

GUILDEN SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held in Guilden Sutton Village Hall on Monday 22 June 1998.

Chairman: Councillor Mrs B Antrobus.

Apologies: The Chairman, County Councillor N J Fitton, Jane Burns (Parish Friend).

Present: Councillors Arditti, Armitage, Astbury, Fisher, Gartland, Hughes, Whitehouse.

In attendance: City Councillor B J Bailey, City Councillor J R Boughton, P Durham Esq, Chief Executive, Chester City Council, S Jones Esq, Policy Unit, Chester City Council.

The Vice Chairman in the Chair.

1. Minutes.

The minutes of the annual meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 19 May, 1998 were proposed by Councillor Armitage, seconded by Councillor Astbury and agreed.

13 (i) Relationships with Chester City Council.

The Chairman introduced Mr Paul Durham, Chief Executive, Chester City Council, together with Mr S Jones, Policy Unit and invited him to speak to this item. Mr Durham had been provided by the Clerk with copies of previous correspondence relating to Members' concerns and with a note of issues Members had specifically requested should be raised.

Mr Durham said the authority's performance had been acknowledged by their external auditors, by the Audit Commission and by customers although he accepted that mistakes arose across a range of issues. The authority had 14 per cent less money than seven years ago while at the same time trying to achieve more and more and to keep services going with less and less money. There were increased expectations from the council which could not be matched for various reasons. The authority had tried to develop improved relationships with

Parishes although this should be a two way process. It was recognised the council were responsible for the whole of the district and not just the city and the authority would continue to pay attention to the rural areas. He looked forward to working in partnership with the Council and with other councils in the Chester district.

The Vice Chairman said the Council were keen to keep rural aspects rural and that Green Belt issues worried Members a great deal. He referred to development at industrial premises within the parish over which he believed there had been inadequate control and to a recent application for infill. Mr Durham said the local plan reaffirmed the Green Belt around Chester and would help defend against development on the periphery. The plan would preserve the integrity of rural communities in the district. He referred to the limited range of powers available to the planning authority in respect of the industrial premises referred to and pointed out that the retrospective nature of any application was not a ground for refusal. On infill, he pointed out the City Council had to provide for 4,000 new homes during the local plan period and some infill may be the way forward.

City Councillor B J Bailey believed the Green Belt had been defended. The only development which would be permitted was on existing sites which had planning permission. He reminded members the Parish and City Councils had co-operated on proposed DENV19 designations. Councillor Bailey understood the frustrations of the Parish Council over the industrial premises issue.

Councillor Armitage stated the City Council did not 'think parish' as they should, for example the council were not notified of City Council activities within the parish. He was also concerned at the disparity between dates on planning applications referred to the Council and those notified to neighbours. Councillor Armitage believed there had been an improvement in recent years but more needed to be done. Very often the response times to letters was very lethargic.

Mr Jones agreed there were differing response dates as between planning applications referred to the Parish Council and non statutory consultations as the former were passed to the Parish Council at a very early stage. He did not believe it would be possible to inform the Council of neighbour notifications but pointed out there was a degree of flexibility as to the Parish

Council's response. Councillor Armitage believed it was much preferable for members to be able to consider applications at a meeting of the Council.

In response to the point raised by Councillor Armitage, reinforced by the Vice Chairman, Mr Jones said the City Council aimed to respond to 85 per cent of letters within eight working days and this target was met. He would wish to know of any problems and stressed the importance of dialogue. Mr Durham welcomed the Council's use of e mail and said that issues referred to Mr Jones would not be handled in an inappropriate manner.

Councillor Gartland referred to the continuous problem of dog fouling and inquired as to the City Council's prosecutions policy. Mr Durham said the court had to be satisfied beyond reasonable doubt there had been a breach and that a successful case depended on members of the public being willing to attend as witnesses. Mr Jones said a number of prosecutions had been attempted but witnesses had been unwilling to give evidence. He referred to an educational campaign to promote better habits among dog owners. City Councillor Bailey referred to the major problem of fouling in play areas.

Councillor Hughes was anxious to avoid future concerns as to the City Council's performance and pointed out that most problems were planning related. Mr Durham said the City Council had a mission to improve their overall performance and a number of measures had been taken to achieve this. Workload and resources were important factors but he gave an assurance the aim would be pursued.

The Vice Chairman returned to the Council's belief they had a right to be informed of City Council actions which affected the Parish. City Councillor Bailey supported the need for local members and parishes to be informed and believed the City Council should look at their procedures.

The Vice Chairman thanked Mr Durham and Mr Jones for their attendance. He said the Clerk had a very good relationships with the City Council but there were concerns which needed to be attended to.

3. Planning.

(i) New applications.

97/01146/S73, extension of time period for erection of underground reservoir, Guilden Sutton Lane for Chester Waterworks Co. The Clerk reported the receipt of this amended application which the applicant believed specifically addressed the Parish Council's concerns as set out in the previous response of 14 October 1997 by providing for increased tree planting adjoining Guilden Sutton Lane and on the eastern boundary of the site. A copy of the planning officer's report had been obtained which recommended permission. Councillor Armitage believed the Council had gained some benefit from their objection but that the previous grounds for refusal should be maintained. This was agreed.

98/00445/COU, change of use of land to incorporate a new vehicular access road to segregate car park from yard at Topaz Hair Cosmetics, Guilden Sutton Lane. Members' reserve as to the position had been discussed with the Chief Executive of the City Council at minute 13 (a) above. The Clerk reported he had informed Members together with City Councillors B J Bailey and J R Boughton on 1 June, 1998 of advice received from the planning officer that the application had been invalidated due to the standard of the submitted drawings. An amended application had been received but it was understood this had been returned to the applicant for further and better particulars. The Clerk believed that at present there was no valid application before the planning authority but circulated a draft response for submission at the appropriate time. This was agreed subject to the inclusion of a requirement for the applicant to justify need for development within the Green Belt.

98/00512/FUL, construction of 2 no four bedroom bungalows with double garages and access alterations between Ranelagh and The Wood, School Lane for LRM Ltd. Further inquiries had been made by Councillor Whitehouse who reported. Objections had been received from five adjoining occupiers with two having no objection. A memorandum had been received from City Councillor B J Bailey setting out the planning position and the grounds for refusal of the application, together with a letter of objection from City Councillor J R Boughton. The Clerk had circulated a draft response to the planning authority, objecting to the application, which was agreed subject to an expression of general support, rather than support, for the objections of adjoining occupiers and to a reference to a condition to secure the replacement of any orchard trees to be retained as part of

the development.

98/0544/FUL, conservatory at 12 Middlecroft for Mr K Bode. The Clerk reported the receipt of this application together with subsequent information from the planning officer as to the need for an amended application to take account of conversion work carried out by a previous occupier to the garage without the benefit of planning permission. Councillor Gartland reported and confirmed it appeared construction of the conservatory was in progress prior to the determination of the application by the planning authority. It was agreed no objection should be raised although the partly retrospective nature of the application relating to the conservatory, of which the planning officer was aware, would be drawn to the attention of the planning authority. 98/99 029

98/00589/FUL, installation of 22.5m telecommunications radio tower, equipment cabin and new access track at Dee Valley Reservoir, Guilden Sutton Lane for Cellnet. The Clerk reported the receipt of a copy letter of objection from Mrs Astle. Councillor Armitage reported the objection of adjoining occupiers. Subject to further information to be obtained by the Clerk from the applicant, the Council would be minded to draw the attention of the planning authority to the height of the proposed mast and its impact on visual amenity which they believed would be inappropriate development in the green belt, the absence of any justification by the applicant, the question of mast sharing with the proposed Orange installation within the highways depot and the possibility of relocating the proposal further towards the A 41.

98/00650/FUL, first floor extension, The Orchard, Belle Vue Lane for Mr and Mrs H Proudlove. Further inquiries would be made by Councillors Armitage and Arditti.

98/00659/COU, sand menage at Willow Cottage, Guilden Sutton Lane for Mr G Hudson and Ms A Roose. Further inquiries would be made by Councillors Gartland and Astbury.

(ii) Decision notices.

98/00421/FUL, demolition of garage and outbuilding and erection of garage and dining room extension at 2 Guilden Sutton Lane for Mr and Mrs Wilson. It was noted there were no conditions as to the need to ensure the hedge on the western boundary of the curtilage was protected during construction or

for materials arising from the demolition of the asbestos garage to be removed in sealed containers in accordance with the appropriate Health and Safety and waste regulation and disposal requirements.

(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 Clerk reported the receipt of a copy of the determination from City Councillor J R Boughton. The question of the proposed payment of £4 which had been requested by the Planning Inspectorate was being challenged.

(iv) Current applications.

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. It was noted this development was now in progress.

95/01052/FUL, alterations to dwelling and COU to form garden at The Bungalow, Church Lane for Mrs. C Jones. The proposed improvement to the remaining area of open space adjoining the footway from Church Lane to Fox Cover would be pursued following the erection of the permanent fencing to the application site.

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. The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 21 May, 1998, of advice from Wilding Estates that it was hoped the building would be handed over to the operators on 3 August 1998. It was the intention to invite Members of the Council to visit the project. This was welcomed.

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 reported he had been unable to ascertain the current position as to the approval or otherwise of the leasing of part of the highways

depot to enable the construction of this mast as the matter had not appeared on the agenda for the committee referred to in the District Engineer's earlier intimation. The matter was being pursued.

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

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

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

97/01399/FUL, loft conversion at 5 Moorcroft Crescent for Mr and Mrs M Mooney.

98/00133/FUL, kitchen extension and replacement garage at Windy Nook, Belle Vue Lane for Mr and Mrs Tomassen. The planning authority were being thanked for their indication the property had reached its physical limit in terms of the impact on the scale and design of the dwelling and that it was likely any subsequent proposal for an extension would be refused.

98/00421/FUL, demolition of garage and outbuilding and erection of garage and dining room extension at 2 Guilden Sutton Lane for Mr and Mrs Wilson. No objection had been raised. The attention of the planning authority had however been drawn to the need to ensure the hedge on the western boundary of the curtilage was protected during construction as it was thought this fell within the terms of the recent legislation and for materials arising from the demolition of the asbestos garage to be removed in sealed containers in accordance with the appropriate Health and Safety and waste regulation and disposal requirements (see also (ii) above).

The reason for the immediately adjoining occupier not being notified had been raised with the planning officer but no response had been received. The matter had been raised by the Clerk with the Development Control Manager on a subsequent occasion which had elicited the advice that properties with a

common boundary were normally required to be notified.

(v) General:

(a) Parish Planning Forum: planning guidelines.

Councillor Armitage reported the Area Meeting had arranged a meeting with the Development Control Manager to discuss the comments which had been forwarded with respect to the proposed planning guidelines and a revised draft was awaited. It was hoped that progress would be made during the summer..

(b) Domestic alterations and extensions in the green belt.

The Clerk reported he had obtained a copy of this guidance which had been prepared by Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council for use by their Members in determining applications within the borough. It was agreed a copy should be supplied to each Member.

(c) Good Practice Guide on Managing the Use of Common Land.

A copy of this guide by the Department for the Environment, Transport and the Regions, supplied by the County Secretary, was referred to Councillor Gartland.

(d) Consultation on planning applications.

Councillor Hughes revisited the Council's policy for consultation on planning applications and it was agreed that wherever possible two Members would visit.

(vi) Strategic Planning.

(a) Chester District Local Plan.

(i) Representations. The Clerk reported the receipt of a schedule, by letter dated 1 June, 1998 of the matters upon which the Council had made representations. These were to be considered by the City Council prior to publication of their response and any suggested changes to the plan in late autumn, 1998.

(ii) Proposed cycleway. The Clerk reported the receipt of confirmation, by letter dated 26 May, 1998, of the decision of

Mickle Trafford and District Parish Council to support an approach by Guilden Sutton Parish Council to the occupier of Park Farm for permission to develop the footpath adjacent to Park Farm as a cycleway to access the Chester Deeside Transport System. This was noted although no action would be taken at this stage. Councillor Armitage drew Members' attention to the need to provide a temporary link to the service road adjoining the A 41 in order to provide a route to Upton by Chester County High School and reported he was to attend a meeting of the Cycle Working Party. Councillor Hughes indicated the Footpaths Group did not wish to be associated with cycling on footpaths. This was noted.

(b) Cheshire 2011.

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

(c) Cheshire Replacement Minerals Local Plan.

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

(d) Cheshire Replacement Waste Local Plan.

The Clerk reported he had obtained a copy of a statement issued by the Cheshire County Council Conservative Group as to the future of the plan, as referred to by County Councillor N J Fitton beneath.

He reported the receipt, by letter dated 9 June, 1998, of advice from County Councillor Fitton that the County's Environment Services Committee at their meeting on 3 June, 1998 had agreed to insert a further round of consultation into the process with a wider debate on issues of waste management. It had been conceded that the Areas of Search Map which accompanied the consultation draft plan was, in effect, suspended.

Councillor Armitage reported the Chester Area Meeting had arranged an extremely worthwhile seminar at which the key players in waste planning, regulation, collection and disposal had been present to provide comprehensive information to parishes. The seminar had also been attended by city and county councillors from Chester District.

4. Parish Car Park.

The Clerk confirmed that further to minute 7 of the previous meeting, the availability of shrubs was being pursued with the Cheshire Landscape Trust.

5. Leisure Services.

(i) Playing field.

The Clerk reported that following his renewed approach to other landowners as to the possibility of land becoming available for sale, one reply had been received, from Mr D Sandlin, regretting that he was unable to assist. This was noted. He confirmed that further to minute 8 (i) of the previous meeting, the contractor had been informed of the need for the damage to the surface to be rectified in advance of the football event to be organised by the Millennium Group. Councillor Armitage indicated the event had been postponed to the Autumn, possibly at an alternative venue.

(ii) Play Area.

The Clerk had circulated a new inspection rota for the remainder of the calendar year. He reported on graffiti and on damage to an item of equipment which he had notified to the Chairman and to the City Council on 1 June, 1998. The removal of the equipment concerned pending repair was awaited and would be pursued. A spar on the public seat had also been snapped and its replacement had been requested. Councillor Hughes referred to the difficulty in dealing with the amount of litter and damage within the play area. PC Pye had persuaded a number of young people to litter pick the area and his action was to be commended. The Divisional Commander would be informed. Councillor Hughes believed, however that the play area was now in a worse condition than ever before. Councillor Arditti referred to the problem of underage drinking within the play area, many of those involved being from outside the village. The council agreed a suggestion by Councillor Armitage that the Police and Trading Standards should be advised the problem had been drawn to the Council's attention. Copies of the correspondence would be provided to the proprietor of 'Select' for his information. It was also agreed the Clerk should expedite his inquiries into the maintenance required to the safety surfacing.

(iii) Public Footpaths.

(a) Parish Paths Partnership.

The Mid Cheshire Footpath Society were being informed of the Council's view that a diversion order was not necessary in respect of Guilden Sutton no 5/Great Barrow no 2 as described in the parish paths leaflet.

Councillor Hughes reported good sales of the parish map guide. This was welcomed.

(b) Footpath no 2.

It was noted the intended surface dressing had yet to be carried out. This would be pursued by the Clerk.

(c) Mid Cheshire Footpath Society.

The Clerk reported the receipt of the society's walks programme for July - December, 1998. This was noted.

(iv) Pond Life Project.

The Clerk reported receipt of the June 1998 issue of the project newsletter.

(v) Grounds Maintenance.

Further to minute 8 (v) of the previous meeting, the Clerk reported he was to pursue the possibility of additional grass cutting to include the collection of arisings from the first cut.

6. 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.

Councillor Mrs Astbury indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(c) Notification of changes to timetable.

The Clerk reported that having scrutinised the listing of services to and from the Parish provided by the Transport Co-ordination Service for possible inclusion in the newsletter, about which he had some reserve as to their accuracy, he was now minded to include in their place a reference to the contact number for the Cheshire Bus hotline which would also take into account possible difficulties in their reproduction..

(ii) Chester District Public Transport Liaison Committee.

The Clerk indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage as to the next meeting of the committee.

(iii) Accessible public transport services for disabled people.

The notes of a meeting held on 6 May, 199 to discuss district wide accessible transport services for disabled people had been received by the Clerk and would be referred to Councillor Mrs Astbury as Local Bus User Contact.

(iv) Bus Shelters.

The Clerk indicated he was pursuing inquiries to locate a possible cleaning contractor.

(v) New Government funding for public transport.

The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 26 May 1998, of advice from the County Transport Co-ordination Service as to new Government funding for rural transport and seeking views as to new services which should be provided. It was agreed the County Council would be recommended to seek funds to allow an hourly service in the afternoon and the retention of the experimental Sunday service.

7. Highways.

(i) Major schemes.

The Clerk indicated there was nothing to report.

(ii) Local matters.

(a) A 41/Guilden Sutton Lane.

The Clerk indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage other than a small minority of motorists continuing to regard the gap in the central reservation as suitable for two vehicles. He suggested the highway authority might be approached to provide ghost markings in an attempt to reduce the number of such manoeuvres. This was agreed.

(b) Belle Vue Lane.

The Clerk was ascertaining the current position regarding the intended warning sign when approaching the sharp bend from School Lane which if necessary he would raise with the District Engineer.

(c) Footway, Wicker Lane.

In the absence of the Chairman, it was not known what action had been taken to deal with the obstruction of the footway close to the junction with Cinder Lane arising from the branches of trees in an adjoining property.

(d) Speed limit, Guilden Sutton Lane.

Further to minute 10 (f) of the previous meeting, the Clerk was pursuing the request to the highway authority for ghost markings to narrow the road at the approach to the 30 mph limit when proceeding towards the playing field from the diversion. This was agreed.

(e) Moorcroft Crescent.

The Clerk drew Members' attention to a report to the Highways and Transport Joint Committee for Chester of 28 May, 1998 which referred to a start date of August, 1998 for these works with completion in September, 1998. This was noted.

(f) Footway - Middlecroft.

Action by the District Engineer as to the condition of the footway in the vicinity of 4/6 Middlecroft was awaited.

(g) Grass cutting - Heath Bank.

The intended meeting between the District Engineer and Councillor Mrs Astbury to discuss the change in the maintenance regime following the reversion of maintenance to the highway authority was awaited.

(h) Condition - Wicker Lane.

There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the monitoring of the condition of Wicker Lane promised by the District Engineer.

(i) Footway - Oaklands.

There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the intended repairs which it was understood had been put forward for inclusion in the 1998/99 programme.

(j) Turning movements, Willow Cottage.

Further to minute 10 (o) of the previous meeting, the Clerk reported the receipt of a letter from the highway authority, dated 28 May, 1998 referring to their decision to proceed with a sign stating 'industrial units' and the reasons therefore. This was noted with regret.

(k) Street nameplates - Oaklands.

Action by the City Council to attend to the poor condition of the street nameplates at the entrance to Oaklands opposite The Wood was awaited.

(l) District Engineer.

The Clerk was pursuing his proposed meeting with Mr Garner to appraise him of the situation so far as the Parish was concerned.

(iii) street lighting.

Nothing to report.

8. Finance:

(i) income.

Bank of Scotland

interest £ 42.68

A V Wilding

donation £ 50.00

(ii) payments.

Chester Standard

newsletter distribution £ 15.28

Cheshire Community Council

subscription 1998/99 £ 35.00

Cheshire Assn of T and P Councils

(i) publications £ 9.29

(ii) seminar £ 10.00

Mrs R Mort

playing field rent July - Sept £ 137.50

Clerk's postage's

Jan - March 1998 £ 43.06

Clerk's photocopies

June £ 15.25

Proposed by Councillor Hughes

seconded by Councillor Fisher

and agreed.

(iii) balances

Bank of Scotland £10580.81

(iv) Audit.

The Clerk advised Members he 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.

(v) Unity Trust Bank.

Details of this banking service were received and noted.

9. Access to school.

Further to minute 12 of the previous meeting, a response was awaited from the City Council.

10. Environment services:

(i) amenity cleansing.

The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 8 June, 1998 of the revised hourly rate of pay for grant purposes. This was noted. The Warden had also been advised of damage to the lamp post mounted fouling signs in the vicinity of the play area and had been asked if these could be replaced.

(ii) dog fouling.

The Clerk reported he was making further inquiries as to the possible provision of bins in Church Lane.

(iii) lengthsman.

It was noted there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(iv) sewers

It was noted there was nothing further to report at this stage.

11. Trees and hedges.

(i) Tree Preservation Orders.

The Clerk was pursuing his understanding that Tree Preservation Orders had been put forward for a number of trees in School Lane.

(ii) Shrubs, Oaklands.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(iii) Further trees to be protected.

Members would inform the Parish Tree Warden, Councillor Gartland, of any further trees they felt should be protected.

(iv) Damaged tree, the dell.

The Clerk advised he had informed the City Council of damage to a young tree in the dell, This was noted.

12. Cheshire Association of Parish Councils.

(i) Account and audit regulations user guide.

The Clerk reported the receipt of this updated guide.

(ii) Powers and Constitution of Local Councils.

The Clerk reported the receipt of this handbook.

(iii) Seminar 27 June 1998

The Clerk confirmed he would be attending this seminar. Subjects to be discussed included relationships between Clerks and their councils and between Parish and County and District Councils.

(iv) Suppliers Guide and Yearbook.

The Clerk reported the receipt of this yearbook.

13. Chester City Council.

(i) Relationships with the City Council.

See minute 16 (i) above.

(ii) Maintenance of churchyards and burial grounds.

The Clerk reported a possible application under this scheme was being pursued by the PCC with the support of City Councillor B J Bailey.

(iii) Civic Service.

The Clerk reported he understood the service had been attended by the Chairman of the Council.

(iv) Talking Computers Rural Roadshow.

The Clerk confirmed he had advised the City Council of the agreement of the Guilden Sutton Community Association that this event, to be held on 10 July, 1998 might take place on the Village Hall car park.

(v) parish profiles survey 1998.

The Clerk reported the receipt of this survey which he would complete in due course.

(vi) Chester Housing News Summer 1998.

The summer 1998 issue of this magazine was received and noted.

(vii) Christleton Sports Centre summer courses.

Details of these courses were received and noted.

(viii) Summer Holiday Activities 1998

Details of these activities were received and noted.

14. Cheshire County Council.

(i) Cheshire Environment Issue no 53.

Received and noted.

(ii) Archives and Local Studies Newsletter Issue no 12.

Received and noted.

(iii) Envirolink 8 June 1998.

A copy of this bulletin was received and noted.

(iv) Safer Communities Spring 1998.

Received and noted.

(v) Community Care Plan 1998/99.

Received and noted.

15. Cheshire Community Council.

(i) Cheshire Best Kept Village Competition.

The Clerk reminded Members the next 'clean sweep' was scheduled for Saturday 4 July 1998. He reported the receipt, by letter dated 21 May 1998, of a further donation of £50 from Wilding Estates towards the competition. This would be gratefully acknowledged.

(ii) Subscription 1998/99.

It was agreed the council would renew their subscription although it was noted that with the transition to a charitable limited company, the subscription rate had increased significantly.

(iii) Cheshire Cauldron.

The summer 1998 issue was received and noted. Members noted a proposal for charging for this publication in addition to the Community Council subscription. It was agreed a trial subscription would taken up for a period of one year following which the matter would be reviewed.

(iv) Community News and Views Summer 1998.

Received and noted.

16. CPRE.

Correspondence was received and referred to Councillor Whitehouse.

17. Health.

(i) Configuration of primary care groups.

The Clerk reported on this intended reorganisation by the South Cheshire Health Authority which had been the subject of City Council reports to the Environmental and Health Services committee on 8 June 1998 and the Policy and Resources committee on 22 June 1998. It was agreed that an option based on the boundaries of Chester District, as favoured by the City Council, should be supported.

(ii) Chester Local Care Forum June 1998.

Received and noted.

(iii) Future liaison arrangements with Cheshire County Council.

The Clerk drew Members' attention to a report to the Chester City Council Policy and Resources Committee of 22 June 1998 which referred to the decision of the County Council to cease district advisory committees for social services from September 1998. It was noted existing members of the committee favoured their retention or a similar group with a remit for meaningful consultation.

18. Policing matters.

(i) Nuisance.

Members revisited their concerns as to nuisance youths in the vicinity of the play area and village hall car park after the Clerk reported the receipt of a complaint at 11.40pm on a Saturday evening. Councillor Astbury indicated she was also aware of complaints of anti social behaviour towards residents of Arrowcroft Road. Councillor Gartland reported the occupier of 'Select' had faced a considerable charge in calling out a boarding up company out of hours following damage to the side windows of his premises. The Clerk reported the receipt by e mail dated 20 June 1998 of details of proposed project by Mickle Trafford and District Parish Council, involving disaffected young people and inviting the Council to become involved on the basis the problem was beyond the capacity of a single parish and the interchange of young people from surrounding areas. It was agreed the suggestion may have some merit.

(ii) Chester Police Forum 1 June 1998.

The Clerk reported the receipt of the minutes of this meeting. Members were invited to attend the next meeting to be held on Monday 5 October, 1998 at 7.00pm at Constabulary HQ, Chester.

19. Newsletter.

Members expressed their satisfaction with the most recent issue of the newsletter which had been used to promote Local Democracy Week.

20. Millennium Celebrations.

(i) Parish.

The suggestion by the Headteacher that local children should be invited to give their views as to possible changes and developments within the village was being pursued by the Clerk..

Councillor Armitage reported the fete had been extremely successful with the proceeds expected to exceed £1k. Insurance was being arranged through the council's insurers at a cost of £70 plus tax. Councillor Armitage suggested the contribution made by Mrs Buxton should be recognised and that she should be thanked on behalf of the parish. This was agreed.

The Clerk reported the receipt, by e mail dated 20 June, 1998 of a suggestion by Mickle Trafford and District Parish Council that liaison as to dates of millennium events might be beneficial to avoid a clash of dates. The Clerk had referred the council to Mrs Buxton..

(ii) City.

Nothing further to report at this stage.

21. Memorial Garden.

The Clerk would contact Mr Cronin to inform him the Chairman of the Council would be in touch with respect to the future maintenance of the memorial garden.

22. Bulb planting.

Nothing further to report at this stage.

In response to suggestion by City Councillor B J Bailey, the Vice Chairman said he was not aware of any suitable sites within the Parish for the planting of thistles.

23. Land adjoining 2 Summerfield Road.

The Clerk confirmed he was aware that appropriate action was now being taken by the landowner.

24. Periodic Electoral Review.

The Council's view with respect to the proposal by City Councillor B J Bailey for a review of the parish boundaries along the line of the A41 in order to remove anomalies was being conveyed to Councillor Bailey in that Members accepted the logic of the proposal but so far as Guilden Sutton was concerned would not wish to see change to that or any other boundary which was not acceptable to all concerned.

The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 4 June, 1998, of an acknowledgement of their submission to the Secretary of State as to the final recommendations of the Local Government Commission.

25. Web site.

This matter was to be progressed with Mr S Jones by Councillor Hughes. The Clerk indicated an expression of interest by e mail dated 20 June 1998 from Mickle Trafford and District Parish Council.

98/99 039

26. Parking of cars on the footway.

Further to minute 29 of the previous meeting, a Member referred to the parking of private cars on footways in Fox Cover. This would be advised to PC Pye.

27. Local Democracy Week.

Members considered a report by the Clerk that the profile raising event held on Saturday 6 June had been attended by members of the Council led by the Vice Chairman, City and County Councillors, the MP and MEP. The acting chief executive of Cheshire County Council had also attended. Publicity had been obtained in the Chester Chronicle. The use of the Village Hall committee room by kind permission of the Community Association had enabled heavy rain to be avoided and light refreshments provided by the Clerk to be offered. A range of issues had been raised by constituents with those attending ranging from planning to grants available from the City Council. Members wished the Clerk to record their congratulations to him for his organisation of the event.

28. Price limits for water and sewage charges.

A report to the City Council's Environmental and Health Services committee, setting out the City's response to the consultation referred to at minute 32 of the previous meeting had been obtained by the Clerk and was noted.

29. Parishes and IT.

Further to minute 33 of the previous meeting, the Clerk reported he was obtaining from the County Council details of funding available to parish councils particularly for the provision of IT equipment.

30. Chester Council for Voluntary Service newsletter Spring 1998.

Received and noted.

31. Chester Volunteer Bureau news supplement Spring 1998.

Received and noted.

MATTERS CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was proposed by Councillor Gartland, seconded by Councillor Hughes and agreed that the press and public should be excluded for the discussion of the following items on the grounds of 32, 34 and 35 possible enforcement action and 33 details of the financial affairs of a third party.

32. Occupancy of property, School Lane.

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

33. Fencing adjoining Village Hall Car Park.

The Clerk indicated he was awaiting a response from the planning authority as to whether the original planning permission was of any help in delineating curtilages in that area of the village.

34. Enforcement action - industrial premises.

The Clerk indicated he had been informed by the Environment Agency that proceedings in the magistrates court were shortly to be taken in respect of an alleged breach of environmental controls at industrial premises within the parish.

35. Enforcement action - Oaklands.

The Clerk referred to development on the Oaklands estate for which the Council had not received a planning application. The matter was being pursued by the planning authority.

