

## GUILDEN SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held in Guilden Sutton Village Hall on Monday 16 March 1998.

Chairman: Councillor Mrs. B Antrobus.

Apologies: The Chairman (at sea), City Councillor J R Boughton (at sea) , City Councillor B J Bailey, County Councillor N J Fitton (indisposed).

Present: Councillors Antrobus, Astbury, Fisher, Gartland, Hughes, Whitehouse.

### 1. Minutes.

The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 23 February, 1998 were proposed by Councillor Gartland, seconded by Councillor Hughes and agreed subject to the following amendments:

insert after 'aspect' in minute 2 (vi) (a)

"However, the Council remained strongly in favour of a link from the cycleway to the service road, if necessary by modifying the busway layout at this point, and felt that the cycleway should precede the busway with the link being provided at the initial stage to meet the council's aspirations for sustainable transport and safe routes to schools. Councillor Hughes referred to apprehensions at increased traffic in the adjoining Parishes resulting from the Mickle Trafford-Deeside transport corridor and the proposed park and ride at the Hoole roundabout".

insert after 'assisted by himself' in line two of minute 3 "and Councillor Hughes'.

### 25. Resignation of Councillor Mrs. A Patten.

The Clerk reported the Council's intention to fill the vacancy by co-option had been advertised on the parish noticeboards and in the newsletter, as a result of which two further candidates, Mr. A Arditti and Dr. R Worth, had offered themselves in addition to Mr. A Gordon. Letters from Mr. Arditti and Dr. Worth were

considered together with that received previously from Mr. Gordon. Mr. Arditti was declared elected having received a majority in a secret ballot. Mr. Gordon and Dr. Worth would be thanked for their interest.

The Clerk would make the necessary induction arrangements for Mr. Arditti, including signing the declaration of acceptance of office and would advise the Returning Officer.

## 2. Planning.

### (i) New applications.

97/01399/FUL, (amended) loft conversion at 5 Moorcroft Crescent for Mr. and Mrs. M Mooney. Councillor Mrs. Astbury reported the amendment resulted from discussions with the planning authority and would involve a reduction in the width of the dormer window and the construction of a further small window as an additional means of escape. It was agreed no objection would be raised.

### (ii) Decision notices.

97/01056/FUL, replacement of flat roofs to garage and porch with pitched roofs at 18 Oaklands for Mr. D Smith. It was noted the permission related to amended plans received on 20 October, 1997, a copy of which had been requested by the Clerk.

### (iii) Planning Appeal

97/01159/S73, removal of condition on planning permission 97/00241/FUL to reinstate permitted development rights at Whitegates, Park Lane, Littleton for Mr. P Edge. The planning inspectorate were being requested to notify the Parish Council of the decision in this appeal.

### (iv) Current applications.

94/01053/FUL McKenzie King/Topaz/Norwest Metalising, Guilden Sutton Lane. The Clerk indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage as to the alleged breach of environmental controls which was being pursued by the Environment Agency.

95/01046/FUL, COU of redundant farm buildings to 8 no

dwellings, swimming pool, tennis court, garages, driveway and improvements to the highway at The Byatts, Wicker Lane for Kilmorey Estates. Councillor Mrs. Antrobus referred to trenching works at present in progress on land between The Byatts and Cinder Lane.

95/01052/FUL, alterations to dwelling and COU to form garden at The Bungalow, Church Lane for Mrs. C Jones. Nothing further to report at this stage.

95/01166/FUL, two storey extension at Post Cottage, Guilden Sutton Lane for Mr. R Fox. The revised application was awaited.

96/00359/FUL, children's day nursery, Wildings Yard for A V Wilding (Chester) Ltd. It was noted the opening of the nursery in the near future was being advertised.

96/00881/FUL, liquid fertiliser storage lagoon (landscape proposals) at Tile Farm, Wicker Lane for Mr. S J Arden. Councillor Mrs. Antrobus indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage.

15 metre mast, two microwave dishes, equipment cabin etc. adjoining A 55 and Cheshire County Council Engineering Service depot for Orange Personal Communications. The Clerk indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage.

97/00554/FUL, extensions and alterations to Vicars Cross Golf Club House. The planning authority had been thanked for carrying forward into condition the Council's request for the adjoining public footpath to remain clear of obstruction during the construction period.

97/00767/FUL, rear extension to accommodate swimming pool at The Brambles, Belle Vue Lane for Mr. D Sandoz. Nothing further to report at this stage.

97/01017/FUL, extension to single garage to form double garage at 5 School Lane for Mr. D Everton.

It was noted that construction work appeared to have been completed.

97/01146/S73, extension of time period on previous application

6/25443 for erection of circular underground reservoir off Guilden Sutton Lane for Chester Waterworks Company. The decision notice was awaited.

97/01302/FUL, extension at 1 Vicarage Close for Mr. L Stephani. The Clerk was awaiting a response from the planning authority as to his inquiry concerning the ownership of the access between nos. 1 and 3 Vicarage Close.

98/00133/FUL, kitchen extension and replacement garage at Windy Nook, Belle Vue Lane for Mr. and Mrs. Tomassen. The decision notice was awaited.

(v) General:

Parish Planning Forum.

With respect to the proposed planning guidelines, the response from Councillor D Hughes had been forwarded to the Honorary Secretary of the Chester Area Meeting who was co-ordinating the overall reply to the planning authority.

(vi) Strategic Planning.

(a) Chester District Local Plan.

With respect to the proposed policies for cycling, the proposed meeting with representatives of Mickle Trafford and District Parish Council was being pursued.

(b) Cheshire 2011.

The Clerk reported the receipt of the Spring 1998 issue of '2011 News'. This was noted.

(c) Cheshire Replacement Minerals Local Plan.

Notes of the pre-inquiry meeting and of pre-inquiry modifications now proposed by Cheshire County Council to take account of the loss of Halton and Warrington due to local government reorganisation were being considered by the Chairman..

(d) Replacement Waste Local Plan.

The report to the Chester City Council Environment and Health Services Committee of 26 January 1998 which largely rehearsed the general concerns expressed by the Parish Council was being considered by the Chairman. The Clerk had obtained copies of the detailed proofs prepared by Cheshire County Council.

The Clerk reported the receipt by letter dated 13 March, 1998 of details of a seminar to be held on Wednesday 25 March 1998 by a Chester firm of solicitors in association with the Country Landowners Association. These were received and noted.

### 3. Parish Car Park.

The Clerk reported he had been advised by the Chairman of concerns expressed by an adjoining occupier as to the ivy rooted in the banking to the rear of the car park which had spread to the adjacent boundary fencing. The Chairman had agreed to recommend to the Council that weedkiller should be applied to a two foot wide strip adjoining the fencing. It was agreed the proposal should be revisited at the April meeting in view of reserve expressed by Councillor Hughes.

### 4. Leisure Services.

#### (i) Playing field.

The Clerk reported the receipt of advice from the landowner as to the future ownership of the field which had indicated that disposal to the Council would not be an option. This was noted. Membership of the Cheshire County Playing Fields Association would be revisited in the light of this response. The Clerk would make a renewed approach to other landowners as to the possibility of land becoming available. This would include land bounded by Wicker Lane and Oxen Lane owned by a former resident.

The Clerk reported the Chairman wished to have the Council's approval to his approaching the landowner on behalf of the millennium committee for permission to hold an organised football event on the playing field. It was agreed this would be forthcoming and would have the Council's support.

#### (ii) Play Area.

The Clerk reported the receipt of a report of a satisfactory rota

visit by the Chairman on 13 March, 1998. Councillor Mrs. Antrobus also reported. Details had been received, by letter dated 23 February, 1998, from the supplier of an alternative form of safety surfacing which suggested a likely cost of £54 per square metre or in excess of £10,000 for the gross area of the play area.

(iii) Public Footpaths.

(a) Parish Paths Partnership.

Members had now had the opportunity to see copies of the map of parish footpaths, which had been distributed throughout the parish, which was thought to be excellent. A note provided by the Parish Paths Warden had been included in the newsletter which had appeared on Thursday 26 February. The Countryside Access Manager was being thanked for the County Council's support for the project. A letter was also being sent to the Parish Paths Warden thanking the group for their work in producing the map and maintaining and improving paths within the parish.

Councillors Hughes reported that copies of the leaflet had been presented to the landowners involved and that the existing signposts were to be replaced to show the names of the footpaths concerned.

The Clerk reported the receipt by letter dated 9 March 1998 of a response from the Parish Paths Warden to the letter dated 13 January 1998 from the Chester Area Footpaths Inspector of the Mid Cheshire Footpath Society. This had drawn attention to possible confusion to walkers resulting from the inclusion of a permissive route for part of Guilden Sutton no. 5/Great Barrow no. 2 in the leaflet and had suggested the Council should seek a formal diversion order for the definitive path across the field. Mr. Armstrong was of the opinion that the existence of two paths on the Barrow side of the Oxen Bridge should not present any problem and that the cost of a diversion order could not be justified. This view was also supported by the Countryside Access Officer. It was agreed this advice should be accepted and the Mid Cheshire Footpath Society would be informed accordingly.

It was proposed by Councillor Hughes, seconded by Councillor Fisher and agreed that the Council should continue in membership of the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, a

renewal subscription for which dated 10 February, 1998, had been received by the Parish Paths Warden.

(b) Footpath no. 2.

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter, dated 1 March, 1998, from Mrs. Sumner as to the condition of the hedge adjoining Footpath no. 2 which had been affected by maintenance work. An appropriate reply would be sent.

(c) Mid Cheshire Footpath Society.

The inspection report received from the society as to the condition of Footpaths nos. 4 and 5 had been referred to the Parish Paths Warden.

(iv) Pond Life Project.

Nothing further to report at this stage.

(v) Grounds Maintenance.

(a) Outstanding matters.

Payment of the final invoice to the previous contractor continued to be withheld as the agreed work to the play area remained outstanding.

(b) Estimates 1998.

See minute 30 below.

5. Public Transport.

(i) Services: general.

(a) Sunday Service to Guilden Sutton.

The Clerk reported there was nothing further to add at this stage.

(b) Punctuality.

There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the late running of the 1410 ex Chester Bus Exchange to the inconvenience of parents of children attending the primary school or the late running of the 1110 ex Chester Bus Exchange.

(c) Notification of changes to timetable.

An accurate listing of services to and from the Parish for possible inclusion in the newsletter was being sought by the Clerk from the Transport Co-ordination Service.

(ii) Chester District Public Transport Liaison Committee.

Nothing further to report at this stage.

(iii) Rural Transport Information Point.

The outstanding provision of this point would again be pursued by the Clerk as the previous assurance the point would be affixed as soon as possible had not been fulfilled.

6. Highways.

(i) Major schemes.

The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 11 March, 1998, of advice from the Cheshire Engineering Consultancy of pedestrian safety measures and hatching to be carried out on Sundays and weekday nights from mid March to early/mid May on the A 51 Tarvin Road, Littleton. This was noted.

(ii) Local Matters.

(a) A 41/Guilden Sutton Lane.

The Clerk indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(b) Belle Vue Lane.

The Clerk reported the missing sign remained outstanding. This would be pursued.

He referred to a recent occurrence of severe flooding in the vicinity of The Orchards which had required the attendance of the highway authority and the pumped diversion of ditch water. The Area Engineer had advised, by facsimile dated 16 March, 1998, that the situation had arisen as a result of a blockage within a system which fell to the responsibility of the occupier of The Orchards.

(c) Footway, Cinder Lane.

The need for the surface to be swept was being kept under review. 97/98 138

(d) Cinder Lane - Church Lane.

Nothing further to report at this stage.

(e) Footway, Wicker Lane.

The Area Engineer had confirmed, by facsimile dated 16 March, 1998 that the obstruction to the footway close to the junction with Cinder Lane arising from the overhanging branches of trees in an adjoining property would be inspected and appropriate action taken.

(f) Speed limit, Guilden Sutton Lane.

There was nothing to report at this stage as to the Council's request for high visibility markings at the approach to the access to the playing field.

(g) Moorcroft Crescent.

The Area Engineer had confirmed, by facsimile dated 16 March, 1998 that funding had been obtained which would enable repairs to be carried out during 1998/99. This was welcomed.

(h) Footway - Middlecroft.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(i) Grass cutting - Heath Bank.

The matter had been further pursued with the Area Engineer

who had advised, by facsimile dated 16 March, 1998 that following an inspection, he wished to discuss the matter further with a representative of the Council. Mr. Williams had been requested to contact Councillor Mrs. Astbury.

(j) Closure - Wicker Lane.

The Area Engineer had confirmed, by facsimile dated 16 March, 1998 that he would continue to monitor the position following the concerns brought to his attention as to the flooding which had occurred during rainfall following the recent works and to an immediate deterioration in the condition of the patching.

(k) Road Traffic Accident, Guilden Sutton Lane.

The Clerk indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage. The matter would be pursued with City Councillor B J Bailey.

(l) Deposit of mud, Guilden Sutton Lane.

The Area Engineer had confirmed, by facsimile dated 16 March, 1998 that the severe rutting which had damaged the verges adjoining the field access together with the more recent deposits of mud following further contracting activity using a nearby access would be pursued with the contractor.

(m) Highway works.

The Area Engineer had reported, by facsimile dated 16 March, 1998 that the repairs to be carried out within the parish referred to in a report to the City Council Highways, Transport and Road Safety sub committee of 15 January, 1998 comprised minor repairs to footways and carriageways, scheduled for April/May.

(n) Turning movements, Willow Cottage.

The Clerk reported the receipt from City Councillor J R Boughton of details of the traffic sign to be erected at Willow Cottage to assist in directing HGVs to their intended destination. 97/98 139

Members did not believe that the suggested legend 'industrial estate' was acceptable, in view of possible confusion with the Wilding Business Estate . The highway authority would be asked

to defer any action to enable the matter to be revisited at the April meeting.

(iii) street lighting.

In view of the concerns of adjoining residents, indicated by Councillor Gartland, as to the undesirable effects of any improvement to the lighting at the parish car park, the Clerk would not pursue his inquiries as to the possible availability of funding under safer communities and similar initiative.

7. Finance:

(i) income.

Bank of Scotland interest

March 1998 £ awaited.

Wreath donations £ 13.50

(ii) payments.

Glendale

grounds maintenance

final stage payment £ 41.50 plus VAT\*

Alan's Skip Hire £ 84.60

Chester Standard

newsletter distribution £ 15.27

Cheshire Community Council

Best Kept Village Competition £ 17.50

Cheshire Landscape Trust

donation £ 30.00

Cornhill Insurance

play area inspection £ 99.88

BTCV

subscription 1998/99 £ 25.00

GS Millennium Committee

interest free loan £ 250.00

Clerk

Mileage Oct - Dec 1997 £ 12.00

Clerk

postages Oct - Dec 1997 £ 49.51

Chester City Council

half year rates £ 296.88

Cheshire Assn T and P Councils

Subscription 1998/99 £ 196.62

97/98 140

Additional copy

Local Council Review £ 8.95

\* payment remains withheld pending resolution of dispute with contractor

Proposed by Councillor Hughes

seconded by Councillor Fisher

and agreed.

(iii) balances

Natwest Current Account £ nil

Natwest Business Reserve £ nil

Bank of Scotland £ awaited

(iv) banking arrangements.

The Clerk confirmed the accounts with the National Westminster Bank had now been closed. The closing balances were being transferred to the Bank of Scotland.

(v) Audit.

The Clerk was continuing his efforts to verify the derivation of certain amendments with the Council's records. The Chairman would sign the memorandum of matters arising in due course.

(vi) Budget and Precept 1998/99.

The Clerk indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage. He had requested the precept be paid by bank transfer.

8. Access to school - improvement scheme.

Councillor Hughes reported he was pursuing his intended site meeting with Mr. I Makins, Chester City Council, to discuss this proposed scheme.

9. Environment services:

(i) amenity cleansing.

The Clerk reported he had requested the City Council to cleanse the footway from Fox Cover to Church Lane and to remove the accumulation of litter at the head of the steps. He was to make an inspection of Belle Vue Lane, including the side road accesses and the planted areas at the A 55 and would request the City Council to take appropriate action.

(ii) dog fouling.

The Clerk reported the City Council had yet to respond to his request for the renewal of dog fouling notices alongside the footway access to the primary school at the rear of Orchard Croft. Councillor. Mrs Astbury requested appropriate notices should be requested for Heath Bank in view of the degree of fouling. This was agreed. Councillor Hughes inquired as to the possibility of canine faeces bins being provided in Church Lane. The advice of the Dog Warden would be sought.

(iii) Litter bins.

The intended improvement in the regular emptying of litter bins throughout the parish by the City Council contractor was being monitored. 97/98 141

(iv) lengthsman.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(v) sewers

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

10. Trees and hedges.

(i) Tree planting

Councillor Gartland, Parish Tree Warden, indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(ii) Oaklands TPO.

Councillor Gartland, Parish Tree Warden, indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage, pending the review of trees to be protected which it was intended should be carried out by the Council in the Spring.

(iii) hedge adjoining footpath no 2.

See minute 4 (iii) (b) above.

(iv) Shrubs, Oaklands.

There was nothing further to report at this stage following the approach to the Area Engineer.

(v) Tree Warden Scheme.

The Clerk confirmed the intended donation to the Cheshire Landscape Trust was in hand.

(vi) Shrubs, Parish Car Park.

Further to the reference at the previous meeting to the availability of up to 25 shrubs free of charge by the Cheshire Landscape Trust for use in the parish car park, the Clerk indicated he had been advised the Council's request should be deferred for a short period to await fresh stocks at the nursery. This would be pursued in due course.

11. Cheshire Association of Town and Parish Councils.

(i) Council property - insurance.

Further to minute 11 (i) of the previous meeting, the Clerk reported he had received confirmation from the Council's insurers, dated 24 February, 1998 as to the additional cover for the IT and office equipment owned by the Council and held at his private address.

(ii) Account and Audit Regulation user guide.

The receipt of this updated guide was awaited.

(iii) Audit and Account Fees.

The Clerk reported the requested information was being provided to the County Association which was researching increases in audit fees during the last three financial years.

(iv) Royal Garden Parties.

Nothing further to report at this stage.

(v) Motions to annual meeting.

Further inquiries were being made by the Clerk to enable the matter of audit fees and the proportion they represented of a local council's expenditure to be raised with Christine Russell MP.

(vi) Local Council Review, March 1998

Received and noted.

12. Chester City Council.

(i) Relationships with the City Council.

The Clerk had pursued the intended follow up visit by Mr. Durham which would take place at the June meeting. This was noted.

(ii) Maintenance of churchyards and burial grounds.

The Clerk reported the further details of this City Council grant aid scheme which had been obtained were being referred to the Vicar.

(iii) Housing News, Spring 1998.

Received and noted.

(iv) Events and Exhibitions, Spring 1998.

Received and noted.

(v) Chester Rural Tourism Initiative.

Details of this initiative were received, by letter dated 2 March, 1998 and noted.

(vi) Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996.

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence, dated 3 March, 1998 referring to this new legislation, now being brought into force, which, in brief, made it an offence for an owner not to remove canine faeces deposited on a footway or verge adjoining any road with a speed limit of 40 mph or less. The City Council had also provided a poster for use on noticeboards which the

Clerk suggested might be reduced and published in the newsletter should this be feasible. The introduction of the legislation and the suggestion by the Clerk were welcomed.

### 13. Cheshire County Council.

#### (i) Town and Parish Council meeting.

The Clerk confirmed the County Council had been advised of the attendance of Councillor M Gartland at the forthcoming Town and Parish Council Meeting to be held at Tatton Park on Thursday 26 March, 1998.

#### (ii) Local Agenda 21 Newsletter no 13.

This newsletter had been referred to the Chairman for consideration.

#### (iii) Cheshire's Check Up.

The copy of this report, received at the previous meeting, had been referred to the Chairman.

#### (iv) Air Task Force.

This leaflet, received at the previous meeting, had been referred to the Chairman.

#### (v) Transport Policies and Programme 1998.

The consultation draft of the 1998 TPP was received, together with a covering letter dated 5 March, 1998 and noted.

### 14. Cheshire Community Council.

#### (i) Cheshire Best Kept Village Competition.

The Clerk confirmed the necessary entry forms were being submitted with appropriate comments as to the difficulties facing the Parish. Members were anxious that the judges should be aware of the Council's concern as to the deposit of mud on local roads as a result of agricultural contracting operations which was outside their control.

(ii) 1997 Survey of Rural Services.

The findings of this survey by the Rural Development Commission were received and noted.

(iii) Subscription 1998/99.

The Clerk would ascertain if the revised information leaflet giving notice that the Council's subscription to the Community Council would increase to £35 pa from 1998/99, received at the previous meeting, constituted a subscription renewal or not.

(iv) Rural Transport Briefing.

Councillor Mrs. Astbury commended the value of the information contained in this briefing note.

(v) Cheshire Rural Action.

A copy of newsletter no. 4 issued by this partnership was received and noted.

15. CPRE.

Correspondence was received and referred to Councillor Whitehouse.

16. Health.

Details were received by letter dated 25 February, 1998 from the Head of Corporate Affairs, South Cheshire Health Authority of a service to be held in Chester Cathedral at 11.30am on Sunday 5 July 1998 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Health Service. These were noted.

17. Policing matters.

The Clerk reported that the Divisional Commander, Supt. Brian Lammond, had attended the Chester Area Meeting on Wednesday 25 February, 1998 to discuss rural policing. Although changes were proposed to the arrangements for rural police cover, no reduction in service was proposed. It had been confirmed the Parish would benefit from the increased presence of police officers travelling to and from the Mickle Trafford police

house where a number of rural officers were now based. 97/98  
144

#### 18. Newsletter

The Clerk indicated he would refer to the co-option of Councillor Arditti in the next available issue.

#### 19. Millennium Celebrations.

##### (i) Parish.

The Chairman had advised the Clerk he had been the only Member present at the meeting of the committee held on 2 March, 1998 at which it had become clear the group would require pump priming funds to organise the proposed fete to be held on 20 June, 1998. The Chairman wished to recommend that £250 of the £500 budgeted for the millennium in 1998/99 should be made available as an interest free loan to be repaid from the proceeds of the fete by 31 July, 1998. This was agreed.

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from a flag supplier as to the supply of flags, banners and bunting in connection with the millennium. The possibility of a flagpole being provided at the primary school would be raised with the Headteacher.

It was noted a proposed football evening had been progressed under minute 4 (i) above.

##### (ii) City.

Nothing further to report at this stage.

#### 20. Memorial Garden.

The Clerk would contact the adjoining occupier to advise of the intended work to the sycamore and to invite discussion of the Council contributing to the renewal of the rear boundary fencing to the memorial garden.

#### 21. Bulb planting.

Further to minute 21 of the previous meeting, it was proposed

by Councillor Mrs. Astbury, seconded by Councillor Gartland and agreed that snowdrops for mass planting on Footpath no.7, to a maximum value of £60 should be purchased by Councillor Mrs. Antrobus.

22. Land adjoining 2 Summerfield Road.

The complaints regarding the condition of this land had been revisited with the landowner. A response was awaited.

23. Periodic Electoral Review.

The final recommendations of the Local Government Commission were awaited.

24. Web site.

This matter was being progressed with Mr. S Jones by Councillor Hughes.

25. Resignation of Councillor Mrs. A Patten.

See minute 25 above.

26. Parking of cars on the footway.

The increasing prevalence of the parking of cars wholly or partly on footways was being raised generally with PC Pye and particularly in respect of a specific location.

The Clerk reported he had advised a complainant of the outcome of her complaint with respect to the obstruction of the footway in Guilden Sutton Lane by a parked car which was being kept under review by Councillor Mrs. Astbury.

27. Nuisance.

An appropriate reply had been sent by the Clerk following the receipt of a complaint by Councillor Hughes from a resident of Oaklands objecting to the playing of football in the shops and village hall car parks and to the gathering of youths in the vicinity of the shops, causing a disturbance.

28. The Chairman of the Council.

The Clerk reported that in addition to the expressions of Members of the Council, the Chairman had received a letter of good wishes from Littleton Parish Council following his recent accident.

#### MATTERS CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

It was proposed by Councillor Gartland, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Astbury and agreed that the press and public should be excluded from the discussion of the following items on the grounds of (29) possible enforcement action and (30) and (31) the financial affairs of a third party.

#### 29. Occupancy of property, School Lane.

The Clerk reported he was awaiting a response from the City Council as to the further assurances sought by the Council in addition to the measures rehearsed in the enhanced enforcement regime proposed by the City.

#### 30. Grounds maintenance 1998.

The Clerk reported that Gresty had been offered the contract following the decision of the Council at their previous meeting. The existing contractor, with whom a dispute continued and the other unsuccessful tenderers had been thanked for their interest. Mr. Gresty had been informed that Members would wish to see work dockets attached to each invoice.

#### 31. Fencing adjoining village hall car park.

Councillor D Hughes declared an interest and took no part in the discussion of this item.

The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 10 March, 1998 of a request from an adjoining occupier to be financially recompensed by the Council for expenses incurred in his re-erection of boundary fencing adjoining the village hall car park and the garage access walkway behind properties nos 1,3,5 and 7 Hill Top Road which had been damaged in high winds. It was noted that although efforts had been made to obtain the same, no documentary evidence of responsibility for the maintenance

of the fencing, erected by the developer of the dwellings, appeared to be available.

Members were clear the Council was not a party to this boundary and therefore it would be inappropriate for the Council to make any recompense. Assistance would, however, be offered to the complainant in an attempt to reconcile an unsatisfactory position.