

GUILDEN SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held in Guilden Sutton Village Hall on Monday 10 April, 2000.

Chairman: Councillor D Fisher.

Apologies: Councillor Astbury, City Councillor B J Bailey, City Councillor J R Boughton.

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

1. Minutes.

The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 13 March, 2000 were proposed by Councillor Gartland, seconded by Councillor Armitage and agreed.

2. Planning.

(i) New applications.

00/00121/FUL, demolition of existing bungalow at Roseville, Belle Vue Lane and erection of two storey dwelling for TNJ Developments, Glene Eshe, Belle Vue Lane. Councillor Armitage declared a non pecuniary interest and took no part in the discussion.

The Clerk reported the application had yet to be determined. The plans had been obtained with the assistance of the planning officer and referred to the Chairman and Councillor Hughes. The Chairman and Councillor Hughes reported having consulted the applicant and adjoining occupiers.

It was agreed that although the principle of redevelopment was accepted, the Council wished to object to the proposal as submitted as the height and scale were excessive and would be generally out of character with existing properties in the immediate vicinity of the site. There was also concern as to the detrimental effect on the visual amenity at present enjoyed by the occupiers of the adjoining property Tabora.

The attention of the planning authority would be drawn to the fact that the response to Q16 of the application stated the maximum height to be 8.5 metres whilst section XX of the plans referred to 8.772 metres. Further, the percentage increase in footprint appeared to be 40 per cent and clarification of policy in this respect would be sought.

It would also be pointed out the location plan did not show properties on the adjoining parts of Oaklands estate and therefore the relationship between the application site and dwellings on Middlecroft and Oaklands (even numbers).

The planning authority would be informed the Council would be minded to withdraw their objection should a revised proposal be submitted which addressed these concerns to their satisfaction.

The Clerk referred to the receipt, by letter dated 6 April, 2000, of a response from the planning officer to the applicant's agent detailing concerns as to the original proposal and outlining amendments which might make the application more acceptable. These were noted by the Council. Enquiries by City Councillor J R Boughton had disclosed that non notification of this application to the Council had resulted from changes in office procedures. This was noted.

00/0310/FUL, new pitched roof to replace existing flat roof to garage at 4 Cinder Lane for Mr. G Jones. Councillor Mrs. Patten reported. It was agreed no objection should be raised.

Cheshire County Council Engineering Service, Guiden Sutton. The Clerk reported the receipt, by e mail dated 14 March, 2000, of informal consultation by the District Engineer as to a proposal by their contractor Jarvis Highway Maintenance to recycle concrete foundations, kerbs, lamp columns and similar materials within the depot confines. This would involve stockpiling approximately 1500 tonnes of materials which would then be crushed to be reused within the highway. The Council had been invited to put forward any concerns or comments.

The Clerk had referred the matter to Councillors Astbury and Armitage. It was agreed the District Engineer should be thanked for the consultation but informed that the Council's view at this stage was that this would be an entirely inappropriate activity given the proximity of the depot to residential dwellings which would suffer a significant loss of amenity due to noise and dust.

Members would be minded to object to any formal proposal. Should the appropriate authority be minded to grant permission, the Council would wish to see this conditioned to an initial temporary period with specified requirements laid down as to dust and noise control methods, monitoring and hours of work.

(ii) Decision notices.

The Clerk reported that none had been received.

(iii) Current applications.

95/01046/FUL, COU of redundant farm buildings to 8 no dwellings, tennis court, garages, driveway and improvements to the highway at The Byatts, (now The Steadings), Wicker Lane for Kilmorey Estates.

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 was to be pursued following the erection of the permanent fencing to the application site.

97/01146/S73, extension of period of time on previous planning permission ref. 6/25443 for erection of circular underground reservoir.

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.

98/00589/FUL, installation of telecommunications radio tower, equipment cabin etc. for Cellnet at Dee Valley water reservoir, Guilden Sutton Lane. It was noted that construction of the mast was now in progress and that the damage to verges reported to the previous meeting would be as a result of this activity and not the construction of the second reservoir as had been thought.

The Clerk had been advised by City Councillor J R Boughton that the existing finish of the mast was to be retained as this would become more recessive. It had been accepted by the planning officer that painting to achieve the same condition would result in ongoing maintenance costs.

A complaint as to electromagnetic fields in the vicinity of the mast from a resident of Moorcroft Crescent had been referred to the Environmental Health Officer but would receive a response in line with National Radiological Protection Board advice.

99/00086/FUL, demolition of kitchen, new kitchen/diner, replacement of flat roof by pitched at 8 Moorcroft Crescent for Mr and Mrs A Wright.

99/00181/COU, change of use of agricultural land to holiday park for 120 touring caravans and 60 tents at Rose Manor Farm, Warrington Road, Mickle Trafford for Fordent Properties. The Clerk reported this application remained active and had recently been considered by the County Council. Their views been sought by the planning authority and the proposal had been strongly opposed on green belt grounds by County Councillor David Rowlands.

99/00275/FUL, two storey extension at 28 Guilden Sutton Lane for Mr and Mrs Webster.

99/00701/FUL, extension and alterations at 66 Oaklands for Mr and Mrs J Croft.

99/00772/FUL, first floor bedroom extension at 5 Cathcart Green for Mr and Mrs D Potter.

99/00829/FUL, dining room, family room and bedroom at 17 Oaklands for Mr and Mrs A Rixon.

99/00900/FUL, two storey side extension at 5 Woodcroft for Mr and Mrs Rahmani-Torkaman.

99/00958/FUL approval of reserved matters for erection of bungalow and detached garage at Woodcote, Wicker Lane for Mr and Mrs J Dernie. It was noted that construction was now in progress.

99/01031/FUL extension for disabled use at Wood Farm for Mr P Gresty.

99/01128/FUL, extension to general purpose stockyard at Meadow Lea Farm, Station Lane, Mickle Trafford for Graham's Agricultural. The Clerk had made a representation to the Traffic

Commissioners on the basis that whilst the present application, understood to be for two no cattle wagons, would not raise any objection, uses beyond those incidental to the operation of the farm of a contracting nature would be resisted. As anticipated, this had been disallowed. He reported the receipt of a robust response from the applicant who had indicated the extent of his operation throughout the country and the decision of the Traffic Commissioners to grant the licence.

Members expressed disappointment at the regulations which prevented Parish Councils from being considered as statutory consultees. This would be pursued with the MP. Councillor Armitage indicated the Association were also raising the matter.

The Development Control Manager had apologised for his inability to attend this meeting. The Clerk was seeking a meeting at the City Council offices given the difficulty of the annual meeting in May accommodating an extended item.

99/01225/FUL, extension to provide granny flat and alterations to front elevation to provide pitched roof over porch/study at 48 Oaklands for Mr and Mrs West.

99/01336/FUL use of granny flat as letting accommodation at The Lodge, School Lane for Mr and Mrs B Blake.

99/01337/COU, storage of 50 no caravans (partly retrospective) at Bankfield Farm, Plemstall Lane for Mr. A Bailey.

Alterations and extensions to unit 3, Wilding Business Estate, Guilden Sutton Lane.

99/01355/FUL, first floor bedroom extension at Croft Cottage, Church Lane for Mr A Paterson.

Proposed new kiln, Castle Cement, Padeswood, Flintshire. It was understood the application had been called in by the National Assembly for Wales.

99/01458/FUL, erection of conservatory and conversion of flat roof to pitched at Tall Trees (formerly The New House), Church Lane for Mr. D Bennion

00/00123/COU, cross country course and change of use of barns

at Milton Brook Lodge, Barrow Lane, Great Barrow for Mr. R Allwood.

(iv) planning: general. (a) current applications. Members considered the present policy of minuting current live applications for information. It was agreed this should continue. Local Members would inform the Clerk should it be appropriate to remove an application from the list. (b) consultation arrangements. At the suggestion of Councillor Hughes, the Council revisited their consultation procedures. It was confirmed the Local Member should not take the lead in any consultation, in line with present practice, but that the Clerk should ensure the appropriate Local Member was informed. A library of location plans would be assembled by the Clerk to assist Members with applications where an appropriate location plan was not submitted.

(v) Strategic Planning.

(a) Chester District Local Plan. The issues surrounding an area of land proposed for inclusion within policy DENV 19 would be pursued at the proposed meeting with the Development Control Manager.

(b) Cheshire 2011. There was nothing further to report.

(c) Cheshire Replacement Waste Local Plan. The Council would respond to the "Our Waste, Our Challenge" consultation document which sought views to inform a proposed strategy for household waste management in Cheshire. Increased recycling would be supported and clarification sought as to future incineration policy.

(d) Local Environment Agency Plan - Dee. This report had been considered by Councillor Gartland. It was noted the Parish lay outside the plan area.

(e) Cheshire Replacement Minerals Local Plan. A complimentary copy was being requested.

3. Parish Car Park.

Business Rates. The Clerk reported on a discussion with City Councillor J R Boughton which had identified that the double rating argument was not strictly applicable as the business rate

was not returned directly to the City Council. The wider issues of double rating and the implications for Parish Council responsibilities had also been explored. It was agreed that no further action should be taken at present although the issue would be revisited in more detail at a future meeting to which a paper would be circulated. In the meantime, it was agreed the discussions as to a possible transfer of the car park to a charitable body should proceed.

4. Leisure Services.

(i) Playing field. The notice prohibiting the playing of golf and the exercising of dogs was being replaced. The disturbance of the surface due to mole activity had been dealt with by Councillor Armitage. Advice would be sought as to their eradication.

(ii) Play Area.

(a) Co-ordination of activities. It was agreed that Councillors Arditti and Patten should lead on the co-ordination of matters relating to the play area in order to achieve momentum.

(b). Safety inspections. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

The possible need for locking nuts on the sprung item of equipment would be further pursued by the Clerk together with action to deal with the protruding seat bolt. The Clerk had obtained details of alternative types of pole mounted litter bins which were referred to Councillors Arditti and Patten.

(b) Safety surfacing. Details and costings of the alternative sources of bark and other safety surfacing materials obtained by the Clerk were referred to Councillors Arditti and Patten

(c) Possible transfer. The Clerk reported on a discussion with City Councillor J R Boughton as to the wider issues of double rating and the implications for Parish Council responsibilities. It was agreed that no further action should be taken at present although the issue would be revisited in more detail at a future meeting to which a paper would be circulated.

(d) Proposed improvement. Correspondence from Mrs. Beresford detailing estimates for the replacement of the front boundary fencing were received and referred to Councillors Arditti and

Patten. The information obtained by the Clerk in connection with the possibility of further development of the play area, including the provision of additional equipment and an extension of the safety surfacing, was similarly referred.

(e) The Clerk was progressing the correspondence in connection with the possibility of pre school groups meeting in the Village Hall becoming involved in ownership of responsibility for day to day maintenance and improvements to the play area, together with the response from the Headteacher expressing his willingness to circulate an appropriate letter to the parents of out of zone children. Copies would be furnished to Councillors Arditti and Patten.

The Headteacher was being thanked for his view that the play area was little used apart from immediately after school and that any funds might be used to provide facilities for the village youth.

(iii) Public Footpaths.

(a) Parish Footpaths Group. Councillor Hughes reported the Footpaths Group had resumed their activities. The Chairman believed the Parish were extremely fortunate to have such a Group and wished to record the Council's appreciation of their work.

(b) Footpath no 2. The Chairman expressed his continuing disquiet at the increasingly unsatisfactory state of the dingle due to the tipping of refuse. It was agreed there should be a further reference in the newsletter. Councillor Hughes believed everything possible should be done to improve the resulting eyesore although the Vice Chairman was conscious this affected private property. The advice of the Services Manager would be sought at a site meeting. It was further noted that the 'no tipping' sign at the access closest to the dell had been removed. This would be investigated.

(iv) Pond Life Project. Councillor Gartland indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(v) Grounds Maintenance. The successful contractor had been informed subject to discussions to include clarification of the term 'as necessary' with relation to the frequency of grass cutting and methods of supervision including progress meetings

and the provision of dockets. A suitable date was being sought and the matter would be progressed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Councillor Hughes drew attention to damage which had occurred to the verges of the Guilden Sutton Lane diversion during early grass cutting caused by wet ground conditions. It was also noted that in some cases emerging daffodils had also been mown. The highway authority would be asked if the contractor could restrict the initial cut in the early part of the season to one metre in width to avoid this. The standard of cutting elsewhere within the Parish was commendable.

(vi) Public seats. Councillors Armitage and Hughes would progress the purchase of two no public seats on the basis of the prices obtained by the Clerk in consultation with Councillors Arditti and Patten.

The Clerk had obtained estimates from two contractors for the maintenance of the existing seats and the parish notice board. Further details would be sought from each prior to a decision being made.

5. Public Transport.

(i) Services: general.

(a) Sunday Service to Guilden Sutton. The Clerk indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage as to the future of this service.

(b) Punctuality. There was nothing further to report in the absence of Councillor Mrs Astbury, Local Bus User Contact.,

(c) Ince/Elton - Chester Business Park. Councillor Armitage indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage as to his request to the County Transportation Service to arrange through ticketing by the operator, Chester City Transport, which would enable passengers from Guilden Sutton to transfer to the 10 and 11 services on Green Lane to provide additional services to and from the City Centre.

Councillor Arditti referred to his continuing dissatisfaction at the lack of destination signing when using this service and the inability of the driver to state the correct fare. This would be

raised at the next meeting of the Chester District Public Transport Liaison Committee.

(d) 1710 ex Chester Bus Exchange. The dissatisfaction expressed by the Chairman as to the lack of adequate destination signing on buses providing this service which made no reference to Guilden Sutton was being referred to the Managing Director.

(ii) Bus Shelters. The County Transport Co-ordination Service had been requested to replace the timetable frames which had been lost with the renewal of bus stop poles within the Parish.

(iii) Chester District Public Transport Liaison Committee. It was noted the next meeting of this committee would take place on 23 May, 2000 at 6.30pm at County Hall.

(iv) Rural Bus Grant . The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 3 April, 2000 of details of an improved rural bus service serving Frodsham, Manley, Mouldsworth, Ashton and Tarvin. This was noted.

6. Highways.

(i) Major schemes: Chester Deeside Transport System. The Clerk reported the receipt of Newsletter no 2 of the Chester Dee Marsh cycle route. Copies would be obtained sufficient for each Member.

He further reported the receipt, by letter dated 5 April, 2000, of concerns expressed by J Skelding Esq., as to the completion of the safe cycling route through to Park Farm which he had referred to City Councillor J R Boughton for advice.

(ii) Local matters.

(a) A 41/Guilden Sutton Lane. Instances of more than one vehicle seeking to cross at any one time and also of other unauthorised movements, were being diared by Members to enable an assessment of the scale of the problem.

(b) Road surface, Guilden Sutton Lane. A response was awaited from the District Engineer as to the egress of water onto the carriageway at both the Guilden Sutton Lane and Belle Vue Lane bridges.

(c) Chevron signs, The Byatts. The fixing of the requested chevron signs was awaited.

(d) School Lane closure. No further response had been received from Royal Mail as to the restoration of the mail box to the previous location adjoining the layby opposite the old school house. The Chairman expressed his renewed concerns as to the road safety implications of the present location and Royal Mail would be pressed for action.

(e) Wicker Lane. Further to the site meeting held on 26 January, 2000, the Clerk reported the receipt, by e mail dated 15 March, 2000, of a detailed response from the Principal Engineer as to the actions which were to be taken. These were the provision of a further 'slow' road marking on the village approach to the narrow section and an assessment of present signing to determine if improvements were required. The Police would also be requested to consider if the co-operation of the drivers of large agricultural machinery could be obtained when travelling along the narrow length. The request for a further traffic count in the vicinity of Hillcrest was refused. The Principal Engineer had confirmed the highway authority were aware of the application for a Goods Vehicle Operating Centre licence at Meadow Lea Farm.

(f) Ditch, Belle Vue Lane. The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 18 March, 2000, of advice from City Councillor J R Boughton to adjoining occupiers as to the present position with respect to the foul condition and malodorous nature of the ditch on the north side of Belle Vue Lane between Belle Vue Farm and The Orchards. This was noted. Members believed the ditch also fed a number of ponds on adjacent farmland and this would drawn to the attention of the Environment Agency.

(g) Highways and Transportation LJC for Chester. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(h) Structural Maintenance Rolling Programme 2000-2001. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to the proposals submitted by the District Engineer in Belle Vue Lane, Wicker Lane and Arrowcroft Road for which funding had yet to be allocated.

(i) Station Lane. Councillor Patten confirmed action had been taken to rectify the Parish speed limit sign in Station Lane which

had been subject to graffiti.

(j) finger post signs. The Clerk had obtained estimates from two contractors for the maintenance of the three no fingerpost signs within the Parish. Further details would be sought from each prior to a decision being made.

(k) The Vetches. The Clerk reported advice from City Councillor J R Boughton that a damaged street nameplate was to be replaced. This was noted.

(l) The Chairman referred to damaged gas markers in the verge at the junction of School Lane and Oaklands opposite The Wood. This would be drawn to the attention of Transco.

(m) Drains. The Chairman referred to concerns expressed by Mrs. E Hughes as to the condition of drains on an adjoining length of Guilden Sutton Lane, thought to have been compressed by the use of the road by HCVs. The District Engineer would be asked to inspect.

(iii) Strategic: Cheshire Local Transport Plan. Councillor Armitage had attended the seminar held at County Hall on 20 March, 2000. It was agreed a response should be made to the consultation document suggesting that more money should be made available to promote schemes to encourage walking and cycling which could be achieved with very little detriment to other much large budgets. Representations would also be made to ensure the completion of the safe cycling route to Park Farm.

The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 23 March, 2000, of an invitation to the Council to attend a workshop at St. Mary's Centre on Thursday 13 April, 2000 at 1000. This was noted.

It was further noted the consultation period would end on 30 April, 2000 for those Members wishing to provide individual comments.

(iv) Street lighting.

(a) additional light, Station Lane. The Clerk reported the receipt on 17 March, 2000 of an intimation by City Councillor J R Boughton that at the request of residents, he had facilitated the provision of an additional street light in Station Lane using an existing pole. This was noted and City Councillor Boughton would

be thanked although Members expressed the view they would have welcomed prior consultation on this matter.

(b) Faults. A fault opposite the former primary school would be reported.

7. Finance:

(i) income.

Bank of Scotland

interest (March) £ 27.90

Chester City Council

precept £9,545.00

(ii) payments.

Chester City Council

First half year business rate £ 293.80

Chester Standard

newsletter distribution £ 9.40 (VAT £1.40)

Gresty

scavenging £ 296.10 (VAT £44.10)

Audit Commission

fee 1998/99 £ 812.63 (VAT £121.03)

Mrs R Mort

playing field rent

April - June £ 137.50

Cheshire Community Council

Best Kept Village Comp.

Entry fee £ 20.00

Cheshire Community Council

Membership fee 2000/01 £ 37.00

CATPCs

Subscription 2000/01 £ 181.80

Local Council Review (2) £ 19.98

£ 201.78

D Fisher Esq: *

Web site £ 120.88

Planting survey £ 8.43

Millennial hanging £ 7.54

£ 136.85

S & H Services

shelter cleansing £ 10.00

Devaprint

newsletter £ 25.00

Clerk:

Salary (Jan - March) £ 630.00

Stationery £ 10.49 (VAT £1.56)

Photocopies (March)

517 @5p £ 25.85

Mileage (March)

20 @ 20p £ 4.00

£ 670.34

Proposed by Councillor Gartland

seconded by Councillor Hughes

and agreed.

* Full details of these payments were circulated in advance of the meeting for Members' consideration. Approval of this payment was conducted with the Vice Chairman in the Chair.

(iii) balances

Bank of Scotland £9,430.62

(iv) Audit. (a) Internal. The accounts would be presented to Councillor Hughes in due course. (b) External. The Clerk reported a response was awaited from the Auditor.

The invitation from the Audit Commission for the Council to take part in a pilot self selection scheme was being progressed. The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 31 March, 2000, of the tender documents together with a great deal of supporting information to be made available to tenderers. As agreed at the previous meeting, two private sector practices together with Mr. T Maddock (District Audit) would be invited to tender with the successful tenderer required to be notified to the Audit Commission by 19 May, 2000. The Clerk confirmed the Council had also indicated a wish to be incorporated for tendering purposes within the consortium being formed by Elton PC.

8. Access to school.

(i) adjoining 17 Hill Top Road. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(ii) rear of Village Hall. It was noted one no Cherry tree had been damaged by vandals. The Clerk indicated he had discussed its possible replacement informally with Mr. D Henderson following his recent appointment to the City Council. It was also possible a replacement may be available at some stage through an approach to the MANWEB contractor, Euro Tree Service, who had offered two trees at no cost to the Parish.

9. Environment services:

(i) amenity cleansing. It was noted action had now been taken by the City Council to deal with the remains of the Autumn fall on Porters Hill. The Chairman's disquiet at the volume of litter on Guilden Sutton Lane was being referred to the City Council. Blown litter in the vicinity of the highways depot and Topaz would be drawn to the attention of the occupiers.

(ii) dog fouling. The Dog Warden had confirmed a lower specification pole would be acceptable for mounting the proposed bin in the hollows for the reception of canine faeces. This would be discussed with the grounds maintenance contractor. A vandalised faeces bin to the rear of Orchard Croft would be reported. A response was awaited from the Dog Warden as to the availability of a sign prohibiting dogs within the play area.

Details were received and noted of the current anti fouling campaign promoted by the City Council together with an advisory leaflet "Scoop the poop" issued by the DETR.

A reference to the degree of fouling in the vicinity of Willow Cottage would be included in a future edition of the newsletter.

(iii) lengthsman. Nothing to report.

(iv) sewers. Nothing to report.

10. Trees and hedges.

(i) Cheshire Landscape Trust. Councillor Gartland indicated there was nothing further to report at this stage.

(ii) Hedgerow Local Biodiversity Action Plan. The papers for the proposed survey of hedgerows were being furnished to Councillor

Gartland.

(iii) Oak, Arrowcroft Road. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(iv) TPOs. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(v) hedge, Cinder Lane. The Clerk reported the inside face of the Cinder Lane hedge had now been cut.

(vi) overhanging hedges. An appropriate note had appeared in the newsletter with respect to instances of hedges overhanging the footway.

11. Cheshire Association of Parish Councils.

Local Council Review, March 2000 - received and noted.

12. Chester City Council.

(i) Local Panel 6. The Clerk had informed Members of the postponement of this meeting to 6 April, 2000 and had attended himself. The agenda had included an extensive presentation on policing of the rural area and the planned relaunch of Homewatch, details of a proposed survey of housing need in the rural area, proposals for a district wide credit union, reference to the payment of benefits at post offices and discussion of the problems of traffic speed on rural roads.

(ii) Chester in Partnership Rural Forums. The questionnaire had been completed and returned to the City Council.

(iii) Cheshire Fine Food Trail. The Clerk would obtain sufficient copies of this leaflet for each Member.

(iv) Parish Contact List. Copies had been circulated to each Member.

(v) Chester News Spring 2000. Received and noted.

(vi) Community Grant Aid 2000/2001. Details of this source of funding was received and noted.

(vii) Council 12 April 2000. The agenda and supporting minutes

were received and referred to Councillor Gartland.

13. Cheshire County Council.

(i) Annual conference. There was nothing further to report following this conference.

(ii) Draft economic development statement. Received and noted.

(iii) Chester Matters no 15. Received and noted.

14. Cheshire Community Council.

(i) Cheshire Best Kept Village competition. The Parish's entry had been submitted. A letter was received from Mr and Mrs Williams, Select, Summerfield Road, indicating their retirement, expressing support for the competition and describing the difficulties they had encountered in caring for the surrounds of their property during their 17 years as shopkeepers.

(ii) Rural Transport Partnership. Details of the launch of this partnership, to take place on 13 April, 2000 at 10.00am at Tatton Park, were received by letter dated 23 March, 2000 and noted.

(iii) Liverpool Airport. Promotional material was received and noted.

(iv) Rural Opportunities Fund. Details of this fund were received and noted.

(v) Raising Money from Trusts. A copy of this informative leaflet was received and noted.

(vi) Community News and Views Winter 2000. A copy of this newsletter was received and noted.

(vii) Chester District Rural Community Car Scheme. Details of this scheme were received and noted.

(viii) Cheshire Cauldron March 2000. A copy of this newsletter was received and noted.

(ix) Briefing no 3 Affordable Rural Housing. A copy of this

briefing was received and noted.

(x) Briefing no 6 Village Appraisals. A copy of this briefing was received and noted.

(xi) Briefing no 8 Village Local Agenda 21. A copy of this briefing was received and noted.

(xii) Briefing no 9 Village Design Statements. A copy of this briefing was received and noted.

15. CPRE.

(i) Chester District AGM 23 March, 2000. This correspondence had been referred to Councillor Whitehouse.

(ii) The Future of Agriculture in Cheshire. Details of this seminar held on 8 April 2000 had been referred to Councillor Whitehouse.

(iii) Membership Card 2000. Received.

(iv) CPRE Voice. Received and referred to Councillor Whitehouse.

(v) Publications. Received and referred to Councillor Whitehouse.

16. Health.

A copy was received and noted of the annual report for 1998/99 of the Chester and Ellesmere Port CHC.

17. Policing matters.

(i) Seminar 30 March, 2000. Councillor Armitage and the Clerk had attended this seminar held at 7.00pm on 30 March, 2000 at the Memorial Hall, Northwich at which the policing of the rural area had been discussed together with crime figures and changes proposed by the police to improve their performance.

(ii) Local Policing. The Clerk reported the intended meeting with the new police officer for Guilden Sutton had yet to take place as he had been informed by City Councillor J R Boughton that the appointment was now to be filled by PC R Tack. It was known that PC Tack was familiar with the Parish. PC Tack would be

invited to the annual parish meeting.

(iii) Chester Police Forum minutes 17 January 2000. Received and noted.

(iv) Chester Police Forum agenda 10 April, 2000. Received and noted.

(v) Chester Police Forum dates of future meeting. It was noted that future meetings of the Forum would take place on 10 July, 2000 and 2 October 2000.

(vi) Cheshire Policing Plan 2000/2001. Received and noted.

(vii) Policing Standards 2000/2001. Received and noted.

(viii) Lay Visiting Scheme. Details of this scheme were received and noted.

18. Newsletter.

Issue no 65 would appear on 13 April, 2000

19. Millennium Celebrations.

(i) Parish. The Chairman displayed the Council's panel for the Millennial Hanging and was congratulated on the design.

(ii) City Council. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(iii) National. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

20. Memorial Garden.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

21. Bulb planting.

The Chairman had completed a photographic survey to establish the progress of planting throughout the Parish.

22. Periodic Electoral Review.

(i) Chester. There was nothing further to report at this stage as to progress with the proposed meeting between Christleton, Littleton and Guilden Sutton to discuss boundary issues.

(ii) Cheshire. The Government's decision with respect to the Local Government Commission's final recommendations for Cheshire was awaited.

23. Web site.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

24. Involvement of youth.

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

25. Parking: Arrowcroft Road.

The incidence of obstruction by vehicles collecting pupils attending out of school clubs was being monitored. The matter would be referred to PC Tack. Councillor Arditti reported a stiff letter had been distributed to parents by the Headteacher.

26. Primary school.

The Chairman, in his role as minor authority governor, reported on current matters. He regretted the annual finance meeting had been fixed for the 10th instant, preventing his attendance.

27. Future business prospects of sub post offices.

The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated 27 March, 2000 of a response from Mrs. C M Russell MP containing an assurance that the option of the payment of benefits in cash at the post office would continue. This was noted.

28. Outbuildings adjoining footpath no 2.

This would be pursued at the proposed meeting with the Development Control Manager.

29. Cheshire Fire Brigade, local performance plan 2000/2001.

Received and noted.

30. Abolition of Parish Councils.

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter dated 22 March, 2000 from Mrs. C M Russell MP containing an assurance the Government had no plans to abolish parish councils and extending her own and the Government's thanks to Members and the Clerk for their hard work put into democracy at the local level.

31. Noise nuisance.

The complaint as to noise nuisance arising from the riding of motorcycles on farmland by children had been pursued.

32. Profile of the Parish.

It was noted that coverage of Parish affairs in the local media had increased. Members expressed their appreciation to the Clerk for his efforts.

33. Heritage Lottery Fund.

Details of this fund were received and noted.

34. North West Shires Policy Unit Communique issue no 5. Received and noted.

MATTERS CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was proposed by Councillor Armitage, seconded by Councillor Gartland and agreed that the press and public should be excluded for the discussion of the following items on the grounds of the likely disclosure of exempt information.

35. Occupancy of property, planning condition.

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

36. Enforcement action - industrial premises.

See 2 (iv) above.

37. Sale of Land

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

38. Provision of recreational facilities.

A response was awaited from the interested party to discuss the proposal on a strict without prejudice basis.

39. Personal injuries.

The incidence of personal injuries allegedly arising when crossing private land was being brought to the attention of the owner. A Member referred to a request from a third party with an interest in the condition of the area for assistance in contacting the owner thereof. The Clerk indicated the information had previously been passed to the third party. Further enquiries would be made to ascertain its accuracy.

40. Meadow Lea Farm.

The Council's interest in the area identified for use as a parish playing field was being confirmed to the agent.

41. Policing.

A Member referred to an act of vandalism in the vicinity of the Member's address. It was noted the Police had been advised.

A Member referred to a number of arrests which had taken place at a tenanted property within the Parish for drugs related offences and other matters. It was noted the persons concerned had been charged and bailed. It was not known if they had returned to the address or if a number of recent thefts of property from adjoining premises was related.