Chairman welcomed residents and Cllr Kolker (CEC) to the meeting.

2. **Apologies for absence** – Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Roberts.

3. **Minutes:** To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting of the Annual Parish Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018.

**Resolved:** *To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018 as true record of the meeting.*

4. **Chairman's Report 2018-2019** - Cllr Ken Morris, Chairman of the Parish Council, delivered his report for 2018/19.

### Introduction

The Chairman reported on a number of achievements so far during the year (which runs from May 2018 to May 2019). These included:

- A £25,000 donation to the Scout Hut and Youth Centre to enable match-funding and payment of the outstanding loan.
- The Parish Archive Collection has been moved to its new home in the Village Hall Committee Room (see below).
- Support for the Royal British Legion 100<sup>th</sup> commemoration of the end of World War 1 and the 18 fallen, including a new oak tree and plaque on the Bog Bean.
- Senior's lunch in November which was attended by over 100 people and annual switching-on of the Christmas Lights organised by the Scouts.
- Congratulations were made to local groups including FOGS for their success in progressing the restoration of the Victorian ticket office at the station.
- And Paul Kemsley for the planting of trees around the village including damson trees near the footpath at Dromedary Lodge.

### Highways & SpeedWatch

- Regarding road safety, the Speedwatch group has been restarted by the Parish Council with assistance from the local PCSO and local residents. It will continue to hold speed gun sessions around the village.
- Signage improvements have now been made at the Booth Bed Lane/Hermitage Lane junction with Main Road and it is hoped that work to install traffic lights and a pedestrian footway on the station bridge will take place in the next 12 months.
- Although the Council supported the PTA's initiative to re-introduce a school crossing warden, there have not been any applicants and the position is still vacant.
- There have been various highway maintenance activities during the year most significantly the repair by United Utilities of a sunken drain on Main Road at the end of Bank View.

All residents are encouraged to report potholes, street-light and other problems on the Cheshire East Highways website.

## **Around the Village**

- A new Parish Council noticeboard has been installed at the end of Bank View and it is planned to replace all the noticeboards in the village in the near future.
- The last of the village signs has also been installed on Goostrey Lane coming from Twemlow.
- There is now also a new illuminated sign for the Village Hall.
- Thanks to members of the Amenities Committee, all the benches in the village have been restored and planters relocated and replanted. Other improvements at the entrances to the village are currently being planned.

## **Quality Award**

The Council is pleased to have achieved a quality 'Foundation Award' under the Local Council Award Scheme which confirms that the Council is 'operating lawfully and according to standard practice'. Thanks were made to the Parish Clerk for all her work in achieving this award. The Clerk has also been successful in achieving the CILCA qualification (Certificate in Local Council Administration).

## **Closing Remarks**

Lastly the Chairman noted that the Jodrell Bank Observatory, which is in Goostrey Parish, has now raised the funding for its new First Light gallery (including grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund of £16M and £4M from the UK Government). Jodrell Bank is the UK's current UNESCO World Heritage nomination, which will be decided in July 2019, the Parish Council is represented by the Parish Council Chairman on the Steering Group. It was also noted that the Square Kilometre Array Global HQ has opened at Jodrell Bank following the construction of a new £16M building.

5. **Statement of Accounts** – Cllr Ian O'Donoghue, Chairman of the Finance Committee, delivered his report on the statement of accounts for 2018/19.

As Chair of the Finance Committee, Councillor Ian O'Donoghue presented the financial report for the year which showed that the budget has been met (see Accounts) He also mentioned that there will be a small decrease in the precept paid by each household for the year 2019-2020.

All budgets and expenditure reports are published on our website at: <https://Goostrey.info>

The annual report for 2018/19 is published at <https://goostrey.info/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Goostrey-PC-NL-July-2019v2.pdf>

6. **Goostrey Parish Archive** – Roger Burgess from the Goostrey Parish Archive gave an interesting presentation on the Goostrey Parish Archive (GosPA) including the information that has been provided to relatives of former residents. The Archive group welcomes anyone who would like to join or visit the archive on Tuesdays 2pm to 4pm and Thursdays 10am-12 noon.
7. **Public Forum** – There were no questions raised.
8. **Close the Meeting** - Cllr Morris closed the meeting at 8.45pm and invited everyone to join the members of the Council for Coffee in the Lounge.

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