



Goostrey Parish Council

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, 13th NOVEMBER 2007

Present: Cllrs. Salmon (Chairman), Craggs, Collins, Leake, Nicholls, Richardson, Robertson & Sturman

In attendance: Cty. Cllr. Oliver
Denise Draper, Clerk to the Council
3 members of the public

11.07.1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no Declarations of Interests registered.

11.07.2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Boro. Cllr. Kolker and from Cllrs. Mitchell and Padley.

11.07.3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Resolved to accept the Minutes of the Meeting of 9th October 2007 as a true record and to take them as read.

11.07.4. COUNTY MATTERS

Cllr. Oliver reminded members of the Congleton Locality Board meeting due to take place at 6.30pm on 13th December at the AP Health and Fitness Club, Holmes Chapel. Items on the agenda would include anti-social behaviour, the Local Government Review and 2008 – Year of the Gardens.

He also reported that the TLC (Transforming Learning Communities) exercise for the Alsager, Congleton, Sandbach & Holmes Chapel area would be launched on 21st November with a conference at Crewe Hall. The process was expected to last for 18 months.

Having listened to the Public Forum, Cllr. Oliver had taken on board the comments on traffic speeding. He thought there was very little possibility of a 20mph speed limit for any part of the Village except immediately outside the school.

Chairman: Cllr. Gordon Salmon

Parish Clerk: Denise Draper

11.07.5. BOROUGH MATTERS

In the absence of Borough Councillors, there were no Borough Matters reported. Boro. Cllr. Kolker had sent an email regarding the possible closure of the Post Office which is reported in item 17.

11.07.6. COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

AMENITIES: Minutes of the meeting of 16th October had been circulated.

The quote received from CBC for a tarmac surface for the picnic tables at the Booth Bed Lane play area had been queried but no reply yet received. A grant towards this project of £1000 had been awarded by CCC's Parish Small Grants Scheme.

Plans for the Senior Citizens' Lunch on 25th November would be finalised at the committee meeting on 14th November.

FINANCE: There had been no meeting since the last Parish Council. A recommended 2008/9 budget and precept would be presented at the next PC meeting.

VILLAGE HALL: There had been no meeting since the last Parish Council.

Cllr. Craggs was able to report that detailed designs for the rebuilding of the toilets would be submitted to the Council by the end of December prior to tendering in January/February. The project could start in March and was expected to take 3 months. Cllr. Craggs to be the Council's liaison officer.

Cllr. Salmon ascertained that the plans already to hand could be displayed in the lounge although it was hoped that more informative display boards would be provided.

The Bowls Club had been notified of the Council's offer to provide caretaker services but it was agreed that sponsorship should be limited to £100, paid as a lump sum.

11.07.7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Reports 164, 165 had been circulated. Two further applications were to be considered at a Planning Committee meeting, immediately following this PC meeting.

A letter had been sent to CBC Planning Department regarding the scale of the development at Owl's Hoot, Blackden Lane but no reply had been received.

Action: A reminder to be sent to CBC Planning Department.

11.07.8. PAYMENT SCHEDULE NUMBER 11/07

Resolved to accept Payment Schedule 11/07.

11.07.9 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk referred to Appendix 11/07 listing her actions resulting from the last meeting and correspondence received.

a) A letter from CBC Senior Landscape Officer re. the tree at the junction of Main Road and Fieldside Close. The tree is protected by a Tree Preservation Order. The officer agrees that the tree would benefit from 'crown lifting' and has reported the matter to CCC.

Action: The Clerk to follow up with CCC.

b) Invitation to TLC, Locality Stakeholder Conference on Wednesday 21st November, Cllr Craggs to attend afternoon session, Cllr Salmon to attend if possible.

c) Copy of CCC Minerals Development Framework, Issues and Options consultation, to be kept on file.

The Chairman had received thanks from the organisers of Goosfest for the Council's support and sponsorship.

11.07.10 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

None to report.

11.07.11 WEB SITE UPDATE

The site now includes a 'Local Information' section, details to be completed by Cllr. Sturman.

11.07.12 STATION BUILDING

A safety briefing for leaders of groups likely to be involved in gardening work at the station had been arranged for 1st December.

11.07.13 G.Y.P.P.

Plans for the new Youth Centre had been submitted to CBC Planning Department. It was understood that no objections had been received and a decision was expected by 27th November.

11.07.14 SPEED REDUCTION MEASURES

There had been 4 speedwatch sessions at the beginning of November, three on weekday mornings and one on a Saturday morning. In total 30 vehicles had been recorded at over 38mph, the highest speed being 53mph. The highest number recorded during a single session was 19, the lowest number 1.

A Baker's school bus had apparently deliberately accelerated to 41mph on sight of the speedwatch volunteers.

Action: The clerk to report this to Bakers with a copy to CCC Transport.

A resident of the cottages near to Terra Nova school had requested speedwatch on the A535. Cllr. Leake confirmed that all locations had to be approved by the police and CCC Highways. The PC had already been notified that a 50mph speed limit would be imposed on this section of the A535.

11.07.15 CHRISTMAS TREE ON THE BOGBEAN

Contact with Scottish Power, CCC and lighting suppliers had not produced a satisfactory method of lighting a tree on the Bogbean. It seemed unlikely that a solution could be found for Christmas 2007 and the matter should be considered again early in 2008.

Action: The Clerk to contact CCC again for their recommendations.

11.07.16 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2008

The Village Hall was available on two dates in April 2008 – Thursday 10th and Tuesday 29th although it was possible that building work would be taking place during this time. The booking clerk to be asked to keep both dates free.

11.07.17 MINOR ITEMS & ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

The possible closure of Goostrey Post Office was considered and emails from Boro. Cllr. Kolker and Mr Gerald Foster-Clark tabled.

Resolved: The PC should write to the Network Development Manager presenting a strong argument in favour of keeping the PO open as a hosted service in Mrs. Kettle's shop, a copy to be sent to ChALC who were interested in closures on a county-wide basis.

The PC also to produce a sample response to the PO questionnaire, to be made available in local shops and businesses.

The ending of the Friday Friendship Club, raised during the Public Forum, was considered. Members were sympathetic to the aims of the individuals hoping to re-instate the club but needed more information. The matter was referred to the Amenities Committee and to be placed on the agenda for the December PC meeting.

Action: The Clerk to invite Graham Lenihan to attend the Amenities Committee meeting on 14th November and also the next PC meeting.

Cllr. Craggs reported on a training session on the new Model Code of Conduct. He believed that the Registrations of Interests might need some amendment and would set out the details in an email/note to all members.

Inoperative street lights at Manor Avenue and Shearbrook steps were reported.

Action: The Clerk to report to CCC Highways.

Dog fouling at the corner of Booth Bed Lane was reported.

Action: The Clerk to contact the dog warden.

11.07.18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Confirmed: Tuesday, 11th December, 2007

10.07.19 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.30 pm.