

## Guilden Sutton Parish Council

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 19 April, 2004 in Guilden Sutton Village Hall.

Chairman: Cllr D Fisher.

Present: Cllrs Armitage, Astbury, Bayton, Fisher, Hughes, Paterson, Proudlove, Young.

In attendance: PC R Boulton.

### Public Speaking Time

There was no public speaking.

1 Apologies. County Cllr J E Burke, City Cllr B J Bailey, City Cllr J R Boughton.

2 Procedural matters.

(i) Declarations of interest. There were no declarations of interest.

(ii) Confirmation of the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Monday 8 March, 2004. It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Bayton and agreed that the minutes should be approved as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

add `by Monday 15 March 15, 2004' after `City Council Tree Officer' in minute 5 (iii) (b).

replace `the' after `held with' in minute 6 (i) with `a.'

replace `existing' after `A plan of the' in the minute 20 (a) with `proposed new.'

Cllr Hughes requested that details of the 2004/05 budget should be appended to the minutes. This was agreed. Cllr Hughes further referred to the desirability of the minutes reflecting spending under the contingency heading. This was also agreed.

(iii) Action list. The Clerk would confirm there were no outstanding actions.

3 Planning:

(i) new applications:

04/00268/FUL side and rear extension at 69 Oaklands CH3 7HG for Mr Hawkin. Further inquiries had been made by Cllrs Armitage and Bayton. A

recommended response had been considered by the Chairman who had canvassed the opinions of other Members. The following observations had been made:

^ The total increase of 70% in the living accommodation of this modest semi detached house is considerably in excess of the City Council's guideline of 30% and this may constitute over development. The proposed removal of the garage would reduce provision for car parking to a single space serving a four bedroomed property on the basis of existing provision. This part of Oaklands is on the approach to a bend with limited visibility where concerns due to on street parking have already been brought to the attention of the highway authority and to the police. The Council would be concerned about any proposal from the applicant to provide replacement curtilage parking on such a small frontage. If this were to be repeated on other adjoining dwellings, there would be an adverse impact on the street scene in this prominent location. Should the City Council be minded to approve the proposal, the Council requests a condition that no first floor window should be inserted into the elevation facing 1 - 7 Cathcart Green in view of concerns raised by the occupiers of these properties.'

04/00300/FUL (neighbouring parish notification.) conservatory at Meadow Lea Farm, Station Lane, Mickle Trafford for J Graham. The Clerk reported the receipt of this application. It was agreed no observations would be made.

04/00457/FUL single storey extension, roof light to main roof at 16 Guiden Sutton Lane CH3 7EY for Mr and Mrs O'Brien. Cllr Hughes reported. It was noted the proposals included a 2.25 metre extension forward of the front elevation of the property. Cllr Hughes indicated this was greater than other front projections on Guiden Sutton Lane. The Chairman believed there had been a consistent effort by other occupiers to maintain the street scene. Cllr Bayton expressed concern at the danger of a precedent being set. **It was agreed an objection should be made to the proposed extension on the front elevation of the property due to its impact on the street scene. No objection would be raised to a proposed extension at the rear of the dwelling house.**

(ii) Decision notices.

04/00045/FUL replace existing flat roof over garage and study at front of house with a pitched roof over garage and sloping roof over study at 2 Orchard Croft CH3 7SL for B Clayton. Planning permission.

(iii) Appeals.

03/01546/OUT two storey dwelling in part of garden at Newhall Rise, School Lane, CH3 7EU for Mr and Mrs J Cox. Further inquiries had been made by Cllr Fisher. The following response had been submitted to the planning inspectorate.

Further to my Council's written objection to this application to the local planning authority, a copy of which you will have, I am asked to say the Council is aware of the statement by the appellant that the proposed access has been used by vehicles for business purposes for a number of years. The Council has no knowledge of this activity and further consultations with adjoining occupiers have not led to the discovery of evidence which would support this position.'

(iv) General.

03/00183/FUL (amended) rear single storey extension at 6 School Lane CH3 7ET for Mrs S Button. The Clerk reported he had visited the local planning authority and had the benefit of a sight of the case officer's file. This revealed that following the refusal of amended plans, further alterations had been made and referred to the planning authority which enabled the proposal to be constructed under permitted development rights. Cllr Armitage expressed the opinion that the Parish Council should have been advised that the planning file had been closed. **Action: Planning officer to be informed that such advice would have been welcome.**

(b) Article 4 Direction. Further to the Council revisiting its understanding that the Oaklands Estate was the subject of an Article 4 Direction and planning applications were required for all proposals as permitted development rights had been withdrawn, the Clerk reported the receipt of advice per City Cllr J R Boughton by letter dated March 11, 2004. Inquiries by Cllr Boughton had disclosed that Article 4 Directions only applied in conservation areas and had confirmed that all permitted development rights on Oaklands had been removed part from those for standard satellite dishes. In this respect, very large dishes usually placed on the ground would require planning permission. **Action: noted. Reference to be included in the newsletter.**

Policies for House extensions. Cllr Hughes referred to consultation documents on proposals for a house extension policies prepared by both Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council and a Vale Royal Borough Council which had been obtained by the Clerk. He believed the documents to be extremely useful, particularly that prepared by Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council. **Action: Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council consultation document on household extension policies to be circulated to all Members .**

(v) Strategic

(a) Chester District Local Plan, further proposed modifications. The Clerk reported the Chester District Local Plan was now expected to be adopted in the 2005. Consultations had been completed on proposed modifications following the publication of the inspector's report and decisions had been recommended to the full City Council by the Cabinet. Following the receipt of

legal advice, a second public inquiry was to be held to deal specifically with housing issues in Farndon. The hearings were expected to take place in the autumn and would be relatively brief with the inspector reporting within weeks rather than months. (b) Draft deposit structure plan alteration. Cllr Armitage reported the County Council was consulting on a review of the structure plan with comments due by Wednesday May 19, 2004. It was noted that the number of new homes to be built in Cheshire by the end of the plan period in 2016 would be reduced considerably in order to assist the regeneration of the urban area within the region. In Chester District, the possible reduction was 50%. The Clerk reported the City Council was preparing a supplementary planning guidance on this issue. In Wirral, except for exceptional circumstances, no new house building was now permitted on the west of the peninsula. **Action: Cllr Armitage to review proposals and prepare a submission.**

4 Parish car park. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

5 Leisure Services.

(i) Playing field (a) repairs to surface. It was understood the intended repairs to the playing surface had yet to be carried out by the grounds maintenance contractor. **Action: To be raised at a progress meeting with the grounds maintenance contractor to be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday April 24.**

(b) basketball equipment. It was reported that protruding bolts had been removed from the basketball equipment by the grounds maintenance contractor.

(c) provision of litter bin. Prices had been obtained by Cllr Paterson. **Action: Neighbouring occupiers to be consulted, bin to be fixed and emptied on a regular basis by grounds maintenance contractor.** Cllr Proudlove kindly agreed to accept delivery of the bin.

(ii) Play area. (a) improvement scheme. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk had met on March 16, 2004 to progress the application for Lottery funding and consider the basis of the further application to the Gowy North Area Committee for grant. The installation of the first phase of the equipment was expected in early June. It was noted the contractor needed to be aware of school hours issues. **Action: Contractor to be requested to consult Guiden Sutton Community Association as to access.** (b) CCTV. Cllr Proudlove had approached the installation contractor as to the availability of suitable signs which had been provided at modest cost. Cllr Proudlove was thanked for her endeavours. (c) annual inspection, Chester City Council. The Clerk had confirmed with the City Council that annual inspections in 2004 and subsequent years would be arranged by the City Council at no charge. (d) inspection rota. A check list to assist other Members had been prepared by Cllr Armitage and Cllr Paterson. Copies would be provided to each Member of the Council and it was expected the completed forms would be submitted to the next Council meeting and filed. (e) Safety report. Cllr Paterson requested

that a copy of the most recent safety inspection report should be made available. **Action: The Clerk.**

(iii) Public Rights of Way.

(a) Rights of Way Improvement Plan, further correspondence per Public Rights of Way Unit. This correspondence, by letter dated 2 March 2004, was being referred to the Parish Paths Warden. **Action: The Clerk.**

(b) Status of Footpath No. 7. The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence per Dr and Mrs L G Turton by letter dated March 13, 2004. He further reported the receipt of an acknowledgement from Mrs Christine Russell MP, by letter dated March 11, 2004 of the Council's submission to the Minister as to the use of byways open to all traffic by mechanically propelled vehicles. The Parish Council's letter is set out beneath:

' You will know that the Minister (Alun Michael) is presently consulting on the issue of the use of rights of way by mechanically propelled vehicles. I should be most grateful if you would inform the Minister that Guilden Sutton Parish Council totally supports the view that it should not be possible to use evidence of the existence of a highway predating the invention of the internal combustion engine as an argument to justify a claim for higher status enabling the right of way to be used by mechanically propelled vehicles under the 'once a road, always a road' principle. The Council is in agreement with the concept of a restricted byway with an unsealed surface upon which mechanically propelled vehicles would be prohibited.'

The survey of trees on the path by Cllrs Armitage, Hughes and Bayton had been referred to the City Council Tree and Woodlands Officer who had been asked to consider the possibility of tree preservation orders for most of the significant trees within the green lane. The Clerk reported an informal response that the officer had inspected the route but did not believe that any of the trees were worthy of TPOs. It was agreed that further clarification should be sought. **Action: The Clerk.** The Clerk was making further inquiries as to the possibility of seeking an affidavit from Mr A Willis. **Action: The Clerk.** Cllr Armitage reported that further to his letter to Mrs Russell suggesting that orders with respect to byways open to all traffic should not be progressed given the consultations being carried out by the Government, he had received a reply from the Minister indicating that pre-emptive traffic regulation orders could be taken to prevent the use of byways open to all traffic by mechanically propelled vehicles. The Clerk reported he had attended the meeting of the Rights of Way Committee held on Monday March 29, 2004 having previously submitted an objection which had been circulated to all Members of the committee. Separate site visits had been made by the Chairman of the committee and by a Member. The Rights of Way Officer had recommended that as no new circumstances had been disclosed since the previous meeting of the committee, the order should be made. This had been agreed by the committee but with a strong recommendation that the minutes

should refer to a traffic regulation order being taken. Following the decision, the Chairman of the committee had unusually complimented the Council on the quality of its presentation. The Council's submission had been as follows:

**Green Lane, public footpath 7, Guilden Sutton  
Proposed upgrading to byway open to all traffic.**

1 Guilden Sutton Parish Council OBJECTS to the proposed upgrading of this footpath to a byway open to all traffic.

2 The Parish Council opposes this recommendation for the reasons set out by the Minister in his foreword to the consultation document considered at agenda item 5 of the meeting of 26 January 2004. We also believe it is premature.

3 There is considerable frustration that this recommendation has arisen at all.

It comes before you simply because Guilden Sutton 7, otherwise known as Green Lane, appears on the same maps as Hoole/Mickle Trafford 1, otherwise known as Garners Lane, part of which is to be used as a safe route to school. This scheme is being promoted both by the County Council and Guilden Sutton Parish Council and we are pleased that funding is now in place which will enable it to proceed. The further extension of the Sustrans cycleway to Station Lane, Mickle Trafford, which is now part of the scheme, will considerably reduce any need for a change in the status of Guilden Sutton 7.

4 The Parish Council was first notified of the proposal to upgrade the status of Guilden Sutton 7 in October, 2003 and a recommendation was placed before the committee at your last meeting, a timescale of less than four months. Might I draw your attention to the milestone targets statement published by the Rights of Way Unit in Cheshire Signpost summer 2003 which contains at least 13 references to constraints on staff or financial resources, beginning on the first page where there is a reference to no less than 44 applications on record for which investigations had yet to be started. This was the same number outstanding as the previous year. The Parish Council is mystified that this recommendation has proceeded with such great expedition when a great many other applications which possibly predate it appear to be outstanding. Given it is understood there is sufficient opposition to this recommendation to suggest a public inquiry is likely, it is difficult to see why it has been progressed so urgently.

5 The Parish Council strongly believes a decision should be deferred as the Minister's consultations are not yet concluded. These could lead to measures which would remove the possibility of routes which may have never been used by mechanically propelled vehicles being opened up to these vehicles purely on the basis of historical evidence as to their existence. The Minister has already rehearsed the anxieties to which the present situation gives rise and it

does seem strange to us that the County Council should be seeking to open up the possibility of mechanically propelled vehicles using these routes when evidence suggests a problem has been identified with this and action is likely. The County Council rightly prides itself on its excellent status and this does not seem to us to sit comfortably with a decision to pre-empt the outcome of consultations which could well deal with the objections which have arisen.

6 In addition, consultations have yet to begin on draft deposit alterations in connection with the structure plan review which include arguments produced by the County Planning Officer which appear to be devastating in terms of their support for the Parish Council's position. To quickly paraphrase, there is reference to the need to safeguard, manage and promote footpaths, bridleways and cycle ways within the county. There follows in bold type a proposed policy which says that footpaths, bridleways and cycle ways will be established, improved and protected. There is no reference to the introduction of BOATS.

In a following paragraph there appear words which underline the Parish Council's view that a decision should be deferred. These state:

'The aim is to create a county wide network for walkers horse riders and cyclists appropriate to current and future needs and safeguarding the traditional character of established routes.'

The introduction of a BOAT we would argue in the strongest possible terms can hardly be expected to safeguard the traditional character of an established route.

7 Conclusion. The Parish Council believes a decision today would be premature in view of the fact that important consultations by both the Minister and the County Council itself which fundamentally affect the character of this route are yet to be concluded. Given the County Council would have a duty to maintain the surface in a safe condition for the users entitled to use the byway, it would also give the opportunity for the cost of any necessary improvements and ongoing maintenance to be considered set against restrictions on the County Council's budget. Importantly it would also enable the detail of the safe route to school to be settled.

Should the committee be minded to proceed to an order, we would argue in the strongest possible terms that a traffic regulation order for Guilden Sutton 7 should proceed at the same time.

/gspc 290304

Cllr Hughes reported the Parish Paths Group had met and had discussed the issue.

(c) Fencing, the hollows. The Clerk was to raise the matter with the Parish

Paths Warden. **Action: The Clerk.**

(iv) Grounds maintenance. (i) annual contract. The Clerk reported the receipt, dated March 12, 2004 of an estimate by Gresty for grounds maintenance within the parish during the 2004 season. This included an increase in the price of grass cutting on the playing field as this had previously been set at an uneconomic level. It was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Astbury and agreed that the estimates should be accepted. **Action: grounds maintenance contractor to be informed.**

The Clerk confirmed that further estimates were being sought from alternative contractors in order to establish a benchmark. **Action: The Clerk.** (b) Chester City Council. The Clerk reported the receipt, by letter dated March 19, 2004, of an invitation for the parish's grounds maintenance requirements to be included within a district wide contract. This was intended to achieve the required maintenance standards through a nationally competitively advertised contract with the benefits of economies of scale. The Council would be recharged accordingly. **Action: information to be provided by the Clerk.**

(v) Public seats. There was nothing further to report to the stage.

(vi) Landscaping, Fox Cover. Further planting had been carried out by Cllr Bayton. Cllr Bayton was thanked for his endeavours.

(vii) Provision for youth. Councillor Paterson reported she was in contact with the youth service and was endeavouring to agree possible dates for an initial meeting to discuss with young people within the parish the provision which might be appropriate.

6 Public transport.

(i) provision of seats in shelters. The Clerk reported that further to the site meeting with a contractor, a quotation had been received, dated March 8, 2004, in the sum of £503.75 for the supply and fixing of bench type seating to 3 no. bus shelters. It was proposed by Cllr Paterson, seconded by Cllr Young and agreed that the estimate should be accepted. **Action: Contractor to be informed.** (ii) Proposed subsidised bus service reductions. The Clerk reported his understanding that an early morning 84 service through the village, for which transport coordinators believed there was an alternative, would be withdrawn from mid July. (iii) advice re Parish Transport Grant. The Clerk reported further on correspondence with the Cheshire Community Council as to the Parish Council expressing an interest in proceeding with an application for Parish Transport Grant linked to the preparation of a parish plan in the financial year 2004/05. Regrettably, an outline expression had been sought at little notice and in discussion with the Chairman and Vice-chairman it had seemed sensible not to proceed at this stage given the amount of community input which would be required and which the council had not had an opportunity to consider. **Action: Matter to be revisited at a**

later date.

7 Highways:

(i) Major schemes: (a) cycle way - Chester Cycle Working Party 10 March 2004. The Clerk reported he had attended this meeting at which it had been intimated that details of a scheme including an extension to Station Lane, Mickle Trafford were being prepared and funding of £500,000 would be available from the North West Development Agency. This was welcomed. It was noted in particular that the further extension of the cycle way to Mickle Trafford would relieve pressure on any increase in the future use of Guilden Sutton public footpath No. 7.

(ii) local matters:

(a) Equestrian warning signs. Cllr Proudlove had previously indicated these were now expected to be erected in mid May. (b) Speed trailer. The Police and the highway authority were being informed of the results of the survey carried out in January. Inquiries were in hand as to the future availability of the trailer (c) Guilden Sutton Lane. The highway authority was being thanked for the signing carried out at the approach to School Lane and for the modifications to the local safety scheme. Cllr Astbury confirmed, in response to an inquiry, that it was an offence to park on the chevron markings in the centre of the road (d) Wicker Lane. Further to the reference by Cllr Fisher to a road traffic accident which had occurred in the vicinity of the junction with Church Lane, the possibility of slow markings being provided had been raised with the highway authority. A response was awaited. Cllr Proudlove referred to a series of white and blue markings on the road. **Action: inquiries to be made by the Clerk.** Cllr Proudlove further referred to an increase in the numbers of heavy goods vehicles using Wicker Lane. (e) Maintenance, A51. A letter had been sent to the County Engineer seeking details of the arrangements should this scheme proceed in summer 2004. The Clerk reported the receipt of advice, by letter dated March 31, 2004 that phase one of the scheme, involving kerbs and footways, would commence on June 1, 2004 and phase two, the reconstruction of the carriageway, on July 20, 2004 with completion due September 2, 2004. During phase two, the A51 would be open only to westbound traffic to Chester via a one way traffic system between the A54 Tarvin and A55 Littleton roundabouts. The road would be closed to eastbound traffic with this traffic being diverted by 'A' roads and/or motorways. The Clerk reported that Hare Lane, Guilden Sutton Lane, School Lane and Wicker Lane were shown as local access routes to Littleton during this phase. In negotiation with the County Council he had obtained an assurance that the proposed temporary 30 mph limit on Wicker Lane would apply for the whole period of the contract and not only for phase two. This was welcomed. (f) speed limit, A 41. A formal response was awaited from the highway authority following the Council's request for an extension of the 50 mph limit at present in place on

adjoining lengths of the A41 to include the junction with Guilden Sutton Lane.

(b) The Clerk understood that the accident record on the A41 between Upton and Sainsburys roundabout was to be reviewed and the outcome of that review might include a lower speed limit. (g) pothole, Oaklands. Cllr Peterson referred to a developing pothole outside 47 Oaklands. (h) Carriageway, Arrowcroft Road. Cllr Hughes referred to a deterioration in the condition of the carriageway on Arrowcroft Road. **Action: Matter to be referred to the District Maintenance Engineer.**

(iii) Street lighting. There were no faults to report.

## 8 Finance

### (i) income

(March) Chester City Council Churchyard maintenance grant	£ 250.00
(March) Bank interest	£ 17.78
(Apr) Chester City Council precept	£11,388.00

### (ii) payments

Deva Forge repairs to fingerpost	£ 58.75 (includes £8.75 VAT)
S & H Services, shelter cleaning	£ 12.00
CATPCs subscription	£ 232.65
Local Council Review	<u>£ 25.00</u>
	£ 257.65
Mid Cheshire Footpath Society subscription	£ 8.00
Gresty Grounds maintenance/bulbs Lengthsman 2003/04	£ 301.97 (includes £44.97 VAT)
	<u>£ 977.60 (includes £145.60 VAT)</u>
	£ 1279.57
Mrs R Mort Playing field rent Apr – June 04	£ 137.50
St John's PCC, grant	£ 250.00
D Fisher, IT costs	£ 25.84

Barlows Alarms CCTV signs £ 11.52 (includes VAT £1.52)

Clerk

Salary Jan – Mar 04 £ 725.00

proposed by Cllr Hughes  
seconded by Cllr Astbury  
and agreed

(iii) Balances  
(March)

£14,439.29

(iv) Banking arrangements. The Clerk reported on inquiries he had made regarding current accounts offering higher rates of interest. It was agreed these should be progressed.

9 Environment services: (i) Amenity cleansing: (a) Accesses, Belle Vue Lane. It was not known if the requested scavenge had been carried out by the City council. (b) Planters, Summerfield Road. Cllr Bayton referred to the condition of the planters at Summerfield Road. As the ownership of these planters was unclear, the Clerk was making arrangements to visit the highway office to consult the adoption map. **Action: Clerk to consult adoption map.** (ii) Dog fouling. There was nothing further to report at this stage. (iii) Litter bins. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

(iv) lengthsman. The Clerk reported he had deferred requesting the lengthsman to carry out a scavenge of Guiden Sutton Lane from the A41 as this appeared to have been done by the principal authority. **Action: position to be kept under review.**

10 Trees and hedges. There was nothing further to report at this stage.

11 Cheshire Association of Parish Council's/NALC. Cllr Armitage reported on the meeting of the Chester Area Meeting held on Wednesday 7 April, 2004. This had included a presentation by the Development Coordination Manager, Chester City Council. Proposals had also been tabled by Cheshire County Council as to future local arrangements in the event of there being one unitary council for the whole of Cheshire. These were to be reviewed by parishes.

12 Chester City Council. (a) review of the financial arrangements with parish councils. The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence, dated April 8, 2004 concerning the City Council's review of financial arrangements with parish councils to identify possible solutions for double taxation. A request was made for information to be provided by April 30, 2004. **Action: The Clerk.**

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13 Cheshire County Council: Step into Cheshire 18/19 September 2004. The Clerk reported further on this initiative designed to encourage up to half a

million people to participate in a range of outdoor events and activities. Cllrs Paterson and Young expressed an interest in progressing the initiative within the parish. **Action: Clerk to obtain further information.**

14 Cheshire Community Council. There were no action items to report.

15 CPRE. Cllr Bayton reported he had attended the annual general meeting of the Chester District held on 29 March 2004. Over the last year, the District had concentrated on planning issues and the continuing pressure for relaxation of the borders of the Green Belt. Transport issues had also been raised where the case had been made for greater use of public transport especially rail. The campaign to reopen Beeston station had been supported. Mr Jeremy Taylor, chief executive, Cheshire County Council had made a presentation on the referendum for an elected regional assembly, regional government and the local government review.

16 Health. There were no action items to report.

17 Policing. The Council welcomed PC Boulton and discussed a range of current policing issues within the parish. These included antisocial behaviour by youths in the dingle which had led to concerns by an adjoining occupier. PC Boulton was thanked for his attendance.

18 Newsletter. Cllr Hughes indicated he was not minded to raise the content of the newsletter at this point. The Chairman indicated that in discussion with the Clerk, following the relocation of the distribution centre from Saltney to Mold, he had approved additional costs being incurred by Devaprint in packaging the newsletters prior to posting by the Clerk. This was agreed. Cllr Bayton referred to the commendable full colour newsletter produced by Chester District of the Campaign to Protect Rural England. **Action: Clerk to seek an estimate for the production of a similar newsletter.**

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19 Memorial garden (a) Fingerpost. The Clerk reported the fingerpost had been refixed.

20 Bulb planting. (a) Cllr Hughes expressed concern at the extent of grass cutting by the highway authority contractor. He believed it would be advisable for the daffodils to be untouched until the end of May to enable them to mature for next season. **Action: Clerk to approach highway authority.**

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21 Parish ICT. Cllr Fisher reported on progress with the transfer of the hosting of the site to Cheshire County Council. Guiden Sutton was the first parish in Cheshire to take advantage of this opportunity and Cllr Fisher had been invited to address a county wide conference on the issue.

22 Primary School. Cllr Fisher reported.

23 Parliamentary boundary proposals. Cllr Armitage indicated the outcome of the public inquiry into the counter objection that Christleton ward should be transferred to the Eddisbury parliamentary constituency was awaited.

24 Parish noticeboards. It was proposed by Cllr Armitage, seconded by Cllr Proudlove and agreed that a replacement noticeboard should be sought for Guiden Sutton Lane at a cost not exceeding £205.

25 Arrangements for the annual parish meeting. It was agreed this would follow the normal practice with the Clerk preparing the Council's annual report and lead Members reporting if necessary on the content thereof.

26 Members information items.

Cllr Astbury referred to the need for the street nameplate at the junction of Guiden Sutton Lane and Heath Bank to be refixed. **Action: Clerk to approach Chester City Council.**

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Cllr Astbury referred to the state of the surface of the footway on Guiden Sutton Lane which was overgrown and required edging out. She also believed it should be inspected for root damage. **Action: Clerk to approach highway authority.**

27 Information Correspondence

Public Rights of Way:

New public rights of way maintenance and enforcement officer, (Congleton/south Macclesfield.) Cheshire Signpost Spring 2004

Public Rights of Way, a guide for planning officers, developers and conveyancers.

Mid Cheshire Footpath Society annual report.

Cheshire Association of Town and Parish Councils/NALC:

Quality Parish Council scheme conference, Byley Village Hall, 29 March. 2004.

Chester City Council:

New arrangements for United Utilities public sewer management.

Chester in Partnership strategy working day Wednesday 28 April, 2004;

The Key Spring 2004

Cheshire County Council:

Web site hosting scheme, meeting Thursday April 22, 2004, Woodford Lodge Professional Centre, Winsford.

Chester Matters April 2004

Cheshire Community Council: Project Rural Matters.

CPRE:

Rural Matters March 2004  
Planning Update March 2004  
TCG News March 2004.

Policing: Chester Police Forum 19 April 2004.

Zurich Municipal: Annual Health and Safety Local Council Advisory Service seminar 2004.

Hope House Children's Hospice: appeal.

DTI/DeFRA: Rural broadband.

Matters considered in the absence of the press and public.

28 Enforcement.

Advertising display. A Member referred to an advertising display for which an application had not been received by the Parish Council. **Action: Further inquiries to be made by the Clerk.**

Public open space. A Member referred to land forming part of a public open space which did not appear to be cut by the City Council's grounds maintenance contractor. **Action: Further inquiries to be made by the Clerk.**