



Goostrey Parish Council

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, 9th JANUARY 2007

Present: Cllrs. Salmon (Chairman), Collins, Craggs, Leake, Nichols, Padley, & Sturman

In attendance: Cty. Cllr. Oliver
Boro. Cllrs. Furlong & Kolker
Denise Draper, Clerk to the Council

PUBLIC FORUM

The Chairman wished a Happy New Year to all present, welcomed the County and Borough Councillors then opened the meeting.

01.07.1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no Declarations of Interests registered.

01.07.2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs. Mitchell, Richardson & Robertson.

01.07.3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 12th DECEMBER 2006

Resolved to accept the Minutes of the Meeting of 12th December 2006 as a true record and to take them as read.

01.07.4. COUNTY MATTERS

Cty. Cllr. Oliver reported that the County budget would be set on 15th February and was expected to show an increase very close to the 5% capped limit. This would include an additional £8m necessitated by statutory requirements for Social Services. The County's strategy relating to the Local Government White Paper would be determined by 18th January, proposing either an improved 2-tier or a single unitary system. From 2009 onwards, Government grants would relate to cost efficiency.

01.07.5. BOROUGH MATTERS

Boro. Cllr. Kolker reported that the Borough budget would also show an increase of just under 5%, pension funding being a major factor.

Chairman: Cllr. Gordon Salmon

Parish Clerk: Denise Draper

01.07.6. COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

There had been no meetings of the Amenities, Finance or Village Hall Management Committees since the last Parish Council.

01.07.7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Reports 144 and 145 had been circulated.

Boro. Cllr. Kolker agreed to investigate the apparent change of use of agricultural land behind three houses on Main Road.

01.07.8. PAYMENT SCHEDULE NUMBER 01/07.

Resolved to accept Payment Schedule 01/07.

01.07.9 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk referred to Appendix 01/07. listing her actions resulting from the last meeting and the correspondence received.

- a) Confirmation that the exposed man-hole on the Blackden track had been covered over and a more permanent solution could be expected.
- b) Inspector Mark Gammage's acceptance of an invitation to speak at the 2007 Annual Parish Meeting.
- c) CCC's announcement of appointments to two new Director positions, Jan Burns, Director of People and Partnerships and Paul Heath, Director of Policy and Resources.
- d) Reply from CBC about the inoperative light in the Booth Bed Lane/Main Road walkway. Boro. Cllr. Kolker agreed to investigate the claim that rectification of the power supply problem would be at the expense of the PC or the utility company involved.
- e) From CBC about footway lighting in general. CBC will not provide funding for non-Borough owned footway lighting as from April 2008. The PC had already replied that it was not the asset owner of any such lighting and would therefore not be affected by this ruling.
- f) Report of AGM of Cheshire Forum of M6 Councils, to be circulated to Councillors.

The Clerk reported the following additional correspondence and events.

- a) From Holmes Chapel Parish Council about the formation of a Community Rail Partnership with a view to regenerating the Crewe to Manchester railway line, passed to Cllr. Craggs with the suggestion that G.R.U.G. be also involved.
- b) From Robin Curry, Cheshire Police - Congleton Community Safety Partnership about the possible formation of Clean Teams to clear litter in the Holmes Chapel area
Action: The Clerk to reply, explaining that the PC already funded a litter collection scheme in Goostrey.
- c) From Cheshire Community Council about funding available for projects aimed at creating safer rural communities.
Action: Cllr. Leake to register an interest with a view to funding Speed Reduction Measures.
- d) From a resident of Hermitage Lane requesting extending the 30 mph limit up to the Goostrey/Cranage boundary.
Action: The Clerk to acknowledge receipt of letter and to contact CCC about the speed limits on Hermitage Lane and also on Main Road/New Platt Lane.
- e) Invitation to Annual Town & Parish Council's Conference 2007.
Action: The Clerk to reply, naming Cllrs. Salmon and Sturman as attendees.
- f) From Goostrey Footpaths Group requesting the PC to contact CCC about the removal of 3 oak signposts from redesignated 'Restricted Byways'.
Actions: The Chairman to send letter to CCC.
Cty. Cllr. Oliver agreed to investigate immediately.
- g) From the CBC Dog Warden reporting that the anti-fouling sign on Main Road which had been covered in paint had been replaced.
- h) From Dane Housing, confirming by telephone that the oak trees in Bank View would be cut back by their contractors.

Action: The Clerk to pass on this information to the residents of 14 & 16 Bank View and to ask them to contact the PC again if the work is not carried out within 1 month.

01.07.10. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

A reply had been received from the CCC's District Engineer, Congleton Area Highways Office on various Highways matters.

a) Confirmation that shrubs could be planted on the Shearbrook verge but asking for assurance that the PC would be responsible for future maintenance.

Action: The Clerk to reply that the PC would undertake future maintenance of the shrubs.

b) He would be checking on all signage relevant to the Railway compound to ensure removal by Network Rail and/or their contractors when wholly redundant.

c) He would reply later about the Manor Avenue junction after discussions and an inspection.

d) The PC would be contacted about collection and installation of the two road-side seats.

01.07.11. SPEED REDUCTION MEASURES

CCC's District Engineer had confirmed that there was no objection to the PC installing SIDs so long as all established protocols were followed.

Resolved: The PC agreed in principal to the acquisition and use of SIDs.

01.07.12. STATION BUILDING

Cllr. Craggs had drafted an application for listing of the station building and would supply location plans and photos in support. There is a new Station Master who has been contacted with a view to further access to the building. Clearing of the gutters has not yet taken place.

Actions: Application to be sent by the end of the week.

Mark Barker of Northern Rail to be invited to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting.

01.07.13 WEB SITE UPDATE

There was nothing to report and the item was deferred to the next meeting.

01.07.14 G.Y.P.P.

A new Planning Application would be submitted shortly (in the name of the PC). There was confidence that the site would prove suitable for a lightweight structure built with modern building methods.

01.07.15 VILLAGE HALL – DAMP PROBLEM IN TOILETS

There was no progress to report at present.

01.07.16 ANNUAL MEETING - 2007

The speakers for the meeting would be:

Inspector Mark Gamage.

Lisa Green, Head Officer, Transforming Cheshire, CCC

Mark Barker, Northern Rail.

Action: The Clerk to formalise arrangements with Lisa Green.

01.07.17 LOCAL GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER – STRONG AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

A summary of the White Paper had been circulated to members. It was thought that implementation of any resulting legislation could take considerable time and would be mainly relevant to Parish Councils with quality status. The item to remain on the Agenda for the next meeting.

01.07.18 DRAFT POLICING OBJECTIVES FOR 2007/8

Action: The Clerk to convey the PC's support but comment that all the objectives would appear to be self-evident priorities for any Police Authority and always should have been.

01.07.19 MINOR ITEMS & ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Cllr. Collins reported yellow paint marks at Shearbrook steps and asked how these could be removed.

Action: The Clerk to contact Streetscape at CBC.

Cllr. Craggs recommended the Fire Service's safety schemes for safety checking and smoke alarm installation available free-of-charge to residents.

Cllr. Leake expressed concern at the excavation work taking place on Church Bank and the apparent damage to the grass verge.

01.07.20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Confirmed: Tuesday 13th February, 2007.

01.07.21 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.05 pm.