



Goostrey Parish Council

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, 13th MARCH 2007

Present: Cllrs. Salmon (Chairman), Nichols, Padley, Richardson, Robertson & Sturman

In attendance: Denise Draper, Clerk to the Council
1 member of the public

PUBLIC FORUM

The member of the public requested that the Village Sign on the Village Green be given a face-lift with fresh paint. The Chairman agreed to investigate the possibility.

Cty. Cllr. Oliver made a brief visit to explain that he would be unable to attend the meeting as the Annual Parish Meeting of Cranage PC was taking place at the same time.

The Chairman reported that Goostrey had been successful in CHALC's annual ballot for Local Council representatives to attend a Buckingham Palace garden party. He and Mrs Salmon were looking forward to attending the event on 10th July.

03.07.1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no Declarations of Interests registered.

03.07.2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs. Collins, Leake & Mitchell.

03.07.3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 13th FEBRUARY 2007

Resolved to accept the Minutes of the Meeting of 13th February 2007 as a true record and to take them as read.

03.07.4. COUNTY MATTERS

In the absence of Cty. Cllr. Oliver, there were no County Matters reported.

Chairman: Cllr. Gordon Salmon

Parish Clerk: Denise Draper

03.07.5. BOROUGH MATTERS

In the absence of Boro. Cllrs. Furlong and Kolker who were also attending the Cranage Annual Parish Meeting, there were no Borough Matters reported.

03.07.6. COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

AMENITIES: There had been no meeting of the Amenities Committee since the last Parish Council.

FINANCE: There had been no meeting of the Finance Committee since the last Parish Council. Cllr. Nichols agreed to contact the Chairman in early April to arrange a date for a management audit of the financial records.

VILLAGE HALL: Minutes of the meeting of 8th March had been circulated.

A donation of £1000 had been received from the Goostrey Rural Touring Theatre. Consideration was being given to cleaning of the Hall curtains. No progress on the damp problem was expected until after Easter.

03.07.7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Reports 147 and 148 had been circulated.

Concerns had been expressed about the retrospective nature of applications for land levelling and drainage at Springfield and No. 100 Main Road, and about possible change of use of the land.

03.07.8. PAYMENT SCHEDULE NUMBER 03/07.

Resolved to accept Payment Schedule 03/07.

03.07.9 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk referred to Appendix 03/07 listing her actions resulting from the last meeting and correspondence received.

a) Debris from a fallen tree had been cleared from Bomish Lane by Network Rail.

b) A letter from CCC Countryside Access Manager about the availability of kissing gates to replace stiles on for public rights of way. The Footpaths Group had been consulted and had requested one gate on the path leading away from the Village Hall towards Twemlow.

Action: The Clerk to pass on request to CCC and ask that installation costs also be covered.

c) Confirmation from the RBL (Women's Section) about the proposed variety and site for a tree in the graveyard.

Action: The Clerk to reply that the proposed site was acceptable but that a tree with a maximum height of about 10ft would be more suitable.

d) Invitation to Cheshire Planning Forum on Friday 30th March, to be passed to Cllr. Craggs.

e) Invitation for the Chairman and Clerk to attend an 'At Home with Local Councils' meeting on 26th March. Both to attend.

f) Information re. Cheshire Year of the Gardens and Liverpool Capital of Culture 2008, to be circulated to members.

g) Further correspondence from CCC about the oak finger posts removed from restricted byways. CCC have eventually offered assistance in replacing the posts and the Footpaths Group has offered a £100 contribution. The matter is being progressed by the Footpaths Group.

h) Information about the 'Goostrey Festival of the Arts'.

Action: The Clerk to reply to the organisers, confirming the Council's support and asking representatives to attend the next Parish Council meeting to describe the event in more detail. The event to be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

i) 'Transforming Cheshire – The Business Case for a Unitary Council for Cheshire' document from CCC with a summary version for each member.

The Clerk reported the following additional correspondence.

a) An explanation from CCC Transport Co-ordinator, sent in response to Lady Winterton's letter to him about the withdrawal of the H50 bus service. The subsidy per passenger journey had been £13.78, considerably in excess of the maximum of £2.50 set by the County Council. He also pointed out the other transport options available to residents.

Action: Cllr. Richardson to seek opinions about the most useful route and times before a further request for re-instatement of the service is sent.

b) The Clerk reported a telephone conversation with Jill Bourne of Dane Housing about the pruning of the oak trees in Bank View. Despite assurances, this work had still not been carried out.

Action: Make further enquiries if no progress by 26th March.

c) A letter from residents of Mill Lane expressing their concerns about the possibility of Dane Housing using a site on the lane for low cost housing. Surveyors/Architects from Dane Housing had been seen at the site.

Action: The Clerk to write to Ann Ward of Dane Housing, asking their intentions.

d) An e-mail from a resident, listing 12 arson incidents and expressing concern at the police response.

Action: Cllr. Robertson to liaise with the police to seek information.

03.07.10. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

None to report. Replies to several queries were due from CCC Highways Dept.

03.07.11. SPEED REDUCTION MEASURES

A further speed watch session on Main Road had detected hardly any speeding vehicles, hopefully reflecting the success of the initiative. New Platt Lane was to be the site for speed checking on the following day.

03.07.12. STATION BUILDING

Information sent by GRUG was being circulated to members.

03.07.13 WEB SITE UPDATE

There had been limited progress due to the workload of the Web Site Manager. A pleasing number of local organisations had replied to the request for up-to-date information for inclusion in the directory.

03.07.14 G.Y.P.P.

Nothing further to report.

03.07.15 ANNUAL MEETING - 2007

Actions:

Include in the April Parish Newsletter with details of the three speakers.

Produce invitations/agenda for Chairman's approval.

Prepare copies and mailing batches for distribution to members in the first week of April.

03.07.16 QUALITY STATUS

No further action could be taken at this time.

Chairman: Cllr. Gordon Salmon

Parish Clerk: Denise Draper

03.07.17 MINOR ITEMS & ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Cllr. Padley reported that CCC surveyors had been seen monitoring cars and pedestrians on Main Road. Unfortunately, this was on one of the days when Main Road was closed due to roadworks.

Action: The Clerk to advise Highways that any data collected on that day would not be representative of normal road use.

03.07.18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Confirmed: Tuesday 10th April, 2007.

01.07.19 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.30 pm.