

Guilden Sutton Parish Council Newsletter February 2013, no 152

A Quality Council promoting democracy and community engagement

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Vacancy

There is a vacancy for a parish councillor to serve until May, 2015 following the resignation of Cllr Jane Hughes.

For further details, or if you wish to be considered for co-option to the Council if an election is not called, please contact the Chairman, Cllr Derek Hughes or the Clerk, David Norbury.

Contact details are on the back of this newsletter.

Budget 2013/14.

The Council agreed to maintain the parish precept at the same level as that in 2012/13, equivalent to 49p per week for an average Band D property in the village. The budget was increased to take account of increased grounds maintenance costs and the cost of safety inspections for the children's play area. It is proposed the increased grounds maintenance costs will be offset by a reduction in the cost of litter picking on the children's playing field and play area, the parish car park and the high footfall area around the Village Hall, shops and primary school.

The agreed budget is: 2012/13 2013/14

Subscriptions 525 525

ChALC	375	375
CPRE	30	30
Ch Community Action	50	50
Md Ch Ftpth Soc	10	10
Cty Playing Fields Assn	20	20
CLT	40	40

Employment related costs 6216 6241

Salaries	5725	5725
Clerk's gratuity	185	210
Clerk's mileage	150	150
Fixed expenses	156	156

Administration 1419 1319

Audit fees	225	225
Room hire	20	20
Members expenses	125	125
Member training	500	500
Post/tp	200	100
Printing	300	300
Stationery/equipment	49	49

Grants 1500 1500

St John's PCC	250	250
Holiday Club grant	200	200
Events	1000	1000
Footpath Group	50	50

Publicity	600	600
Services	7560	8497
Insurance	1050	1050
Parish car park rates	645	832
Gnds maintenance	1500	2500
Lengthsman	1500	750
Playing field rent	640	640
Memorial garden	50	50
Play Area capital	1000	1000
Bulbs	100	100
Public seat	150	150
Web site	50	50
Shelter cleaning	75	75
CCTV maintenance	250	250
Christmas	50	50
Participatory budgeting	500	500
Safety inspections	*	500
Contingency	<u>944</u>	<u>983</u>
	18764	19616

Financed by

Precept	16423	16423**
VAT	0	1000
Interest	25	25
Principal authority grant	1310	????
Graveyard grant	250	250
Reserves	<u>756</u>	<u>1918</u>
	18764	19616

* Previous cost of £45 met from contingency.

** Includes borough council grant of £702 due to Council Tax changes.

Playing field.

Parish councils are currently able to apply for grants of up to £50,000 to purchase playing fields in their local area. If you are a land owner and would like to discuss this please contact Cllrs Derek Hughes or Mike Roberts as soon as possible. p3

Community governance review.

The second phase of consultation by Cheshire West and Chester Council is now under way with electors on a range of general options for the future community governance of the parish. A questionnaire and covering letter has been distributed to every household with a map of the parish and a pre-paid return envelope. Additional questionnaires for individual electors within each household will be issued on request. Completed questionnaires are due by the end of this month. **No decisions have yet been taken by the borough council.**

Volunteer award

The Parish Council has decided to make a Volunteer Award to a member of the public who makes an extraordinary contribution to the work of the parish. If enough people feel that this is a good idea they need to make nominations to the council. Do you know someone who has made a special contribution to the village in the last year? If so drop your nomination off at the box in the Post Office or contact the Clerk (see beneath) by Saturday March 23.

Information. The Council's e mail address is info@guildensutton.org.uk and its web site is at www.guildensutton.org.uk. The web site includes a blog of current issues. The Council has also opened a Twitter account.

Future meetings:

Future meetings of the Council are due to be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Mondays 4 March, 8 April, 13 May*, 3 June, 15 July, 2 September, 7 October, 4 November and 2 December 2013.

***The May meeting, to include the annual parish meeting, will begin at 7pm at a venue to be confirmed.**

All meetings include public speaking time and residents are welcome to attend and address the Council. A monthly surgery is also held, normally on the first Saturday, at the Summerfield Road shops at 10am.

Contacts

Councillors Derek Hughes, (Chairman), 300185, Imogen Brown 300812, Alan Davis 303022, Danny Fisher 301398, Bill Moulton (Vice Chairman) 348473, Trisha Paterson 300307 and Mike Roberts 300684. The clerk is 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 Moulton 348473 is the Local Bus User Contact.