

Guilden Sutton Parish Council Newsletter July 2010, no 138

* * * * *

Parish Council 2010/11

Guilden Sutton Parish Council has elected its top two for the new council year.

Starting her second stint as chairman is lecturer Cllr Trisha Paterson, last year's vice chairman, who was first elected to the council in 2003.

Cllr Paterson was voted in unanimously having been proposed by Cllr Imogen Brown and seconded by Cllr Danny Fisher.

The new vice chairman is preschool manager Cllr Jane Hughes who joined the council in 2008.

She was also elected unanimously having been proposed by Cllr Bill Moulton and seconded by Cllr Fisher.

Congratulating Cllr Paterson, retiring chairman Cllr Derek Hughes said he had very much enjoyed his year and wished the council the best for 2010/11.

Cllr Paterson thanked the council and also Cllr Hughes for his year of office.

The chairman and vice chairman are to attend meetings of Cheshire West and Chester Council's Gowry community forum on behalf of the Council.

Cllr Derek Hughes and Cllr Moulton will attend the police authority's "Question Time" meetings.

Cllr Brown is to take an interest in CPRE matters and Cllr Jane Hughes will be a member of the Guilden Sutton Village Hall management committee..

The Council thanked the parish's hard working voluntary wardens, Mr Brian Lewin, rights of way, Cllr Brown and Mr Alan Young, trees and Cllr Moulton, public transport, for their efforts.

All are being invited to continue. Mr Lewin also acts as the village web master.

Annual report

A summary of the Council's annual report on its activities during 2009/10 appears inside this newsletter. The full report appears on the web site.

For further details on any issue, contact the chairman, Cllr Trisha Paterson or the clerk, David Norbury.

Highways and Byways

Occupiers may have noticed improvements being carried out in the village by Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC).

A list of highways issues appeared in a previous issue of this newsletter and a preliminary response has been received from the Area Highways Manager. In the meantime, some work ranging from white lining to filling potholes has been carried out.

Following action by the parish council and by local CWaC Cllr Brian Bailey, street scene improvements have been in hand including clearing overgrowth from the footway behind Orchard Croft leading to the primary school and similar work on the dingle path behind the Oaklands estate and on the "old" section of Cinder Lane leading down from Cinder Lane to the Bird in Hand.

A request for wire fencing and barbed wire to be removed from a ditch near the children's play area has also been dealt with as has a request for long grass in the dell on the Oaklands estate to be cut.

CWaC managers have been helpful in achieving these improvements.

A41/Guilden Sutton Lane junction

Regular readers of this newsletter and the Council's annual reports will be aware of the concern that a minority of drivers join vehicles already waiting in the gap in the central reservation to turn right into the dual carriageway.

The issue has been raised with the Area Highways Manager by both the Council and by CWaC Cllr Brian Bailey.

A recent suggestion by Cllr Bailey as to measures which might help to improve the situation is under consideration.

In the meantime, please be patient and do not enter the gap if another vehicle is already waiting.

Speed limits

The Council is backing a request by local CWaC Cllr Stuart Parker and Mickle Trafford and District Parish Council for a 30mph speed on Station Lane following the opening of the extension of the Greenway.

Cllr Parker, who lives on the road in Mickle Trafford, has told the borough council: "I have been getting increasingly concerned with the situation of families walking and cyclists riding down Station Lane at an ever increasing daily rate, and especially at weekends, in a manner of 'running the gauntlet' against traffic travelling at speeds up to and often exceeding the national speed limit.

"Station Lane is a rat run between the A56 and A51 and vehicles can, and do, legally travel at 60mph along the lane. Fatalities from the animal world are seen daily, I do not want this to extend to people!

"The Greenway project has been a great success, and meets all of our criteria, but unfortunately we have missed a trick with not anticipating the impact of pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles now sharing a village lane which has no footpaths and having a number of blind bends, with an unrestricted speed limit".

Guilden Sutton Parish Council says it supports the request.

The Council has also asked for an update on the proposed 30mph restriction on Guilden Sutton Lane on which there appears to have been no progress since it was recommended by the highway authority following an assessment.

Greenway access

The Council has also informed the highway authority, Cllr Parker and the Greenway project officer of its concerns at conditions at the access to the Greenway on Guilden Sutton Lane.

Councillors believe that signage is required to warn users on Garners Lane they are exiting onto a heavily trafficked road and similarly on Guilden Sutton Lane to warn drivers of the likelihood they will encounter pedestrians and cyclists emerging into the carriageway or turning across it.

A nearby occupier has also informed the Council of his concerns.

A request has also been made for the surface on Garners Lane to be improved for cyclists and those with pushchairs or wheel chairs

Chester Marathon

The Council has raised concerns over aspects of the traffic management during the Marathon which closed roads in the village on the Bank Holiday Monday at the end of May preventing a number of occupiers from reaching their homes.

Although the organisers arranged a leaflet drop and information on the closures appeared in this newsletter, it appears the communications, including signage, did not clarify that a diversion route was due to be available into the village via Station Lane.

A route was also available via Wicker Lane.

Marshals, the Police and parish councillors received a number of complaints.

A meeting is to be held to review the issue and the Parish Council has asked to be present.

Waste collection consultation

Don't forget to have your say on future arrangements. Details are on the Cheshire West and Chester Council web site.

Information. The Council's e mail address is info@guildensutton.org.uk and its web site is at www.guildensutton.org.uk

Future meetings: Future meetings of the Council are due to be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on 6 September, 4 October, 1 November and 6 December 2010.

All meetings include public speaking time and residents are welcome to attend and address the Council.

Contact Councillors Trisha Paterson (Chairman), 300307, Imogen Brown 300812, Alan Davis 303022, Danny Fisher 301398, Derek Hughes 300185, Jane Hughes 300863, Michelle Kerfoot 300644 and Bill Moulton 348473 or the Clerk, David Norbury, 1 Orchard Croft, Guilden Sutton, CHESTER, CH3 7SL, 300783.

Mr Brian Lewin 301501 is the Rights of Way Warden. The Parish Tree Wardens are Cllr Brown 300812 and Mr Alan Young, 301558. Cllr Jane Hughes deals with recycling issues. Cllr Moulton is the Local Bus User Contact.